

# Welcome

From Page 1A

“They’ve been putting in extra hours. They’ve just been going all-out to make this plant happen.”

The new plant will build modular structures to serve a variety of commercial applications, from worksite housing, hotels and apartments, to office and administration facilities.

Modular construction helps expedite the construction process and control costs on commercial buildings for a wide range of businesses.

The products manufactured in

Vermillion will be used in North Dakota.

Larson, a native of Minnesota, said he was looking to expand his business south — initially searching on the western side of South Dakota, before looking in Sioux Falls.

That is where a Realtor told him Vermillion might be an option.

“We really felt like Vermillion found us at that point,” he said. “We found this great facility — we know it’s been sitting around for a while. We’re going to be proud to use it, and it really is going to fit our needs really well.”

Larson added that he has been overwhelmed by the reception offered by the community and its leaders.

“They’ve just kind of opened their arms and helped us figure stuff out. So, what you’re seeing today is pretty incredible to me,” he said.

A message of congratulations from Mayor Jack Powell was read, and a University of South Dakota flag from USD president James Abbott was presented, as well.

Along with the owners of the business, representatives from the offices of Sens. Tim Johnson and John Thune were on hand to offer their support, as well as other officials.

“Thank you for choosing this location,” said Alex Smith of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development. “We look forward to many, many years of working with you.”

Larson said he is looking forward to it, too.

“Somebody asked me today — and it’s an important question to answer — ‘What happens when this North Dakota thing plays out? What are you guys going to do next?’ I think by that time we’re hoping to be established enough here in Vermillion and in the area that we’re going to start moving into some other commercial products,” he said.

Howe expressed his thanks to Builders Choice, and to the members of the community who were on hand to welcome the business to town.

“This is a really wonderful show of support to a new company in our community,” he said.

# Corps

From Page 1A

braska, Missouri and Kansas that the agency is looking for more storage room for floodwater for 2012. McMahon said a report due next week is likely to have specific recommendations.

“We are setting ourselves up for a much better outcome,” McMahon told the governors.

Some of the governors have been asking for more aggressive flood control.

McMahon said the agency will have to weigh the impact of such

measures against the other uses for the river, such as barge traffic and wildlife concerns.

Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer, for instance, has said the more aggressive flood control measures would infringe on his state’s wildlife and recreation industries, and lead to water shortages when drought hits. He has resisted the other Missouri River governors’ efforts and predicted they will have little impact on whatever the Corps decides to do.

“It is going no direction,” Schweitzer said of the governors’ group. “These governors have no authority. They have less authority than a single member of Congress, who at least have a vote and hold the purse strings.”

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