

Public File Channel 977 (97.7 FM/1020AM/KJKK-AM) - 2020 Quarter 1:

1. Thursday, January 2, 2020:
 - There are new laws in the state of Minnesota for 2020. One of these is minimum wage increasing (goes from \$9.86 to \$10 for larger employers and \$8.04 to \$8.15 for smaller employers). Told listeners to visit kbrfradio.com for more information (2:30pm).
2. Friday, January 03, 2020:
 - The New Year is here and it is recommended that people test their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms (replace batteries too). Told listeners to check out the State Fire Marshals website for more details/information (4:10pm).
3. Monday, January 06, 2020:
 - In November the original control panel and related equipment with the traffic signal at Lincoln Ave and Tower Road in Fergus Falls was destroyed. On January 20th and 21st a new control panel will be installed. Told listeners to find out more at kbrfradio.com (2:30pm).
4. Tuesday, January 07, 2020:
 - The Fergus Falls City Council got together on Monday to go over the future of the city and a local option sales tax. Five big projects are being talked about including a fire station renewal project and trail within the city. Told listeners to visit kbrfradio.com for details (3:40pm).
5. Thursday, January 09, 2020:
 - It's important to be aware of signs and symptoms of frostbite and hypothermia in the winter. Adults could be shivering, exhausted or confused if they have hypothermia. If a person has a temperature below 95 they should get medical attention immediately. Reminded listeners of all of this and told them the National Weather Service has some good/more information (4:15pm).
6. Monday, January 13, 2020:
 - The deadline to comply with new federal ID standards comes in October and many state officials like Representative Bud Nornes recommend getting in your applications now or you could risk being caught in a backlog. Less than 10% of Minnesotans are currently compliant with new ID standards and it is taking several weeks to turn around applications. Told listeners this and to visit kbrfradio.com for more information (2:40pm).
7. Thursday, January 16, 2020:
 - A county-wide initiative is currently in the early stages to address school attendance in Otter Tail County. According to Superintendent Jeff Drake, the goal is to have 95% average or better school attendance. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (2:30pm).
8. Tuesday, January 21, 2020:
 - It doesn't have to be snowing for black ice to form. Moisture from vehicle exhaust can cause it on roadways. When temperatures are at or around freezing people need to be aware of black ice as a possibility and drive accordingly. Told listeners this and to get more information from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (4:30pm).

9. Wednesday, January 22, 2020:
 - The traffic signal at Lincoln Ave. and Tower Rd. are functioning after not working since November. A new control box was installed a few days ago, ahead of schedule. It just needs to be verified by the manufacturer that it is working correctly. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (2:30pm).
10. Thursday, January 23, 2020:
 - Governor Tim Walz announced on Tuesday that the state is awarding over \$23 million to 30 projects across Minnesota to expand broadband internet access. Otter Tail and Becker Counties are among the places in the area to get over \$2 million to expand broadband through state grant. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (2:30pm).
11. Wednesday, January 29, 2020:
 - Graduation rates in the Fergus Falls school district are being addressed. Earlier this week, some numbers were put out about this. According to the district, they have been continually working with at risk student to reach out with options before they get to the point where they can't catch up. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (5:30pm).
12. Thursday, January 30, 2020:
 - Police in the area are saying to watch out for a social security scam. Citizens have complained about calls they've gotten where they are told their social security numbers were suspended. The IRS only starts contact via US mail and do not use social media, phone, text or email for business purposes. Directed listeners to kbrfradio.com for more information (2:30pm).
13. Tuesday, February 04, 2020:
 - Mayor Ben Schierer and the Fergus Falls City Council have declared February 13th as Giving Hearts Day in Fergus Falls. 100 percent of donations will stay in the community. Told listeners to go to kbrfradio.com and givinghearts.org for more information (2:30pm).
14. Thursday, February 06, 2020:
 - The United Way of Otter Tail and Wadena Counties announced their new volunteer board leadership the other day, which included four new members. They are responsible for doing things like setting and establishing policies and procedures for operation and management of the organization. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (2:40pm).
15. Monday, February 10, 2020:
 - SEIU Healthcare Minnesota members at HealthPartners voted to approve a seven day unfair labor practices strike for 1800 members. The strike notice was filed and if no agreement is reached workers would begin strike on Wednesday February 19th. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (4:15pm).
16. Tuesday, February 11, 2020:
 - There are lots of things that you can do throughout the year to be prepared for emergencies. Otter Tail County put on their Twitter that in February it is a good idea to freeze three days' worth of water in your freezer so if your power goes out you have fresh drinking water. Ottertailcountymn.us has some information on this and other things to do (3:40pm).

17. Thursday, February 13, 2020:
 - Today many organizations in the area are participating in Giving Hearts Day. The money raised goes to support all kinds of things like local programs. Told listeners to get more information at givingheartsday.org (2:30pm).
18. Friday, February 14, 2020:
 - The Minnesota State Senate just agreed to a schedule that all bills to stay alive, must pass out of every required committee prior to the Passover/Easter break. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (2:30pm).
19. Monday, February 17, 2020:
 - The current condition of soil and moisture plus the outlook on above normal precipitation throughout Otter Tail County has experts thinking that flooding is more likely than a typical year so preparations are already being done. Told listeners to read more through the fergusnow app and ottertailcountymn.us/flooding (2:40pm).
20. Tuesday, February 18, 2020:
 - Otter Tail County is rated as one of thirteen drunk driving counties. The Otter tail County Safe Communities Coalition is working hard to reduce drunk driving injuries and fatalities on county roads. Told listeners to read more through the fergusnow app and kbrfradio.com (3:15pm).
21. Wednesday, February 19, 2020:
 - Governor Tim Walz is planning on giving his second State of the State Address on March 23rd. He will address a joint session of Minnesota Legislature next month. Told listeners about this and to get more through the fergusnow app (3:10pm).
22. Monday, February 24, 2020:
 - Lake Region Electric Cooperative is warning of a phone scam that is targeting members. Scammer is calling from an 800 number trying to collect on delinquent power bills. Told listeners to read more through the fergusnow app (2:40pm).
23. Wednesday, February 26, 2020:
 - The Minnesota DNR is expanding the deer feeding ban in several counties to prevent the spread of chronic wasting disease. A total of 79 wild deer have been confirmed positive for CWD in Minnesota. Told listeners to read more at kbrfradio.com (3:15pm).
24. Thursday, February 27, 2020:
 - State officials are releasing the February budget and economic forecast today in St. Paul. This will help shape spending and revenue targets for the next year budget. Told listeners to read more through the Fergus Now app (2:40pm).
25. Tuesday, March 03, 2020:
 - Today is the Super Tuesday Presidential Primary. It's similar to any other election except you have to request either Democratic or Republican party ballot. Polls are open until 8pm statewide. Told listeners to get locations and details through the Fergus Now app (2:30pm).
26. Friday, March 06, 2020:
 - Volunteers are being looked for, for Fargo and Cass County. Around 400,000 sandbags are needed to be filled based on current flood outlook in those places. Told listeners to read more and find out how they can help through Fergus Now App (4:15pm).

27. Monday, March 09, 2020:

- Minnesota Department of Health officials confirmed a second case of the COVID-19 – Coronavirus in the state after testing 31 people over the weekend. The patient is from Carver County. Told listeners to read more through Fergus Now app (3:15pm).

28. Tuesday, March 10, 2020:

- Beginning this week, anyone with a physical address will start seeing an invitation from the US Census Bureau to participate in this year's headcount. Results from the 2020 Census will help figure out how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding flows into communities every year for the next decade. Told listeners to read more through Fergus Now app (3:40pm).

29. Wednesday, March 11, 2020:

- State Health Officials are confirming a third presumptive case of Covid-19 in Minnesota. The new case is an Anoka County resident. According to the Minnesota Department of Health approximately 135 people have been tested and three came back positive. Told listeners to read more through Fergus Now app (3:40pm).

30. Tuesday, March 17, 2020:

- The Coronavirus has led to a shortage of toilet in stores. It has caused people to look to alternate products so it's important to remember that paper towels, facial tissues, baby wipes, etc. do not break down the same way and can cause sanitary sewer overflows, which can lead to more public health hazards. Told listeners this and to get more information through Fergus Now app (2:15pm).

31. Tuesday, March 24, 2020:

- Up to \$2 million in low-interest federal loans are available to individual Minnesota business owner through the US Small Business Administration. Loans are available at a rate of 3.75 percent for terms up to 30 years. Told listeners to get more details through Fergus Now app (4:15pm).