

KMOT TV ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

**3rd QUARTER 2015
July through September**

Issues for the quarter:

***Agriculture/Farming**

***Oil Boom Growth**

***Rebuilding from the 2011 Flood**

***Crime/Law Enforcement**

***Business & the Economy**

***Government**

***Health Care & Medicine**

***Minot Air Force Base**

***Schools**

***Recreation**

AGRICULTURE/FARMING

Producers in western North Dakota have been dealing with less than ideal conditions and a backlog on grain cars.

7-15-2015 1.48 Kaiti Firkins

Farmers' industry relies on crop dusting planes each growing season to spray chemicals to keep their crops healthy. I spoke with a pilot that flies those planes and he says this is his busiest summers in years.

7-24-2015 2.37 Joe Skurzewski

The fair is about much more than good food, games and music. It's about tradition, community, and family. Members of one North Dakota agriculture community used the fair to rally support for one of their own – Kade Hansen.

7-24-2015 .50

Today we checked out the part of the state fair that started it all, the livestock shows. 4-H and FFA hosted dairy cow and goat shows.

7-28-2015 2.37 Jamie Council

Many sky spotters saw a tornado touch down in Southwest Manitoba last night. I crossed the border earlier today to check out the damages of last night's disaster and spoke to one family about their experiences.

7-28-2015 1.38 Joe Skurzewski

There are trees and branches strewn all over lawns and roads in Minot this evening. I got reaction from some residents as they're picking up the pieces and catching their breath.

7-29-2015 1.39 Joe Skurzewski

Many residents are left cleaning up their yards after last night's wind. I stopped by a few homes to see how members of the community are dealing with the damage.

7-29-2015 1.05

Power lines throughout the city were down and some areas had power outages. All of the companies in the area experienced outages.

8-11-2015 1.30 Kaiti Firkins

This week's hot, dry weather is keeping many farmers busy. I talked to one out harvesting this afternoon that says he's enjoying these types of days now, knowing they may not last long.

8-17-2015 .27 Joe Skurzewski

A Sawyer family lost what could be millions of dollars when a 109-year-old grain elevator with their crops inside burned down Sunday morning. Nathan Smith says he hopes to begin cleanup later this week.

8-20-2015 2.08 Joe Skurzewski

This weekend a farm family is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the farm they tend to. I headed to Ryder to learn how the Mueller family is celebrating.

8-26-2015 1.26 Joe Skurzewski

Earlier this month a large fire destroyed the grain elevator in Sawyer, robbing the town of a nearly 110-year-old landmark and running much of this year's output for the elevator's owner. I stopped by the scene of the fire as crews move forward with cleanup.

OIL BOOM GROWTH

Minot continues to struggle with the population increase associated with the Bakken oil boom.

7-14-2015 .53

The slowdown in drilling may have reduced oil job openings in the Bakken, but the statewide job market is on the rise. Job Service North Dakota says there were more than 23,000 jobs available in June.

7-15-2015 2.00 Kaiti Firkins

A Burlington Northern Santa Fe train derailed yesterday in Montana about 50 miles west of Williston. The train was travelling east at the time of the derailment. It has caused delays for Amtrak passengers. The tracks are shut down between Wolf Point, MT and Minot. The passengers are being transported by bus and taxis to the Minot depot.

9-17-2015 1.37 Saira Anwer

A company wants to make big changes to a gathering line in Western North Dakota. The North Dakota Public Service Commission held a public hearing in Stanley this morning about a proposal by Kinder Morgan to convert an existing crude oil gathering pipeline into a transmission line. I headed to Stanley today to find out more about the 42 mile pipeline in Mountrail County.

9-23-2015 .37

A giant oil field service company is planning more cuts to it's workforce, including the Bakken. Halliburton announced that due to current business conditions, there will be layoffs in it's workforce in Williston. This comes after the major cuts in Minot earlier this year.

9-24-2015 .44 Jamie Council

About a dozen homes near MSU had to be evacuated this morning after crews hit a natural gas line.

9-28-2015 .19

The oil production slowdown in the Bakken is costing jobs. Halliburton announced layoffs last week. And now, Baker Hughes is letting some employees go.

REBUILDING FROM THE 2011 FLOOD

Rebuilding efforts continue in Minot, following the devastating 2011 flood along the Souris River.

7-6-2015 2.08 Saira Anwer

The 2011 flood devastated the Minot area damaging more than 4,100 houses and forcing more than 11,000 people to leave their homes. City, state, and federal leaders want to make sure the area has the protection it needs to make sure it doesn't happen again. Today I attended a meeting between leaders on all levels and a top official with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as they pushed for a partnership for permanent flood protection.

7-21-2015 1.05 Joe Skurzewski

The Ward County Commission has lifted the emergency declaration at Rice Lake after the high waters from this spring.

8-6-2015 1.51 Kaiti Firkins

A disabled veteran and his family had a dream of building a home that he could live in and get around easily. The journey has been long and difficult. Today they got the keys to that home.

8-14-2015 1.22 Kaiti Firkins

Senator Hoeven was in the Magic City today with Roy Wright, a FEMA administrator for insurance and mitigation. The two met with city leaders to look at and discuss the city's flood plans.

8-18-2015 1.18 Joe Skurzewski
Ward County Commissioners heard an update this morning on the latest on flood protection for the Souris Basin. Ryan Ackerman met with the Commissioners on the progress from the Army Corps of Engineers.

8-18-2015 1.03 Joe Skurzewski
Leaders at Rice Lake are working with Ward County to consolidate their debt from years of recovery, all while pushing recovery efforts in and around the lake before the winter weather hits.

8-19-2015 2.13 Joe Skurzewski
Many people have been receiving their flood insurance renewal paperwork in the mail. Many who made it through the 2011 flood have had to make the decision of investing in flood insurance. But their rate this year went up several hundred dollars.

8-19-2015 .50 Joe Skurzewski
The joint water board held a public meeting tonight to discuss the Mouse River Enhanced flood protection plan and got public input.

8-19-2015 .50 Joe Skurzewski
Some people may have noticed houses and structures near the river either being removed or relocated. The new landscape of Minot is based on keeping the city safe from future floods. The multiphase project will be displacing 600 structures through acquisitions, demolitions, and buyouts.

8-20-2015 .54
The Mouse River Enhanced Flood Project would build a levee floodwall and include an overbank excavation.

8-20-2015 .49
Minot has been chosen as one of the 10 cities across the country that will form the first Resilience AmeriCorps cities in the U.S. The program will bring a handful of volunteers to the Magic City to help city leaders and residents engage in the community as it continues to rebuild and grow.

8-25-2015 1.41 Jamie Council
Earlier this month a Minot landmark disappeared after being part of the city for nearly 110 years. Jamie Council stopped by the spot where the large, white church once stood. The First Evangelical Swedish Church had been saved during the flood.

8-28-2015 2.01 Joe Skurzewski
Cleanup is underway at Rice Lake. With money set aside in the legislative session and help from the country, many Rice Lake residents are moving forward with cleanup of their flood damaged properties.

8-28-2015 .32 Joe Skurzewski
Minot Police say they have found all of the people involved in the shooting at Applebee's last week.

9-3-2015 2.11 Kaiti Firkins
State and city leaders gathered today to break ground on the water treatment project. It was a big first step in improving infrastructure and keeping the events from 2011 from happening again. I was at the ground breaking ceremony today and saw the hope for the future of the Magic City.

9-15-2015 .33 Joe Skurzewski
Ward County Commissioners also approved a firm to begin cleanup on submerged structures at Rice Lake. The commission approved the bid for "dig it up backhoe services" for the project at just under \$540,000.

9-16-2015 1.04 Joe Skurzewski
This weekend the Minot Park District will debut its brand new amphitheater in Oak Park. The new theater is the byproduct of four-plus years of work, dating back to the 2011 flood. Park District officials say it was made possible in part by a funding competition through Coca-Cola, which landed \$100,000 for the project.

CRIME/ LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement is struggling to keep up with the population growth. More people moving here means more opportunities for crime.

7-2-2015 .28 Joe Skurzewski

A psychological examination of 45-year-old Pauline Stewart who's charged with killing her three month child shows she's competent to stand trial, but may not have understood what she was doing. She admitted to strangling her child.

7-6-2015 .51 Joe Skurzewski

A judge has amended the bond order for Charles Soper, the former superintendent of Sawyer Public School who is charged with trafficking a minor.

7-7-2015 .33 Joe Skurzewski

A judge rejected a plea deal in the case of Kenmare woman who admitted to starving her 13-year-old son to death. Jessica Jensen originally pleaded not guilty in the 2014 death of her son Aidan, but changed her plea to guilty back in April. The boy weighed 21 pounds at the time of his death.

7-13-2015 1.29 Kaiti Firkins

Getting to a fire faster may be getting easier for the Minot Fire Department. It's basically a Windows tablet that they have hooked up to the Central Dispatch System allowing for the firefighters to respond faster and get to the call quicker.

7-15-2015 .28 Joe Skurzewski

The Minot Police Department filed an additional charge against former Sawyer Superintendent Charles Soper for possession of certain prohibited materials after authorities found the images on seized electronic devices from his home.

7-16-2015 .50 Joe Skurzewski

The Mountrail County Jail is expanding its jail from 12 beds to 40 and adding more courtrooms and administrative rooms for the sheriff's department, as well as parking.

7-16-2015 .29

A woman from Minot Air Force Base, Maria Sutton, charged with negligent homicide in a fatal June 2013 crash on Highway 83 will stand trial for a second time.

7-21-2015 .41

The Ward County Narcotics Task Force made a major drug bust yesterday. They seized about 6 pounds of meth, 145 oxycodone pills and 147 alprazolam pills, along with 2 stolen firearms and \$20,000.

8-4-2015 .58 Kaiti Firkins

Minot Police joined other law enforcement agencies in the community tonight in taking a break from fighting crime to enjoy the summer as part of the sixth annual Minot National Night Out.

8-5-2015 .28

A man accused of stabbing another man to death in a Minot apartment garage last September will stand trial in January. Anthony Campbell faces a murder charge in the death of Minot man Shannon Brunelle.

8-6-2015 1.00 Kaiti Firkins

Minot Police responded to a call of shots fired near the 1800 block of West Burdick Expressway. Later this afternoon a detective spotted a man matching the description of the shooter and police tracked the person to a home on Cottonwood Avenue.

8-7-2015 1.57 Joe Skurzewski

The Ward County Sheriff is moving more and more inmates to other jails across the state and even outside the state. County Commissioners met with the architects of the expansion today to come up with a way to expedite the plan so the addition gets built as soon as possible, while staying within their means.

8-7-2015 .27

The Minot Police Department is warning of a phone scam where the caller claims the person has missed a court appearance and threatens them with criminal charges unless the person makes a payment to the court via Money Gram or wire transfer.

8-7-2015 .43 Joe Skurzewski

The Minot Police Department promoted officers to new ranks this afternoon. The chief along with family, friends and fellow officers gathered at City Hall to see these hard working men and women receive their new ranks.

8-12-2015 2.10 Vicky Nguyen

29 people are in custody after a two year investigation on a drug trafficking ring. 22 from Minot and 7 people from California were federally charged yesterday and today as part of Operation Western Edge. This is just one of the first cases made public by the Bakken Organized Crime Strike Force.

8-13-2015 .30

Police in Stanley didn't have far to go to get to a bank robbery this morning. A man robbed the BNC National Bank next to the police department.

Police say the man also robbed the Dacotah Bank in Minot this afternoon.

8-18-2015 .28

Attorneys gave opening statements today in the trial of a man charged with gross sexual imposition in March of 2014. Court documents say that 23-year-old Kihley Dailey forced a woman to have sex with him while they sat in a car outside of her father's house.

8-18-2015 .45 Saira Anwer

As the population of North Dakota increases, so does the domestic violence, but one area that was being short changed in services was rural areas of North Dakota. However, the Domestic Violence Crisis Center in Minot has advocates in all four counties of North Dakota.

8-18-2015 .32

Police have released a picture of a hat they say a man wore while robbing a bank in Stanley. They say a man matching that robber's description held up the Dacotah Bank in Minot.

8-21-2015 .37

The Ward County Sheriff is asking for your help in locating dozens of stolen cattle from the northwest part of the county. They say 30 cow and calf pairs and another 20 calves were rustled back in May.

8-21-2015 .30 Jamie Council

The man charged in a double homicide at a pig farm near Souris back in March pleaded not guilty to both charges today. 18-year-old Jeremy Isaac Rodriguez-Rios entered not guilty pleas in Bottineau County Court this morning.

8-24-2015 .37 Joe Skurzewski

Minot Police want your help finding two men connected to yesterday's shooting at Applebee's. They have issued an arrest warrant for 20-year-old Hikeem Salas for reckless endangerment. A person of interest is 30-year-old Ira Jones.

8-25-2015 .24

The McHenry County Sheriff's Department filed charges in the drowning death of a 5-year-old girl in June. 44-year-old Heather Tudor of Velva is charged with negligent homicide, neglect of a child, and operating a childcare facility without a license.

8-26-2015 .47 Joe Skurzewski

A Texas man who stabbed coworker to death in 2011 at a Minot hotel is asking the courts for release from his sentence to a state mental health facility. Charles Davis is charged with murder after finding Donald Flowers dead in the Candlewood Suites in March of 2011.

8-26-2015 .34 Joe Skurzewski

The Sawyer School superintendent charged with human trafficking says he wants a change of venue.

8-31-2015 1.44 Jamie Council

A Minot State Football player has been kicked off the team, and two others have been suspended indefinitely after a fight early Saturday morning that left a MSU baseball player seriously injured. Video given to police helped them identify Kwame Johnson, Donnell Vercher, and Larry Overstreet as the ones involved.

9-1-2015 .56

Another Minot State Football player is in trouble facing possible assault charges. Authorities arrested third string quarterback Brad Hunt back on July 24th after he evaded officers at the State Fair that involved an assault.

9-1-2015 1.45 Joe Skurzewski

One of the four California men charged with conspiracy to commit murder in a July 2013 shooting in Minot is changing his plea to guilty. James Robinson, Jr, will go right to sentencing after striking a plea deal with the state.

9-4-2015 2.27 Joe Skurzewski

A Kenmare woman accused of starving her teenage son to death says she wants a new venue for trial. Jessica Jensen faces a murder charge in the March 2014 death of her 13-year-old son Aiden. The boy weighed only 21 pounds when officers found him at their Kenmare home.

9-10-2015 2.15 Joe Skurzewski

The attorney for a Minot woman accused of strangling her three-month-old to death wants the murder charge thrown out. Authorities charged 45-year-old Pauline Stewart with murder after finding the body of her child in her apartment.

9-11-2015 .53

A Powers Lake man has been charged with killing his brother. The BCI says it arrested 40-year-old Aaron Larson for killing his brother, Terry, who had been missing for 5 and a half months.

9-14-2015 .50 Joe Skurzewski

A police officer shot a person during a physical altercation last night. The Minot Police Department says that officers responded to the 3300 block of 11 Street Southeast around 9:30 to investigate a report of a suspicious person. The 32-year-old Minot man suffered a non-life threatening injury and is in stable condition.

9-14-2015 .40

The Ward County Sheriff's Department says it recovered a large amount of stolen property last Friday.

9-14-2015 1.25 Kaiti Firkins

Violence is something that young people experience everyday, and 6 to 7 young people are killed by violence every day. Burdick Job Corps is hoping to do something to stop the circle of violence. It's part of the National Y2Y Partners 4 Peace.

9-15-2015 .21

A one-year-old girl died after being hit by a pickup near Stanley. The highway patrol says a woman was backing out of a driveway and accidentally ran over the girl yesterday afternoon.

9-15-2015 .35

A Minot man is in jail after running from officers responding to a fight with shots reported being fired last night at the 2800 block of Grey Eagle Pass. 29-year-old Kenny Javar is charged with terrorizing and resisting arrest.

9-15-2015 .41 Saira Anwer

An SUV crashed into the IRET building at the rear entrance of Badlands Grill this afternoon. The male driver was taken to the hospital.

9-16-2015 1.07 Kaiti Firkins

SWAT and police are at a house on 6th avenue northwest and 8th street where a man was inside the house refusing to come out. Just in the last 15 minutes we got word that the man did come out and is in custody.

9-17-2015 .36

A judge set bond for a Minot man charged with terrorizing following a SWAT incident yesterday afternoon on the city's northeast side. 44-year-old Paul Peterson faces a felony charge of terrorizing after allegedly brandishing a gun during a domestic incident.

9-17-2015 .37

2 former MSU football players have been arrested following a fight at a party back in August. Minot Police say they arrested 21-year-old Kwamee Johnson and 22-year-old Steven Patrick this afternoon at MSU on warrants for aggravated assault.

9-18-2015 .41

Authorities arrested a County Social Services Employee accused in connection with the drowning death of a child back in June. The McHenry County Sheriff's Department says it arrested Cheryl Johnson today on charges stemming from the investigation of the death of a 5-year-old girl.

9-22-2015 .57 Kaiti Firkins

Tonight and tomorrow at Applebee's across the state more than 100 law enforcement personnel will serve and raise tip money for Special Olympics.

9-23-2015 2.02 Joe Skurzewski

Three people were injured in a shooting and stabbing incident this afternoon in northeast Minot. Officers received a call shortly after 3 o'clock of a report of gunshots in the 500 block of 9th street northeast. One man had a stab wound, and two others had gunshot wounds.

9-23-2015 .32 Joe Skurzewski

A judge has denied a motion to suppress statements from, Jessica Jensen, a Kenmare woman charged with murder starving her teenage son to death.

9-24-2015 .20

Minot Police are asking for help identifying the person in some surveillance photos. This person is wanted in connection to several burglaries in town.

9-25-2015 1.44 Joe Skurzewski

The Sawyer School superintendent accused of having a sexual relationship with a 15-year-old boy was back in court today. Charles Soper's attorney wants the judge to throw out the human trafficking charge, saying it goes against North Dakota law.

9-25-2015 .26 Joe Skurzewski

A man accused of trafficking two women pleaded not guilty today in north central district court. Court documents say 48-year-old Brian Davis and another woman would set up the two victims in hotels.

9-28-2015 .26 Joe Skurzewski

A second man involved in last week's shooting and stabbing incident made his initial appearance in court this afternoon. 33-year-old Dealvis Harris faces several charges.

9-29-2015 1.02 Joe Skurzewski

A Kenmare woman accused of starving her teenage son to death will stand trial in April. 36-year-old Jessica Jensen faces a murder charge after authorities found the body of her 13-year-old son Aiden in her home. He only weighed 21 pounds.

9-29-2015 .40

An arrest warrant has been issued for a former Minot State quarterback. The North Dakota court's website says a judge has issued an arrest warrant for Brad Hunt. He faces 4 charges, including Aggravated Assault stemming from an incident at the State Fair.

9-30-2015 .39 Joe Skurzewski

Jessica Jensen will again attempt to change her plea to guilty.

9-30-2015 .33

Minot Police say they have recovered the car of a man who has not been heard from since early Sunday morning. They say they found 27-year-old Matthew Breslin's red Toyota Celica in the parking lot of the Dakota Square Mall near Barnes and Noble.

BUSINESS & THE ECONOMY

Local businesses are dealing with the effect of the oil boom – many are new or expanding.

7-1-2015 1.19 Joe Skurzewski

Thirty Minot businesses are participating in the year's "shop local, find Waldo here!" event. The business owners hide a small figure of Waldo somewhere in their store. If you find Waldo in 10 businesses, you win discount coupons for Main Street Books.

7-1-2015 1.17 Saira Anwer

Senator Heidi Heitkamp brought U.S. Small Business Administration leader Maria Contreras-Sweet to North Dakota today to highlight successful women-owned small businesses in North Dakota and discuss ways to encourage and support women entrepreneurs.

7-6-2015 2.00 Joe Skurzewski

In this week's Main Street Minute, Buffalo Wild Wings gets an overhaul, but first, Jason and Andrea Burckhard, a husband and wife duo, return to the Magic City to fulfill their dreams of owning their own business.

7-10-2015 1.58 Joe Skurzewski

If you've driven through the city of Burlington, you may have seen some wood pallets decorated to look like American flags. I headed to Burlington today, to speak with the young artist on who she is, why she's doing it, and what inspires her.

7-13-2015 1.29 Joe Skurzewski

For this week's Main Street Minute I headed to the Camp of the Cross in Garrison where they're adding a brand new fellowship hall. The camp brings children and their parents together for a few days. Groups participate in Bible study, and play fun, interactive games.

7-15-2015 1.18 Saira Anwer

The Three Affiliated Tribes opened the 4Bears Casino in New Town more than 2 decades ago and now it's getting a makeover. The 47 million dollar construction and refurbishing project includes an 85 thousand square foot new event center, revamping the event center into a ballroom, and 100 slot machine smoking gaming floor.

7-20-2015 1.37 Saira Anwer

Today was Pride of Dakota Day at the state fair. For 30 years Pride of Dakota has been the official seal for products that are made in the peace garden state. It started with 20 retailers and now has more than 500 member companies.

7-20-2015 1.54 Joe Skurzewski

For this week's Main Street Minute I headed to the state fair to meet with vendors in the commercial buildings from all across the country.

7-27-2015 1.16 Joe Skurzewski

In this week's Main Street Minute, Leilani's salon and spa opens up in the Magic City and it's offered an opportunity for stylists of another former salon to continue their careers.

7-30-2015 .54

Walmart has announced its store in Minot will no longer be open 24/7. The store will be closing a 1am and reopening at 6am to restock and prepare for the peak shopping times the following day.

8-3-2015 1.35 Joe Skurzewski

In this week's Main Street Minute, a new gun store opens up in the Minot area. But first, I headed to Stanley as work continues on their new public works building.

8-4-2015 1.31 Kaiti Firkins

The city of Minot released its preliminary 2016 budget. The overall budget is rising about 3 million dollars and the airport is still one of the top concerns.

8-12-2015 .53 Joe Skurzewski
New target deadlines have been set for the contractor replacing more than 14 blocks of underground infrastructure, streets and sidewalk in downtown Minot.

8-12-2015 55 Kaiti Firkins
The city of Minot is getting new people moving in all the time. One family decided to take their moving process to HGTV. The Clarks were moving to Minot from Houston and thought having that process on the show would make it more fun.

8-13-2015 2.40 Kaiti Firkins
In the early 2000s only 3.5 percent of college graduates were staying in the state. Something leaders in the state were calling out-migration or brain drain. But times are changing. Young professionals and their families are staying or moving back to the Magic City.

8-17-2015 1.32 Joe Skurzewski
If you've driven through Max in the past few weeks, you probably saw a new structure being built on the east side of the road. It's not often that new businesses come to our smaller communities. I stopped by to speak with the construction crew here in Max on the new lumber yard.

8-20-2015 1.11 Kaiti Firkins
Almost 1,000 people were without power in Minot today. The outage impacted 953 customers as well as knocking out street lights throughout the downtown area.

8-20-2015 1.08 Joe Skurzewski
More than 840,000 dollars in federal funding is on the way for Minot International Airport. It will help to update the airport master plan and airport layout plan.

8-24-2015 1.38 Joe Skurzewski
In this week's Main Street Minute, Minot will soon be getting two new restaurants on North Hill, burrito giant Qdoba, and the first stand-alone spot for the coffee chain Tim Horton's. But first, I headed to Bottineau where the local bank has moved to a bigger spot.

8-31-2015 1.34 Joe Skurzewski
The lack of parking in downtown Minot is forcing some businesses to expand elsewhere. I caught up with a father-daughter dentistry duo who have moved their business to the Southgate Crossing in this week's Main Street Minute.

9-1-2015 1.18 Kaiti Firkins
The Young Professionals of Minot are hosting a micro grant program for community projects but there is a catch. 25-30 people have come to the Mouse River Players Community Theatre to pitch ideas for their community projects in hopes of getting a grant, but they only have 60 seconds to win over the judges.

9-3-2015 2.08 Joe Skurzewski
The response to the 2011 flood was just one of the concerns raised by a group of business and civic leaders in Minot Thursday afternoon. The group is asking for signatures on a measure that would shake up the current format of Minot city council.

9-4-2015 .28 Joe Skurzewski
More streets in Downtown Minot are going to be closed for construction. The one-block of First Avenue SE, from First Street SE to Second Street SE, will be closed starting Tuesday, September 8.

9-9-2015 1.09
More affordable housing will make its way to Minot next year, thanks to a partnership with the state's housing finance agency and the group Beyond Shelter.

9-9-2015 .56 Saira Anwer
A Minot delegation returned from a trade mission in Norway where they were invited by the mayor of the Norwegian county of Telemark.

9-11-2015 1.28 Saira Anwer

Taking selfies can get you a lot of “likes” on social media, but now it can win you some pretty big prizes from businesses all over town. The Hyatt House in North Minot kicked off a campaign called Hashtag Minot Selfie to help residents share their experiences and explore new places in town.

9-14-2015 1.37 Joe Skurzewski

If you've driven through Burlington recently, you probably noticed all the construction going on north of the main drag in town. In this week's Main Street Minute I stopped by Burlington Willows. Once units are ready, potential residents will have to pre-apply to determine if they meet the income range to be eligible to live there.

9-15-2015 1.06 Joe Skurzewski

The Minot's Park Board's proposed budget for next year comes out at just over 10 million dollars, 1.24 million dollar increase from this year's budget. The increase would add \$3 a month for a home worth \$200,000.

9-18-2015 2.07 Joe Skurzewski

Millions are flocking to the countries of the European Union – many seeking asylum from a civil war in Syria, but others from the Balkans, Asia, and even Africa. I spoke with a sociology professor at Minot State University, an immigrant himself, on how he thinks the rest of Europe is handling the situation, and what role the U.S. plays in the struggle.

9-21-2015 1.51 Joe Skurzewski

In this week's Main Street Minute, a cleaning business that did a lot of work in Minot during the flood is under new ownership. But first I headed to Berthold to get a taste of a new restaurant aiming at being a blast from the past.

9-28-2015 1.36 Joe Skurzewski

As people get older, they might need assistance with their day-to-day activities. A new facility in Minot aims at giving people care with independence. I learned more about Northland PACE in this week's Main Street Minute.

9-29-2015 1.00 Joe Skurzewski

Norwegian leaders spent some time in the Magic City discussing ways to expand trade with the Peace Garden State. As part of the annual Business 2 Business Summit, a delegation from Norway spent Tuesday meeting with civic and industry leaders on was to exchange ag products.

GOVERNMENT

Lots of changes to the state are keeping local and state governments busy.

7-8-2015 .36

Downtown Minot is battling the weather, recent rains are pushing the revitalization projects farther behind. After an inch and a half last night, the construction sites turned to mud.

7-8-2015 2.11 Jamie Council

The City of Minot is aiming to spray mosquitos within city limits. The chemical in the pesticide is Naled, which is highly toxic to all insects. I stopped by 5 Star Honey in Minot to learn more about the effect the pesticide has on honey bees and tried to find out more about the pesticide.

7-10-2015 2.00 Jamie Council

After a failed attempt to start an all-white separatist community in Leith, Craig Cobb is making headlines again. Cobb is looking to buy land in another town 2 miles south of the Canadian border in Antler.

8-4-2015 1.30 Joe Skurzewski

The City of Minot released their preliminary 2016 budget. The overall budget is rising about 3 million dollars and the airport is still one of the top concerns. A slight increase to homeowners will be installed, but the city is installing increases fees to airlines that will combat some of the other costs.

8-4-2015 .51 Joe Skurzewski
Ward County Commissioners approved its budget, cutting \$600 for First District Health Unit.

8-12-2015 1.03 Joe Skurzewski
The City of Minot is now in Phase 2 of the National Disaster Resilience Competition. Business owners and city leaders came together today to hear the latest pieces of the proposal.

8-26-2015 2.12 Kaiti Firkins
Today marks the 95th anniversary of women having the right to vote. I spoke with a professor that says it's encouraging to see the progress but to not forget what is still left to do.

8-27-2015 .59 Joe Skurzewski
Reduce the turnover rate. That's what Minot City Manager Lee Staab told city leaders today a special meeting on next year's budget.

9-8-2015 1.12 Joe Skurzewski
The city council approved a first reading for a million dollars a piece for four major renovation and expansion projects; two for the Park District, one for Minot State, and another for the city's recreation commission.

9-8-2015 .58 Kaiti Firkins
The city of Minot will rollout its new-look website Wednesday morning.

9-11-2015 2.02 Joe Skurzewski
More than 3,000 people lost their lives fourteen years ago today in the terror attacks in New York City and our nation's capitol. I spoke with a man in Minot who survived the attack on the Pentagon but is still fighting his demons to this day.

9-11-2015 2.02 Kaiti Firkins
It's no coincidence that National Day of Giving and Magic Day fell on the 14th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Today 850 volunteered gathered to remember the past and help organizations and people in Minot for the future.

9-14-2015 1.04 Joe Skurzewski
Minot's city council approved a first reading of the 2016 budget, which included several personnel additions. The tentative city budget will go down from more than 141 million this year to more than 124.5 million next year. An average homeowner's property tax would go up just about \$18 a year.

9-21-2015 .51 Joe Skurzewski
The Minot City Council approved its budget tonight on second reading for the 2016 year. Next year's budget will come in at more than 124 million dollars.. down from this year's budget of more than 141 million.

9-24-2015 2.14 Kaiti Firkins
It's a movement that started in Europe and is now picking up steam in the U.S. It's called the Tampon Tax, and all feminine hygiene products in drug stores are considered non necessities here in North Dakota. I spoke to the Tax Commissioner to get an idea why these products are not on the essential list.

9-25-2015 .57 Kaiti Firkins
Women who are homeless or in shelters have the same needs as other women but don't always have the resources to acquire pads and tampons. Many people who donate to these causes don't think to bring in these essentials.

9-28-2015 .32
Lieutenant Governor Drew Wrigley says he will not run for governor in 2016.

9-29-2015 1.39 Joe Skurzewski
The city of Rugby has proposed a 21 percent increase to the city's property taxes. The mayor says the city faces several new projects this year, including the cost of a new fire station.

HEALTH CARE & MEDICINE

Advances in medical technology are enabling health care facilities to better meet the needs of a growing population.

7-2-2015 2.04 Jamie Council

Information about the negative effects of fireworks on veterans with post traumatic stress disorder has spread across social media and news outlets. I spoke to a man that developed the disorder from being inside the Pentagon when it was hit on September 11th. He told me how the illegal use of fireworks can be a trigger.

7-2-2015 2.01 Jamie Council

There's a lot of buzz about cell phones changing the way young people socialize, but now there's talk about it taking a toll on their health. We take a look at a new phenomenon that chiropractors are calling "text neck".

7-2-2015 1.09 Kaiti Firkins

Haze from the Canadian wildfires has settled over the Magic City. The North Dakota Health Department's monitoring station is showing double the amounts of particulates in the air compared to normal levels. And that can cause health problems especially for anyone with breathing conditions.

7-6-2015 1.35 Saira Anwer

Firefighters continue to battle wild fires in Canada, and the smoke has drifted south, reducing visibility and causing some health problems.

7-9-2015 2.35 Saira Anwer

Glasses and contacts can be tedious and annoying for some, there's laser vision correction, or Lasik, available. I visited Trinity eye care to learn more about Lasik and sit in on a surgery. Lasik candidates can have a courtesy eye exam and evaluation to make sure they're in a treatable range and that their eyes are healthy.

7-16-2015 1.21 Saira Anwer

With the state fair about to kick off, families are getting ready to spend several hours outdoors in the heat. In this week's medical minute I found out how paramedics on the fairgrounds stay ready to treat heat related illness.

7-23-2015 2.08 Saira Anwer

Trinity Health has invested in technology that will help diagnose breast cancer in women in its earliest and most treatable stages, even for women with dense breast tissue. It's called 3D mammography or tomosynthesis.

8-11-2015 1.46 Jamie Council

Those triple digit temperatures might be hitting right when many athletics are starting practice for fall sports. Temperatures are soaring and so are people's risk for heat exhaustion. Athletes are especially at risk because they are not accustomed to the working out in the extreme heat.

8-21-2015 .25 Saira Anwer

Smoky skies caused by the wildfires are also creating some breathing problems for people in North Dakota. The North Dakota Air Quality Program advises those with breathing conditions like asthma to be aware of the air quality index and to stay inside if they have trouble breathing.

8-21-2015 .48 Saira Anwer

It's been 13 years since the train derailment, and the city is working to prevent another disaster.

Today various agencies from Trinity Hospital to the Minot Police and Fire Departments met to discuss what they would have to do to respond to another disaster.

8-21-2015 2.41 Kaiti Firkins

Nathan Artz was a boy scout who battled cancer for 2 and a half years. Nathan passed away 6 months ago, but today his mother along with the rest of his family held a blood drive at Little Flower Church in his honor.

8-25-2015 1.09 Kaiti Firkins
When a fire in Burlington displaced a family of five, the red cross came in to help and brought with them a new fire safety campaign aimed at reducing the number of injuries and death by 25 percent in the next five years.

8-31-2015 1.18 Kaiti Firkins
Trinity Cancer Care Center continues to grow and become a premier cancer treatment center in the area. The Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons has given an accreditation to Trinity Cancer Center.

9-1-2015 1.43 Jamie Council
The new St. Alexius Medical Plaza is open in Minot. The 28 million dollar facility more than doubles the size of the old facility.

9-3-2015 .51
Trinity provides sports training through a program called APEX. The young program has a partnership with the YMCA in Minot to give individualized training for high school athletes.

9-9-2015 .23
The state health department has confirmed a case of Salmonella, which is the same strain of the illness linked to a national cucumber recall.

9-11-2015 2.00 Joe Skurzewski
More than 3,000 people lost their lives fourteen years ago today in the terror attacks in New York City and our nation's capitol. I spoke with a man in Minot who survived the attack on the Pentagon, but is still fighting his demons to this day.

9-17-2015 2.00 Jamie Council
The negativity toward first responders in the media lately caused one local couple to give back by giving away their two fall wine walk tickets.

9-23-2015 1.58 Jamie Council
There's a strange and potentially harmful trend among children involving hand sanitizer. There's been a nearly 400% national increase in hand sanitizer consumption by young children according to a recent study by the Georgia Poison Center.

9-25-2015 1.30 Saira Anwer
The hundreds of small rural communities in North Dakota depend on services like flying ICUs in cases of medical emergency. NorthStar CriticAir pilots held a meet and greet at Town and Country Center today.

9-28-2015 .34 Saira Anwer
The state health department is investigating an increase in salmonella cases. Since July, 22 cases of a specific salmonella strain have been reported – 14 of them came from Ward County.

9-28-2015 .32 Saira Anwer
The state health department is trying to find the source of a rising number of salmonella cases. There have been 22 cases since July, and 14 of them were in Ward County.

9-29-2015 .54 Saira Anwer
The Center for Disease Control says that one in every three adults have high blood pressure. Today is World Heart Day, which brings attention to hypertension. It's often called the silent killer because it often shows no symptoms.

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE

Minot Air Force Base is growing and changing along with the community and also being called upon in support of the nation's commitment to stability and security in the Asia-Pacific Region.

7-9-2015 .33 Kaiti Firkins

The Minot Air Force Base was given 3 2015 Air Force Association National Aerospace Awards.

7-21-2015 .56

It was military appreciation at the fair. The North Dakota Beef Commission along with the soybean growers and the corn growers hosted a picnic lunch for military members.

8-5-2015 .51 Kaiti Firkins

Today General Mark Welsh, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, met with U.S. Air Force leaders with Minot Air Force leaders at MAFB to discuss ongoing efforts to modernize and improve the nuclear mission.

8-14-2015 1.30 Kaiti Firkins

Today's heat didn't stop the activities up north at Minot Air Force Base. The independently owned auto repair shop held a military appreciation event. Tires Plus crushed 6 cars with this monster truck 3 times to say thank you to the military members.

8-19-2015 1.24 Kaiti Firkins

A Heisman Trophy winner and NFL legend was at the Minot Air Force Base today speaking with the airmen. Herschel Walker toured the base and what the airmen do on a daily basis.

9-8-2015 1.13 Kaiti Firkins

Basketball superstar Shaquille O'Neal and Minot native Dale Brown, who coached Shaq at LSU were at Minot Air Force Base to inspire the airmen.

9-17-2015 .53 Nicole DesRosier

North Dakota's U.S. senators met with the Commander of the 91st Missile Wing today to discuss Minot Air Force Base priorities. During today's Triad Conference in Washington, the senators stressed the need to update and modernize a robust deterrent to protect the nation.

9-22-2015 1.34 Joe Skurzewski

If you drive by the Ward County Historical Society, you'll notice this piece of artwork outside of the military exhibit. I caught up with the artist today on what inspired him to make the piece.

SCHOOLS

Schools across the region are dealing with more students than ever before.

8-3-2015 1.17 Kaiti Firkins

Minot State University's Power Center will be receiving 440,000 dollars per year through 2020 to expand their academic assistance. It allows them to open up three new positions and serve 1000 students more a year.

8-7-2015 1.14 Kaiti Firkins

A waiver that would allow community experts to teach in classrooms throughout the state is headed to the Governor's desk after being revised today. The Teacher Shortage Task Force voted to revise portions of the Hardship Waiver Proposal to limit the kinds of teaching positions that can be applied for.

8-10-2015 .57 Jamie Council

With two weeks until classes start, MSU enrollment officers are busy getting students signed up and admitted. They are seeing strong numbers this year, but it's not all freshly graduated high school seniors. The trend of older adults heading back to the classroom is growing.

8-11-2015 1.56 Joe Skurzewski

North Dakota is in the midst of major growth, and our schools are racing to catch up. This week I take a closer look at several of the school expansions going on in our area. Today I got to talk with the administrators of Edison and Perkett on their progress leading up to the first day of school.

8-12-2015 2.13 Joe Skurzewski

Yesterday we showed you the work going on to expand two Minot Public Schools, Edison and Perkett, two of the three major parts of the MPS bond approved last year. The third part of that bond is a nearly 20 million dollar brand new elementary school going up on Minot's south side, set to open for 2016.

8-13-2015 2.08 Joe Skurzewski

This week I've been featuring elementary schools under construction. But there's a big push for families in our area to have more options to send their kids to for high school. Two schools, South Prairie and Nedrose, are doing just that.

8-14-2015 2.10 Joe Skurzewski

A lot of news this week has been about the hot temperatures across the state. With school starting in a couple weeks, some schools are left with air conditioning units that are decades old, or they have none at all. Max and Westhope are doing their part to keep students cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

8-14-2015 1.36 Kaiti Firkins

Back to school time can be a challenge for some families financially. School supply lists seem to keep getting longer. Kaiti Firkins got the Edison 4th grade supply list and went out to see how much parents should be prepared to spend.

8-19-2015 .44 Jamie Council

Students at Des Lacs Burlington elementary school hit the classroom today as the brand new year kicked off.

8-19-2015 .34

About 20 new MSU teachers reported for duty on Monday, but today was full staff convocation and they will be prepping until classes start next Monday.

8-20-2015 .54 Jamie Council

Minot State is working to make it as easy a transition as possible. The Transitions program is required for all incoming freshmen.

8-25-2015 .22

Minot Public Schools are officially back in session.

8-25-2015 1.37 Joe Skurzewski

Students in South Prairie will start tomorrow in a newly expanded building.

8-26-2015 1.39 Jamie Council

The school year is underway for Minot Public Schools. A first grade teacher has just started her teaching career at Washington Elementary today.

8-27-2015 1.40 Kaiti Firkins

Kindergarten teachers are a special breed and one in Minot has been recognized as the teacher of the year. Kaiti Firkins went and spent some time with Amy Neal and her class to see what makes her so special.

9-8-2015 1.06 Joe Skurzewski

The Minot Public School District is asking for your help in choosing a name for the district's new K through 5 school on Minot's southeast side.

9-9-2015 2.08 Kaiti Firkins
Less than 1 percent of the water in the entire world is potable and in North Dakota the water workforce is aging, so the industry and Bismarck State College Partnered up to create a program that will allow students to get a job quickly. And for one Minot student, he's getting the education without the debt that many college freshman worry about.

9-10-2015 1.04 Kaiti Firkins
Test drive a car and help a school get new playground equipment or maybe some new books in the classroom. That was the premise of a fundraiser and it really was just as simple as it sounds.

9-17-2015 .57 Kaiti Firkins
The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities sponsored an event at Minot State. Ba-Fa Ba-Fa was held today as part of its cultural competence initiative.

9-23-2015 .50 Kaiti Firkins
Notstock is taking over the Beaver Dam on MSU's campus. Student artists, local artists and some from across the country are in Minot to show off their talents for different art mediums and let the public participate as well.

9-30-2015 .50 Jamie Council
Minot State has added a peace pole. The Minot Rotary Club dedicated the hand-crafted monument. "May Peace Prevail on Earth" is in 8 different languages and serves as a reminder to visualize and pray for world peace.

RECREATION

Many people are taking advantage of the recreational activities and events North Dakota has to offer.

7-1-2015 1.57 Kaiti Firkins
If you've made any plans for the 4th of July weekend, chances are that fireworks are a part of them, but thousands of people are hurt every year from mistakes made while setting off fireworks.

7-1-2015 1.25 Jamie Council
Fireworks can also potentially be harmful to pets as well. Shelters nationwide experience a 30% increase in the amount animals days following the fourth of July.

7-6-2015 1.24 Kaiti Firkins
Heroes are the focus of several events this week in Minot. The library has something planned every day of the week. Tonight TED X hosted a life hacks salon at Souris River Brewery to help find your inner hero.

7-7-2015 2.00 Joe Skurzewski
Summer time means it's time for kids in our area to get outside, from the baseball diamond to the pool. I headed to Burlington this afternoon, where the community may be on the brink of getting more opportunities at their sports complex.

7-7-2015 .56
After a short hiatus from their usual exhibits because of avian flu concerns, the Roosevelt Park Zoo staff decided to place birds back to their outdoor homes.

7-7-2015 .55
A Minot man's novel can now be found in book stores. After 8 years of writing, 25-year-old Joel Collins' first novel is out on local book shelves. He says his fiction adventure: The Shadow Chronicles: The White Orchid and the Willow was inspired by other works combined with his own experiences.

7-9-2015 .45
The Arts in the Parks annual summer concert series kicked off this week. Two bands will be in action tonight, Greenman and the Mint City Band.

7-16-2015 1.47 Kaiti Firkins
It's the 50th year of the North Dakota State Fair and there are people who have been involved almost from the very beginning. For 2 families that have spent the last 40 years coming to Minot and for them it's all about keeping tradition and spending time together.

7-16-2015 1.50 Saira Anwer
A fair wouldn't be the same without famous treats like funnel cake, corn dogs, and cheese curds. I helped judge the Food Frenzy. The chocolate dipped key lime pie took first place.

7-22-2015 .53 Kaiti Firkins
A band of pirates has sailed into the North Dakota state fair but these aren't just any pirates. The high diving pirates are putting on a comedy show while showing off their impressive diving skills.

7-23-2015 .53 Jamie Council
We announced earlier this week that Evonne packulak won the keith urban contest and will join him on stage tomorrow night to sing "we were us". She's been singing in front of a crowd, being the lead singer for Even 5. Packulak says she's excited for the opportunity.

7-23-2015 1.54 Joe Skurzewski
One of the staples at the fair is the fur traders rendezvous, where you get to go back in time to see what life was like in the early years of our history.

7-27-2015 1.11 Jamie Council
The Roosevelt Park Zoo says it found dead squirrels that tested positive for Tularemia, which is also known as Rabbit Fever, and there have also been two confirmed human cases and one primate case of the disease in North Dakota.

7-27-2015 2.03 Kaiti Firkins
A young pilot from the Maddock lost his life in a crash a few years ago, and those in his hometown want to keep his memory alive by helping others. So they have a golf ball drop fundraiser.

7-29-2015 1.22 Jamie Council
Yesterday's high winds tore many trees down across the city including the parks. Roosevelt and Oak Park closed to clean up debris.

7-30-2015 1.45 Kaiti Firkins
Roosevelt Zoo is hosting its first ever Bacon and Brew at the Zoo this evening. A percentage of ticket sales is going back to the zoo's general fund.

7-30-2015 .57 Jamie Council
Any day is a good day to eat ice cream. But it's the 10th annual Miracle Treat Day at Dairy Queen.

7-31-2015 .47 Joe Skurzewski
Micah Ebsch worked with the city of Stanley to build a butterfly garden on the bank of the Knife River to become and Eagle Scout. Groups in the community helped to donate roughly 9 thousand dollars to help.

7-31-2015 1.17 Joe Skurzewski
The Mountrail County Veterans Committee has teamed up with a bronze sculptor in Stanley to honor our veterans. Arne Addicott's 2 piece project in called " War Mules" and shows a WWII soldier with 2 mules.

8-5-2015 .39
Former Minot resident Steve Knutson is making his mark on North Dakota one painting at a time. His latest work is a mural on the side of a building in downtown Fargo on the Meadowlark Building.

8-7-2015 1.39 Jamie Council
Local singer Evonne Packulak was our Keith Urban contest winner. Jamie Council caught up with her to talk about her experience.

8-10-2015 1.51 Joe Skurzewski
 Learning to ride a bicycle is something most of us take for granted, but it's a different story for children with disabilities or special needs. Now those very children in the Minot community are getting the opportunity this week to learn how to ride and gain more independence. That's why the Anne Carlsen Center teamed up with the Pathfinder Parent Center and "I Can Shine" to bring the "I Can Bike" Camp to Minot this week.

8-12-2015 .50 Kaiti Firkins
 Hundreds of children in the Minot area are expected to go back to school without any of the most basic supplies needed to succeed in school. The Sunrise Rotary Club partnered with the Salvation Army to put on Fill the Bus to provide students with supplies.

8-14-2015 .51 Jamie Council
 The 9th Annual Rock the Leaves Music Festival kicked off at 6 and features 20 bands throughout the weekend. Grammy winning artist Kind and Country plays tonight.

8-26-2015 .49 Kaiti Firkins
 Hair nets and aprons filled the city auditorium as volunteers packaged 50 thousand meals for the 5 local food pantries and 4 shelter programs in the community.

9-3-2015 1.47 Jamie Council
 The Souris Valley Animal Shelter has a breakfast fundraiser planned for this weekend at Badlands.

9-11-2015 .36 Kaiti Firkins
 Sertoma Beerfest is happening this evening and helps out the Minot Sertoma Club. Tickets are 45 dollars. All proceeds benefit hearing and speech initiatives of Sertoma Club.

9-18-2015 1.23 Saira Anwer
 Summer wraps up this week, and one Minot business is fully prepared for its favorite season. Fall just wouldn't be the same without a trip to Berry Acres, and in less than 24 hours, this place will be full of families picking out the perfect pumpkin to kick off the season.

9-21-2015 .40 Saira Anwer
 The Ward County Commission has to make sure concession companies that intend to sell alcohol at the Hostfest have the proper permits to do so. This morning the commission held a special meeting to approve the late submission from M and S concessions.

9-21-2015 .48 Kaiti Firkins
 The members of the North Dakota Women's Network are letting their kids pick out their outfits to raise money for their organization. Each participant is raising money on crowd rise. For every 100 dollars their kids will dress them for a day.

9-24-2015 1.42 Saira Anwer
 6454 cases of flu were reported in North Dakota last year, including 54 deaths. In this week's medical minute, I talk about why putting off your flu shot til the winter is not a good idea.

9-28-2015 1.25 Kaiti Firkins
 Visitors to Lake Audubon may not be able to tell, but starting today the lake's level is being lowered. The Army Corps of Engineers Board of Reclamation started dropping the lake by 1.7 feet.

9-28-2015 .55 Saira Anwer
 Hostfest volunteers have been setting up all month at the North Dakota State Fair Center. Exhibitors began arriving today to set up food, art, clothing, entertainment and craft booths.

9-28-2015 .28 Nicole DesRosier
 Gymagic Gymnastics will be moving to a new building in the 55th Crossing development in southeast Minot.

9-29-2015 1.50 Kaiti Firkins
 The Norsk Hostfest officially kicks off this evening with the Abracadaba concert, and then starting tomorrow, there will be plenty of Norwegian and Scandinavian crafts and goods to check out.

9-29-2015 1.06 Saira Anwer

Norsk Hostfest honors Scandinavian culture and tradition in a lot of ways, but many attendees' favorite part is the food.

9-30-2015 .54 Kaiti Firkins

Hostfest attendees can step back in time at the Artisan Village at the North Dakota State Fair Center. From weaving a Norwegian flag for a replica of a Scandinavian floor loom to watching yarn handspun from angora fur, the artisans come from all over the world to display skills that they say are anything but obsolete.

9-30-2018 2.00 Joe Skurzewski

Norwegian Rosemaling is a big attraction at Hostfest. There are various styles of the intricate floral patterns, some have more strict patterns, while others allow the artist to improvise.

9-30-2015 1.10 Kaiti Firkins

Hostfest University allows people to learn a new skill and connect with their culture.

9-30-2015 1.11 Jamie Council

The Mouse River Players open Jeff Daniels' "Escanaba in Da Moonlight" on Friday. The comedy is about a Michigan man from a hunting family that has yet to harvest his first buck, which is a big deal.