Gov. Burgum joined members of the North Dakota Air National Guard’s 119th Wing for their change of command ceremony Saturday in Fargo. The Happy Hooligans welcomed Col. Darrin Anderson as the new wing commander and bid farewell to Col. Britt Hatley, who has held the position since February 2017. Anderson holds the distinction of being the first non-pilot to lead the 119th Wing. The change of command ceremony is a time-honored military tradition whose main purpose is to allow subordinates to witness the formal command change from one officer to another.
Gov. Burgum delivered welcoming remarks and introduced Prime Minister Katrín Jakobsdóttir during the Heritage Program on Saturday at the 119th annual Deuce of August Icelandic Celebration in Mountain, highlighting the strong relationship between the Pembina County community and the island nation. Jakobsdóttir is the fifth sitting prime minister of Iceland to attend the Deuce of August celebration since 2005. The four-day celebration has been certified by North Dakota Tourism as the state’s longest-running ethnic festival and is the largest Icelandic event in the United States.

Lt. Gov. Sanford joined NDSU agricultural affairs leaders on Thursday for a meeting on campus to discuss agency priorities and tour the NDSU Meat Lab. Sanford was accompanied by Vice President for Agricultural Affairs Ken Grafton and Associate Vice President for Agricultural Affairs and Extension Interim Director Greg Lardy, who outlined the value of the hands-on, experiential learning offered by the lab. The Meat Lab is a program of the Department of Animal Sciences at the university and packages its products for retail sale at the lab.
Gov. Burgum and Lt. Gov. Sanford on Wednesday encouraged Team North Dakota members to submit nominations for the 2018 Governor’s Awards in Public Service. The awards recognize state teammates who exemplify the best of the best in commitment to citizens, creative problem solving, contributing to the team, willingness to accept a leadership role and dedication to making a difference. Nominations will remain open until Aug. 18 and can be submitted here. The 2018 Governor’s Awards Ceremony will take place at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 13 in the Brynild Haugland Room during Employee Recognition Week, sponsored by the Council of State Employees.

Lt. Gov. Brent Sanford congratulated the Department of Emergency Services on Wednesday as staff gathered to celebrate their recent achievement of receiving the highest designation possible from the Emergency Management Accreditation Program. The rigorous application process took over a year and involved 26 state agencies. Sanford thanked Director of Homeland Security Cody Schulz, Accreditation Manager Kathleen Donahue and everyone else involved in the effort for their hard work and spirit of collaboration, calling it “truly a cross-cutting group.” Accreditation is valid for five years.