Get your No. 2 pencil ready – there is a full ballot this primary election for several open seats at the city and county levels. Mayoral, City Commission, Park Board and County Commission positions will be elected on **Tuesday, June 10, 2014 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.** Don’t miss your chance to make your voice heard!

**CANDIDATES**

**Fargo Mayor**
- Dennis Walaker
- Brad Wimmer

**Fargo City Comm.**
- Vern Bennett
- Mara Brust
- Anthony Gehrig
- Tim Mahoney
- Dave Piepkorn
- John Strand
- Scott Wagner

**Fargo Park Board**
- Joe Deutsch
- Rick Flacksbarth
- Mary C. Johnson
- Matthew Magness
- Terry Waltz

**Cass County Comm.**
- Rick Steen
- Dawn Morgan

**Bring your ID**
Voter registration is not required in North Dakota but you will need to provide identification when you arrive at your polling place. The following are acceptable forms of identification.

- **A Valid North Dakota:**
  - Driver’s license
  - Non-driver’s identification card
  - Tribal government issued identification card
  - Student identification certificate (provided by ND college or university)
  - Long-term care identification certificate (provided by a ND care facility)

**District 4**
- Arland H. Rasmussen
- Justin Vega

**Fargo School Board**
- Teri-Lee C. James
- Jennifer Benson
- David Paulson
- Scott Dahms
- Rebeca Knutson
- Dinah Goldenberg
- Linda Boyd
- Ahmed Kamel
- Marty Livingood
- Brian Martin
- Tyler Jon Anderson

**Polling places**
16 polling places are available in the City of Fargo. See page 2 of this newsletter for a list of precinct numbers and addresses. A list is also available online at [www.CassCountyND.gov](http://www.CassCountyND.gov).

**Voting in ND**
Everything you need to know about voting in North Dakota is available online at [www.Vote.ND.Gov](http://www.Vote.ND.Gov) or by phone at 1-800-352-0867. You can also find information at [www.CassCountyND.gov](http://www.CassCountyND.gov).
Plans to break ground on a 62,500 sq. ft. addition to the Fargo Water Treatment Plant are set to get underway later this summer. The expansion will allow for an increase in the plant’s capacity from 30 million gallons per day (MGD) to 45 MGD and include the addition of membrane treatment technology. These upgrades are needed to meet the growing demand for water in Fargo and manage an increase in sulfate and bromide concentrations coming from Devils Lake discharges, which eventually flow into the Sheyenne River, one of Fargo’s main water supplies. The current water treatment process does not have the ability to remove these compounds.

**Why remove sulfate and bromide?**

**Sulfate:** At high levels, sulfate can give water a bitter or astringent taste and can have laxative effects.

**Bromide:** The Fargo Water Treatment Plant uses ozone to disinfect its drinking water. When bromide comes into contact with ozone it forms “bromate”, which has a regulated limit in drinking water.

The new membrane treatment technology will remove sulfate and bromide from the water and position the City to handle future issues that may arise with water quality and quantity.

**Project time line**

Construction is expected to begin in late summer 2014 and extend over a three year period. The project is being financed through City infrastructure sales tax and a grant from the North Dakota State Water Commission. More specific information on the project, as well as a video fly-over, can be found online at: [www.cityoffargo.com/water](http://www.cityoffargo.com/water).
In March, the Fargo City Commission adopted new floodplain building requirements that mandate all new homes built in the 41’ water surface inundation area be elevated and have floodproofed basements. This includes any area that would be covered with water if the river stage reaches 41 feet or higher.

The requirements are in response to changes in FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which calls for rate subsidies to be gradually eliminated. This means rates will be increasing and could become very expensive. While the floodplain building requirements may not completely eliminate flood insurance for some homes they will help reduce the insurance premium cost to a much more affordable level.

Depending on the size of the structure a floodproofed design can cost upward of $5,000 however this onetime cost offers a life-of-loan savings on flood insurance premiums. Learn more about floodproofed basement requirements online at www.FargoFloodInsurance.com or by visiting with your homebuilder.

Building permit totals in Fargo for the first 4 months of 2014 are off to a strong start at $151-million. That’s an increase of nearly $100-million from the first 4 months of 2013. The largest areas of growth are:

- Public building construction: $69-million
- Commercial: $37-million
- New apartment construction: $3-million.

In addition, a $110-million water treatment plant expansion will begin this summer and permit applications are currently being reviewed for another $213-million in residential/business construction. A $315-million Sanford hospital permit is also being reviewed. “Building permits this year will shatter last year’s record year of $377 million,” said Fargo Planning Director Jim Gilmour.

The construction of apartments will play an important role in Fargo’s growth over the summer with 16 buildings already in the planning stages. “Job growth is bringing more people to Fargo and creating the demand for new housing. Much of the population growth has been people in their 20’s, a group more likely to rent,” said Gilmour. The apartment vacancy rate in Fargo is currently at 3.2%.

In an effort to build a permanent levee system around the most flood prone areas of south Fargo, the City continues to acquire and remove homes. In July, 20 homes will be sold at auction for the purpose of salvaging materials or moving them to new locations. These homes must be removed by September 2014 so levees can be constructed in 2015.

The City uses a combination of earthen levees and concrete floodwalls to provide flood protection. Earthen levees are the primary choice however concrete floodwalls are used when soil stability issues require. Concrete floodwalls are very expensive, roughly $2,500/foot, and the cost increases as the height of the floodwall increases.

Permanent flood protection is being built this summer in several south side neighborhoods including the Oakcreek Addition, Coulee’s Crossing, Harwood/Hackberry/River Drive and the Prairie Rose Addition. Once the City is able to link enough flood risk reduction projects together to form a continuous line of protection, the City will submit a certification package to FEMA with a goal of having certain portions of town removed from the 100 year floodplain. This is expected to take 4 – 5 years. More information on Fargo’s in-town comprehensive flood plan can be found at www.cityoffargo.com/engineering under the “flood control projects” section.
FROM THE FIREHOUSE

Sometimes we ask “What if”. What if Fargo’s Lashkowitz High Rise didn’t have a sprinkler system when a fire erupted in the building last December? Let’s take a look at two examples:

| Where: Fargo’s Lashkowitz High Rise at 101 2nd St. S. |
| Built: 1971 |
| Stories: 22 |
| Units: 250 |
| Sprinkler system: Yes |
| - Fire in a room on the 15th floor at 9 p.m. on Dec. 17, 2013 |
| - Fargo Fire Department responded with 16 personnel |
| - Tenant found inside unit – uninjured |
| - Fire extinguished by sprinkler system |
| - No injuries or fatalities |

| Where: Barrington Plaza, Los Angeles, CA |
| Built: 1961 |
| Stories: 25 |
| Units: 400 |
| Sprinkler system: No |
| - Fire in a room on the 11th floor at 11:43 a.m. on Oct. 18, 2013 |
| - 200 firefighters responded |
| - Displaced residents of 51 units |
| - Eight people (including one child in critical condition and three firefighters) were taken to hospitals with injuries |

When comparing these examples it’s easy to see the sprinkler system made the difference. The fire in Fargo’s Lashkowitz High Rise would have been significantly worse if it was not for the sprinkler system. When considering a place to live, remember to look for buildings equipped with sprinkler systems.

- Fire Marshal Ryan Erickson

NAC RECEIVES DIVERSITY AWARD

The Fargo Native American Commission (FNAC) is the recipient of the Green and Golden Globe Diversity Award, presented by the North Dakota State University Office of Multicultural Programs. The FNAC was recognized for what they have done, and continue to do, to promote a climate that is open and welcoming to all areas of diversity. This work is important to North Dakota State University and to the Division of Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach.

The mission of the Fargo Native American Commission is to work together to strengthen the Native American community to promote understanding, recognition, and respect for Native American cultures and to enrich the whole community. The commission provides support to the community through the Sweat Lodge Project, Gladys Ray Shelter, Fargo Public Schools Native American Program, Native American Center and Native American Community Garden. The FNAC is also a strong supporter of the Woodlands and High Plains Pow Wow which represents the collaborations of NDSU, MSUM, MState and Concordia.

TREE HEALTH 101

Ensuring success of our urban forest is an ongoing process and can prove to be difficult at times. To improve the health and vigor of our forest, please consider the following tips. Newly established trees will require frequent watering to make sure the root ball does not dry out; always check the root ball to determine if it is saturated or not, as too much water is just as detrimental as not enough. Established trees will enjoy some additional irrigation during dry periods. A slow trickle from the hose is commonly done, or use water stored in a rain barrel. An often overlooked option is to install a layer of woodchip mulch. 2-3” deep and as wide as possible will keep the soil cooler, retain moisture longer and provide nutrients to the soil as it decomposes.

Planting is the fun part but don’t forget about trees once they are established. Simple maintenance items like those listed above help our trees reach maturity.
The 2014 construction season is on track to be one for the record books. The City of Fargo and the North Dakota Department of Transportation are breaking ground on some major projects including the reconstruction of 25th Street and 19th Avenue North. The most notable project is the $15-million overhaul on 25th Street which will alleviate congestion from 17th – 23rd Avenue South and address the high crash intersection at 25th Street and 18th Street. Drivers are encouraged to follow @fargostreets on Twitter and visit www.FargoStreets.com for regular road construction project updates and detour notifications.

Below is an overview of projects taking place this summer:

- **25th Street reconstruction:** Includes additional lanes, bridge widening and construction of a new ramp. Project will extend from 17th to 23rd Avenue South.
- **19th Avenue North:** Street reconstruction project from 10th to 18th Street. This project features the addition of a fenced median that will direct pedestrians to a cross signal north of the FargoDome’s main entrance.
- **19th Avenue North:** Underground utility project from 42nd to 45th Street (no street work but traffic detoured).
- **40th Avenue South:** Reconstruction project from Drain 27 (1/2 mile west of 45th Street) to Sheyenne Street in West Fargo.
- **45th Street:** Underground utility project from 16th to 19th Avenue North (no street work but traffic detoured).

Additional projects:

- **Main Avenue asphalt mill & overlay project from University Drive to 25th Street.**
- **Cass County Highway 20 (40th Avenue North) asphalt mill & overlay project that runs from I-29 to the Red River.**
- **The shared use path along the Red River from 9th Avenue North to Elm Street near the El Zagal bowl will be closed for reconstruction with a re-opening date in September.**

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**Great Rides Bikeshare**

Great Rides Bikeshare will be coming to downtown Fargo and NDSU campus this fall. Great Rides Bikeshare is a student driven non-profit organization that will operate a system of 100 bikes with 10 stations strategically located in areas of downtown Fargo and the NDSU Campus.

Bikeshare is a short term bicycle rental available at unattended stations placed near popular facilities. To use the system, swipe your credit card at the station kiosk and you’ll get a code to unlock a bike. You can pay for a daily membership for a nominal fee, or get a yearly membership. Bikes are typically rented for 60-90 minutes and must be returned to one of the 10 B-cycle stations.

Fargo City Commissioner Mike Williams says, “It is a great pleasure to work with strong NDSU student leaders like Cameron Knutson, Robbie Lauff, and bike advocate Tom Smith and Great Rides that will operate and maintain the system.” Great Rides Bikeshare’s private, non-profit transportation system is the result of a broad collaboration of students, businesses, and support across the community that contributed generously to make Great Rides Bikeshare a reality. More information can be found at www.Facebook.com/GreatRidesBikeshare.

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**Sump Pump Waiver**

The City of Fargo Sump Pump Waiver Program allows the discharge of sump pump water to the sanitary sewer system from October 1 to April 30 of each year. The $36 per year waiver fee is applied to the utility bill at $3 per month. Protect your home by checking your sump pump and your by-pass system to make sure they are working properly this summer. Visit www.cityoffargo.com/sumppumpprogram or call 701-461-7867.
E-CIGARETTE LAWS

Fargo Cass Public Health (FCPH) would like to remind electronic cigarette users and North Dakota businesses that e-cigarettes are prohibited in all places where smoking is not allowed under the law; and smoking is prohibited outside within 20 feet of entrances, exits, operable windows, air intakes and ventilation systems of an establishment where smoking is prohibited by law. Also, smoke-free signs must be posted at all entrances to indoor public places and places of employment including where smoking is not allowed. Examples of public places and places of employment include, but are not limited to, restaurants, bars, truck stops, hotels and motels, health care facilities, long-term and assisted living centers, and licensed adult day care facilities.

The fines for not complying with the law by an owner, manager, or person of general supervisory responsibility of an establishment is not to exceed $100 for the first violation, not to exceed $200 for a second violation within one year, and not to exceed $500 for each additional violation within one year of the preceding violation. FCPH has educational resources and free signage available for local businesses. In addition, links to downloadable signage templates and educational resources are available at www.FargoCassPublicHealth.com/tobacco. For more information, contact FCPH at 701-241-8576.

GARBAGE/RECYCLING

Independence Day July 4 – Week of June 30:
Garbage and recycling will not be collected on Friday, July 4. The Friday route will be collected one day early and the remainder of the week will be on normal schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be closed on Friday, July 4.

Labor Day Sept. 1 – Week of Sept. 1:
Monday collection will be on Tuesday; the remainder of the week on schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be closed on Monday, Sept. 1.

Sanitary Landfill
Located at 4501 7th Ave. N. If you have questions please call the Scale House at 282-2489. Summer hours:
• Monday - Friday: 7:15 a.m. - 5 p.m.
• Saturday: 7:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Household Hazardous Waste Facility
Located at 606 43 1/2 St. N. in Fargo. Hours of operation:
• Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
• Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
• Second Saturday of each month 8 a.m. to noon.
• Businesses should call 281-8915 for an appointment and rates.

“Invisible Threat” screening

Fargo Cass Public Health and the Fargo Public Library are offering a screening of the documentary “Invisible Threat” at the Main Library’s Community Room on Saturday, June 28, at 1 p.m. The film highlights the growing problem of vaccine mistrust and the resurgence of vaccine preventable diseases in our nation. Q & A will follow the screening. www.chstvfilms.org/.

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• Businesses should call 281-8915 for an appointment and rates.

Fargo Fact:
All pools in Fargo with a circulation system and/or two feet of water are required to install a five foot fence along the perimeter.
Are you and your children planning summer activities? With MATBUS, you won’t have to worry about getting them to the pool, movies, summer school, practice or just about anywhere. Kids in kindergarten-12th grade can take the MATBUS all summer long for only $26 with the Summer Youth Pass. That’s three months of transportation for the price of one!

The Summer Youth Pass is good for unlimited rides on MATBUS vehicles through August 31, and is an excellent way to teach young adults to become more independent. If the nearest bus stop is beyond walking distance, you can bike to the stop and load your bike onto the rack on the front of each bus. Instructions for use are printed on the bike rack. You can also watch our “How-to-Ride” video, or get a demonstration from a MATBUS team member at the Ground Transportation Center.

The Summer Youth Pass also features MATBUS’ new mascot, Mattie the Chinese Red Panda! Passes are sold at the Ground Transportation Center at 502 NP Avenue in Fargo.

**RIDE MATBUS TO THE STREET FAIR**

Avoid the traffic downtown! MATBUS offers park and ride locations for the 2014 Downtown Street Fair, July 17-19. Park your car at one of the designated park and ride lots for free, and ride to the Street Fair for a discounted rate during this event. Fair goers can take an air-conditioned bus to and from the event. The routes will take passengers to MATBUS’s Ground Transportation Center (GTC) right next to the heart of the street fair.

These collaborating businesses have graciously provided parking spots for this service:
- Kmart (South University)
- Skills and Technology Training Center
- Cashwise
- The Hub Entertainment Destination

Visit [www.MATBUS.com](http://www.MATBUS.com).

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**ONE BOOK, ONE COMMUNITY**

“ORPHAN TRAIN”

Get ready for the third annual One Book, One Community reading project. This year’s title is “Orphan Train” by Christina Baker Kline, and all three area public libraries have partnered once again to encourage area residents to unite in reading the selected title and participate in related events. Launching this year’s One Book, One Community project is an author visit by Christina Baker Kline set for Wednesday, Aug. 13, starting at 7 p.m. at the The Stage at Island Park (333 4th St. S., Fargo). All ages are invited; the event is free and open to the public. Readers of all ages can take part in the project’s events which include a region-wide photo contest, book discussions, film screenings and more. Visit any Fargo Public Library location or [www.1book1community.org](http://www.1book1community.org) for a complete line-up of events and related resources.

**Fizz! Boom! Read!**

Science is the theme for the 2014 Summer Reading Program at the Fargo Public Library, and exciting events are planned for kids, teens and adults. The Children’s Department will kick off the 10 week program on Monday, June 2, with two special presentations by Mad Science of Minnesota. Providing fun and exciting hands-on science experiences for kids, the Mad Scientists will start off at 11 a.m. with a Phantastic Physics Event at the Dr. James Carlson Branch. The scientists will conduct amazing experiments with electricity, including creating lightening indoors. At 2 p.m. the Mad Scientists will be at the Main Library for an Air Power Event. Air experiments include lifting a volunteer with air power! No registration is required for these events, but space is limited. Groups of 10 or more planning to attend must notify the Children’s Dept. at (701) 241-1495.