

# City Snapshot



Summer 2012

Election Edition

## Cast Your Vote on June 12, 2012

### Primary Election:

#### June 12 from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

The Cass County Auditor is anticipating high voter turnout for the Primary Elections on June 12. The ballot includes a number of highly visible measures along with races for Fargo City Commission, Park Board and Board of Education. 19 polling sites will be open for Fargo voters on **Tuesday, June 12, from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.**

Primary elections are held every other year to elect municipal leaders and to narrow down the pool of candidates at the county, state and national levels.



### Early voting June 4 - 8

Early voting will start on June 4 and run through June 8 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 4351 17th Ave. S., Fargo and at the Lodoen Kindergarten Center, 330 3rd Ave. E., West Fargo. Any qualified elector of Cass County can cast their ballot at the early voting precincts.

### Bring your ID

Before you head out the door to vote, you'll want to make sure you have proper identification. When you appear at the polling location, state law requires that the poll clerk ask you to provide identification to verify your eligibility to vote in that precinct.

#### Acceptable forms of ID:

- Valid North Dakota driver's license
- State ID card
- Utility bill dated 30 days prior to the election

## What's on the ballot?

City Commission	4 year term	2 open seats	For more on the Primary Election, including polling sites and precincts, and a sample ballot for your precinct, visit: <a href="http://www.casscountynd.gov">www.casscountynd.gov</a>
Board of Education	4 year term	4 open seats	
Park Board	4 year term	2 open seats	
Municipal Judge	4 year term	1 open seat	
Cass County Commission	4 year term	3 open seats	



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# Where is your polling site?

The location you vote at for the Primary Election depends on which precinct you live in. There are 19 polling places for Fargo residents. If you aren't sure where you should vote you can find out online at [www.casscountynd.gov](http://www.casscountynd.gov). Click on the "Where do I vote" button.

Precinct	Polling Place	Location
11-01	Olivet Lutheran	1330 University Drive South
11-02	Doublewood Inn	3333 13th Avenue South
16-01	Meadow Ridge Bible Chapel	2198 2nd Avenue East, WF
16-02	Holy Cross Church	1420 16th Street East, WF
16-03	Scheels Arena	5225 31st Avenue South
21-01	Robert D Johnson Center	1104 2nd Avenue South
21-02	Fargo Civic Center	207 4th Street North
22-06	Shiloh Evangelical	2200 Shiloh Street WF
27-01	West Acres Shopping Center	3920 13th Avenue South
27-02	Living Waters Church	4451 40th Avenue South
27-03	Calvary United Methodist	4575 45th Street South
41-01	Bethel Evangelical Free Church	2702 30th Avenue South
41-02	First Assembly of God	3401 25th Street South
44-01	El Zagal Shrine	1429 3rd Street North
44-02	Knollbrook Covenant Church	3030 Broadway
45-01	FargoDome	1800 North University
46-01	Vista Inn	1340 21st Avenue South
46-02	Atonement Lutheran Church	4601 Univesity Drive South
46-03	Riverview Place	5300 12th Street South

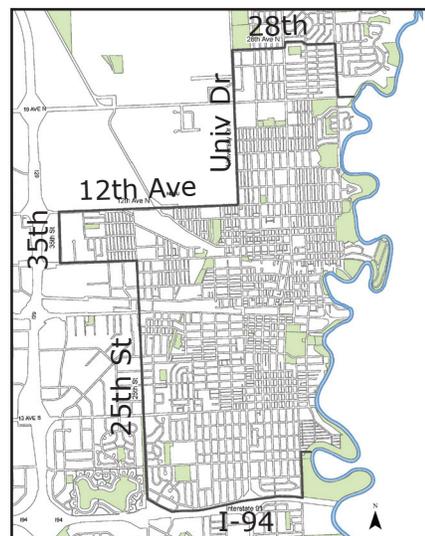
## Low interest rate on new NRI loans

New low interest loans are now available through the Fargo Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI) loan program thanks to a \$2 million commitment by program partner Gate City Bank. Since 2003, the City of Fargo has partnered with Gate City Bank to provide low interest loans for homeowners to improve their homes. In addition to new funding, the program has lowered the interest rate, increased the loan amount maximum and increased the value of eligible homes:

- Maximum loan amount is \$50,000
- Houses valued up to \$150,000
- Interest rate is 3.5% over 10 years

Applications are available at [www.cityoffargo.com/NRI](http://www.cityoffargo.com/NRI). For more information, contact the City of Fargo Department of Planning and Development at 241-1474.

## NRI program boundaries



### City of Fargo Employment

Find job openings at:  
[www.cityoffargo.com/employment](http://www.cityoffargo.com/employment)



## Summer cone watch

The summer road construction season is off to a productive start. The warm spring weather allowed crews to hit the pavement right on time and in some cases even a little early. This summer, the most notable projects will be near downtown and the edges of the City.

### 7th Ave. N.



This is the final phase of improvements to 7th Ave. N. from University Drive to 45th St. This \$3 million project will widen the road to 3 lanes from 36th St. to 39th St. and

add a 10 foot wide shared use path. The bridge deck over I-29 will also be widened to 3 lanes. The project will be completed in early October.

### 10th St. N. between 12th – 17th Avenues

Reconstruction includes two driving lanes and a provision for a left side bike lane. The \$4 million project also includes the addition of decorative street lights, new sidewalks and a concrete roadway. Construction began in early April and will be completed in September.

### Veteran's Blvd. at 23rd Ave.

A traffic signal will be added to help manage increasing traffic related to the new Sanford Hospital construction and Costco store.

### 4th Ave. N. between Roberts St. - Univ. Dr.

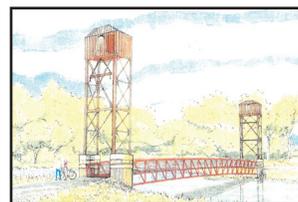
The roadway will be widened and upgraded to concrete. The design tentatively includes on-street bike lanes. It will be finished in October.

### 70th Ave. S.

A new stretch of 70th Ave. S. will be added between Univ. Dr. and Davies High School. This will create a second route to get to and from Davies High School. Currently, the only route is via 25th St. The road will be completed in October.

### Lindenwood/Gooseberry Bridge

A new electronic lift bridge will be built over the Red River connecting walkers and bikers to Lindenwood and Gooseberry Parks. The \$1 million lift bridge will replace the 30+ year old bridge currently in place and eliminate the cumbersome task of hoisting it with cranes each spring. It will instead be quickly and easily hoisted with the push of a button.



## River property development

In April, the Fargo City Commission enacted Chapter 20-0508, Watercourse Setbacks of the Land Development Code, which tightens restrictions on existing and future developments on river property in Fargo. Chapter 20-0508 includes the Minimal Disturbance Zone Setback (MDZS) and the Limited Disturbance Zone Setback (LDZS). MDZS restricts development within 350 feet of the Red and Wild Rice Rivers and 175 feet of the Sheyenne River. The LDZS restricts 100 additional feet.

To learn more about the new regulations, visit [www.cityoffargo.com/engineering](http://www.cityoffargo.com/engineering) and click on "Floodplain Management".



**MY PROPERTY**  
REGISTER. PROTECT.

The City of Fargo has launched a new program called "My Property" to help residents and police identify stolen or lost property. The online program allows you to create an account, enter information about your property such as serial numbers or pictures and later retrieve the information if you become a victim of theft or other loss, such as fire. Property that can be entered may include any item you own, such as electronics, jewelry, bicycles, etc. Create your account at:

<http://myproperty.cityoffargo.com/>





# Convenient summer transportation with MATBUS

## Take MATBUS to the Downtown Street Fair

MATBUS offers park and ride locations for the 2012 Downtown Street Fair, July 19 - 21. Park your car at one of MATBUS' designated park and ride lots for free and ride to the Street Fair for a discounted rate during this event. These collaborating businesses will allow you to use their parking lots:

Kmart (South University), Cashwise, The Hub and the Skills and Technology Training Center.

## MATBUS summer youth pass

Let MATBUS drive your kids to their activities this summer. The "Summer Youth Pass" allows youth in grades K - 12 to use unlimited rides on the MATBUS system from June 1 - August 31. The pass is \$26 and can be purchased from any of our dispatch team members at the Ground Transportation Center, 502 NP Avenue.

## Read books and ride

MATBUS is providing free rides to youth (grades K-12) going to and from the Fargo, West Fargo or Moorhead Public Libraries when they show the bus driver their Library Card from June 1 - August 31.

## MATBUS to host national transit conference

For the first time, MATBUS will host the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Public Transportation and University Communities Conference. The event, June 16 - 19, is expected to bring over 200 attendees to Fargo. Conference goers will delve into the unique needs of university communities and the populations they serve. The conference promises to bring transit, university and student leaders to Fargo to exchange ideas and see the successful collaborations between MATBUS and North Dakota State University. The Small Urban and Rural Transit Center (SURTC) is a conference co-host.



## Bike & bus

Getting around the Fargo-Moorhead area is easier for bicyclists with the MATBUS system. If the nearest MATBUS route is beyond walking distance, bike over to it, load your bike on the front rack and away you go! Each bus carries up to two bikes. If you have any questions please call the GTC Helpline at 701-232-7500.

# Summer Events at the Fargo Public Library

## Dream Big - Read!



This summer the Fargo Public Library is pleased to announce that in addition to our Dream Big - Read! Summer Reading Program for school age children, we are introducing a special program specifically designed for children from birth through age 5. This new Pre-Reader Summer Reading Program will highlight stories and host events tailored to the abilities and interests of young children. The program will feature a booklog for tracking progress, age appropriate prizes and many exciting events and programs including storytimes, movies, craft programs, and more. For more information call [www.fargolibrary.org](http://www.fargolibrary.org) or contact the Children's Services Department at 701-241-1495 or e-mail [askchildrens@cityoffargo.com](mailto:askchildrens@cityoffargo.com).

## Library welcomes the Red River Zoo

Area kids get a chance to meet some of the Red River Zoo's animals and learn all about nocturnal creatures when the zoo visits the library in June. Two sessions are scheduled; the first is Wednesday, June 13 at 11 a.m. at the downtown Main Library. A second visit is planned for Thursday, June 14 at 11 a.m. at the Dr. James Carlson Library. All ages are welcome. Call Children's Services at 701-241-1495 for details.

## Talent show for kids and teens

Area kids and teens are invited to show off their talents and enter the library's 3rd annual "Hit the Big Time" Talent Show scheduled Wednesday, July 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library. Prizes will be awarded in various categories. Contact Children's Services at 241-1495 for details or to register.



# Urban tree talk

## Alley and Sidewalk Pruning

Did you know that if you have trees and shrubs growing on your property, it is your responsibility to make sure their branches don't interfere with the use of public sidewalks, streets, and alleys? Failure to do so is a violation of city ordinance and could result in the city making the arrangements to remove the nuisance, with all costs being charged to the property. Walkers, bikers, the postal service, street plows, trash collectors, delivery trucks, and your neighbors will all appreciate your efforts.

## Brush Pick-up

The Forestry Department will dispose of residential brush on your regular garbage day, now through October 31. Brush must be bundled and placed on the boulevard by 7 a.m. Please do not place it in cans, boxes, or bags. Stumps and roots will not be collected. Brush is not allowed in yard waste containers at the recycling drop-off sites. Brush up to 10" in diameter will be chipped. For more information, visit: [www.cityoffargo.com/forestry](http://www.cityoffargo.com/forestry).

## Dreaded whip trimmer and lawn mower

Besides improper planting, another significant contributor to tree decline is the dreaded whip trimmer and lawn mower. On any size tree, especially a smaller one, damage can occur which could easily cause a tree to die.

The best way to eliminate damage is to mulch your tree. Mulch provides many benefits including minimizing competition with turf, helping control weeds, conserving moisture, and adding critical nutrients to the soil. It's best to place wood-chip mulch about 3-4 inches deep and as far out as the lower branch tips, or farther. Be sure to keep mulch 3-6 inches away from the base of the tree.

Round-Up or a similar product can be used, per manufacturer instructions, to spray grass or weeds that pop up through the mulch but be careful not to spray the tree. Hand weeding or simply using a hand trimmer around the tree base are also options.

Wood-chip mulch is available at the City of Fargo compost site. Each spring, the Solid Waste division gives away free wood chips and compost. Call 241-1449 for details.

## Fargo Police Community Picnic

Bring the whole family out to the 18th Annual Fargo Police Community Picnic on **Tuesday, June 26 from 5 - 8 p.m.** at Island Park, 2nd Ave. and 7th St. S. near downtown.

Chat with employees and see equipment from the Fargo Police Department, Fargo Fire Department, Red River Valley SWAT team and Bomb Squad, MATBUS, Meritcare LifeFlight and many more. For the second year in a row the Cultural Corner will provide information and displays about the diverse organizations and communities within Fargo-Moorhead. There will also be plenty of activities for children to enjoy. We hope to see you there!



## Mark your calendar!

✓ **ND Fair Housing Law training:** Tuesday, June 5 from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Holiday Inn. Contact Nate Bailly at 701-476-6751.

✓ **Garbage collection Independence Day week of July 2 - 6:** Tuesday collected on Monday, Wednesday collected on Tuesday, the remainder of the week on schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be closed on Wednesday, July 4.

✓ **Streets Alive!:** Sundays, July 15 and August 26, from noon to 5 p.m. 3 miles of downtown streets will be opened for any form of human-powered movement. Visit [www.fmstreetsalive.org](http://www.fmstreetsalive.org).

FARGO CITY COMMISSION  
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## From the Firehouse

With Fire Marshal Norm Scott

### Fireworks: Are they worth the risk?

Each year in Fargo, we see numerous fires and injuries due to fireworks. This year, why not play it safe and let professionals handle the fireworks? Professional fireworks make a better display, which you and your family can watch in safety. If you do choose to light fireworks, you must find a legal place to do so.

***Fireworks are illegal inside Fargo city limits.***



Before lighting fireworks, consider these facts:

- In 2009, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 8,800 people for fireworks related injuries.
- Tragically, there was an explosion death involving fireworks in Fargo last year.
- Sparklers and novelties alone accounted for 32% of the emergency room fireworks injuries in 2009.
- In 2009, fireworks caused an estimated 18,000 reported fires, including 1,300 structure fires, 400 vehicles fires, and 16,300 outside and other fires.

The statistics don't lie - fireworks are dangerous. So, play it safe and let professionals handle the show.

**Norm Scott**  
**Fire Marshal**

