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Weekly News Digest 07/16/2013

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A weekly news digest for University of Minnesota, Morris faculty, staff, and students

Vol. 4, No. 36: July 16, 2013

Editor: Jenna Ray

Please send comments, questions, and submissions to the editor. The submission deadline for the next edition of *Weekly Bulletin* will be Tuesday, August 13, 2013, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:

- **Morris to Host WCSA All-School Reunion**
- **Alumni Stay Connected through Barbershop Quartet**
- **Morris Featured in the *Fiske Guide to Colleges 2014***
- **Morris and the 2013 RAC Summit Commended by the NEA**

Featured Events

Morris Area Farmers Market

Mondays and Thursdays, 3–6 p.m.

East Side Park (corner of Seventh Street and Colorado Avenue, Morris MN 56267)

Blood Drive

Wednesday, July 17, 12:30-6:30 p.m.

Student Center, Oyate Hall

[West Central School of Agriculture All-School Reunion 2013](#)

Saturday, July 20, 10 a.m.

Student Center

[Lake Minnewaska Boat Cruise Event](#)

Wednesday, July 24, 5:30 p.m.

Torgy's (23583 North Lake Shore Drive, Glenwood, MN 56334)

[Green Tours](#)

Friday, July 26, 2 p.m.

Welcome Center

[Morris at the Saint Paul Saints](#)

Thursday, August 1, 5 p.m.

Saint Paul Saints Baseball Club (1771 Energy Park Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55108)

Community Meal

Friday, August 2, 12 p.m.

Assumption Catholic Church (207 East Third Street, Morris, MN 56267)

[Green Tours](#)

August 10, 2 p.m.

Stevens County Fairgrounds, Lee Community Center

Check out all of the campus [events](#).

News and Announcements

[Students Bring Jane Addams Project to Morris](#)

Since fall 2011, the [Morris Jane Addams](#) project has been an important touchstone for the campus and community.

[Alumni Stay Connected through Barbershop Quartet](#)

Founded by Adam Helgeson '12 in 2009, the award-winning quartet Kordal Kombat has qualified for international and district competitions since 2012.

[Malone '14 Helps Hoffman Official](#)

Patrick Malone '14, Saint Michael, is working with Hoffman's Muriel Krusemark to develop and utilize new internet-centered strategies for business and commerce.

[Jordan Wentz '15 Creates Comprehensive Health Narrative](#)

Jordan Wentz '15, Dodge Center, is working to create a comprehensive health narrative for Kandiyohi and Renville counties.

Get Your Biometric Health Screening for 2012-13

Gain a better understanding of your health and earn 100 points for your Wellness Points Bank by attending a Biometric Health Screening on Wednesday, August 7, from 7-10 a.m. Appointment times are still available [online](#). Biometric Health Screenings are free for UPlan medical program members and covered spouses or same-sex domestic partners. Tests take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. For more information, contact [Angie Berlinger](#).

Changes Coming to Room Scheduling and Campus Calendar

The University of Minnesota is instituting a new scheduling application called "Astra Schedule." This new software will replace the current EMS software for scheduling classes and events on campus. The Office of the Registrar has already begun the transition to this new system for classroom spaces. The rest of the campus and event scheduling will transition shortly, with a full transition expected prior to the start of classes on August 28. There will be a public demonstration of the Astra system on Thursday, August 15, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in Imholte Hall 109.

Accomplishments

The **University of Minnesota, Morris** has again been named one of the country's best and most interesting colleges and universities by the [Fiske Guide to Colleges](#). Morris is featured in the 2014 edition of the resource book by Edward B. Fiske, which offers a selective, subjective, and systematic look at more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain.

Troy Goodnough, sustainability director, presented at an Association of the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) webinar on June 25. The webinar focused on efforts taken to mitigate climate change on the campus/community level. Goodnough discussed Morris's path to climate neutrality.

In June **Jim Hall**, director of information technology, attended UBTech 2013, a technology conference sponsored by *University Business* magazine. Hall presented on the [Morris campus events webapp](#). *University Business* also invited him to write an article on the app for the magazine.

Forty Morris student athletes earned [Upper Midwest Athletic Conference \(UMAC\) Academic All-Conference honors](#) in June. Morris had the fourth-most individual honorees in the league. To be eligible for nomination, students had to post at least a 3.5 semester grade point average and compete in the sport in which they were nominated in the season that corresponded with selection.

In the News

The new **Green Prairie Living and Learning Community** was once again the focus of an [article](#) by the *Morris Sun Tribune*. Despite the late arrival of warm weather, construction remains on schedule, and the building is expected to be finished prior to Orientation weekend in August.

Morris's **Center for Small Towns (CST)** was mentioned on the National Endowment for the Arts' official [blog](#) in June. The post provides a summary of the [2013 Rural Arts and Culture Summit](#), which was hosted by CST and Springboard for the Arts.

Joe Einertson '14, Minneapolis, is serving as a [summer intern with Fog Creek Software](#). Einertson's task is to add Power-Ups to the company's organizing tool, Trello.

Nic McPhee, professor of computer science, was profiled by [Kidblog](#) on June 21. McPhee is "interning" this summer with former students **Dan Flies '04** and **Matt Hardy '01**, founders of Kidblog, Inc.

Jared Walhowe '09, coordinator of [Fruits of the City](#) and gleaning coordinator of [The Garden Gleaning Project](#), is the subject of a recent [article](#) by the *Post Bulletin*. Walhowe encourages Minnesota gardeners to consider sharing their excess vegetables with area food shelves.

Arne Kildegaard, director of the Center for Small Towns, is quoted in a recent Minnesota Public Radio [story](#) on the demolition of rural school buildings. Kildegaard discusses the emotional impact faced by small towns losing their old schools.