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Governor Burgum's weekly update | July 28, 2018

BURGUM JOINS PENCE AT GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE



Gov. Doug Burgum welcomed Vice President Mike Pence back to North Dakota on Wednesday and joined him as he addressed and thanked personnel at the Grand Forks Air Force Base for their important role in national security. Burgum and First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum greeted Vice President Pence and Second Lady Karen Pence as they deplaned Air Force Two, along with Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, U.S. Rep. Kevin Cramer and his wife, Kris. Speaking to airmen, the vice president expressed his gratitude to 319th Air Base Wing Commander Col. Benjamin Spencer for his leadership and to members of the wing and their families for their service, including their support of the Global Hawk unmanned surveillance aircraft's high-altitude mission.

GOVERNOR TAKES LEAP AT AIRSHO

Gov. Burgum dropped in on the Fargo AirSho from about 13,000 feet on Saturday with members of the U.S. Navy Parachute Team, thanking the “Leap Frogs” and AirSho organizers and volunteers after his safely completed tandem skydive to kick off the two-day event at Hector International Airport. Safe, sound and back on the ground, Burgum welcomed attendees to the AirSho and concluded his remarks by administering the oath of reenlistment to Petty Officer 1st Class Austin Hawk, a North Dakota State University student who was named Sailor of the Year by the Navy Operational Support Center in Fargo. [Click here](#) to see video of the jump.



FIRST LADY VISITS MILITARY FAMILIES, APIARY WITH SECOND LADY PENCE

First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum accompanied Second Lady Karen Pence to a roundtable discussion with military spouses, as well as a tour of Dietzler Honey in Larimore during Pence’s visit to the state on Wednesday. During the roundtable with 11 military spouses, held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center, Helgaas Burgum and Pence hosted a dialogue to understand the greatest challenges faced by spouses on the Grand Forks Air Force Base. Topics included licensure reciprocity, education, and workforce and employment opportunities. Following the conversation, Second Lady Pence and Helgaas Burgum toured Dietzler Honey, learning more about honey production and sustaining a strong apiary industry in North Dakota.



FFA, MICROSOFT ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

Gov. Burgum joined representatives from The National FFA Organization and Microsoft Corp. on Thursday to announce their collaboration to bring innovative technology, science, research and entrepreneurship to the classrooms of the more than 650,000 FFA student members nationwide through an initiative known as Blue 365. Burgum shared the stage with National FFA CEO Mark Poeschl, Microsoft's Brad Smith and Mary Snapp, along with USDA State Director Clare Carlson and North Dakota State FFA President Brianna Maddock



for the announcement in Fargo. Blue 365 will be unveiled in Indianapolis this October at the 91st National FFA Convention & Expo, the nation's largest student convention.



MORE THAN 20 SPEAKERS SHARE IDEAS AT TEDXFARGO

On Thursday, attendees of TEDxFargo heard from 23 speakers sharing ideas on topics ranging from rural broadband and bridging the digital divide to saving the Maah Daah Hey trail. That included Gov. Burgum, who introduced speaker and Microsoft President Brad Smith and also provided closing remarks at the all-day event. In his closing, Burgum, a former TEDxFargo presenter, challenged attendees to take at least one idea from the day and put it into action. Talks from the event will be available at tedxfargo.com.