

FOCUS

The Official Publication of the North Dakota Recreation and Park Association

Summer 2021



Building the foundation for FUN!



Playground Equipment
Park Amenities
Benches
Picnic Tables
Shade Systems
Shelters

Natural Playgrounds
Sports and Athletic
Equipment
Signage
Playground Fencing
Surfacing

Cebe Schneider
701.590.0024

Bruce Schneider
701.590.0017



cebes@ndsupernet.com
941 11th St E • Dickinson, ND 58601
www.bc6builders.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow, where did the summer go! As park and recreation professionals, we all know too well that we blink, and we are on to the next season. The good news is that means we were all very busy and activities have returned to "normal."

So, many great things have happened over the last year: we are back to holding community events, pools are open, parks are full, tournaments are happening, and as a result, our marketing teams have positive things to talk about again!

The list goes on about all the ways this year has been a vast improvement from the challenges of 2020. Most importantly, we are back to holding in-person meetings! The 2021 NRPA Conference is scheduled for Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 21-23. The conference will be in-person, but if you can't find the time in your schedule or funds to go to Nashville, there is also a fantastic virtual option. The early bird registration deadline for both conference options is Aug. 6. More details can be found at www.nrpa.org.

Additionally, the 2021 NDRPA State Conference and ND Trails Conference will be held in Bismarck Sept. 13-15. Shout out to the conference team! They worked very hard to put together this conference for 2020, and when it had to be postponed, they continued their efforts to move the entire thing to 2021. For those of you that have ever worked on a conference committee, you understand what a feat it is to not just arrange things once, but to do it all over again for the next year. The schedule is packed full of activities, fun and education. I have heard from

several people they are having a hard time choosing between what sessions to attend because of all the great things being offered. The deadline to register is Aug. 25.

The state conference also means we are welcoming new board and committee members. NDRPA offers an opportunity to give back to your state, community, organization, and a profession we all love. If you have ever thought of getting more involved with NDRPA, now is the time. Please let Shannon know if you're interested in serving, so she can assist in getting you on a committee.

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as NDRPA president over the last year. I couldn't have done it without the support of my supervisor and organization. Thank you, Fargo Park District, for allowing me to give back to NDRPA. A big "THANK YOU" to Shannon and the team at Clearwater for everything they did during this crazy, post-pandemic legislative year. Finally, I cannot say thank you enough to the dedicated individuals that make up the NDRPA Board of Directors. Your contributions are the glue of the organization. I appreciate each and every one of you!

See everyone in Bismarck at the NDRPA State Conference and ND Trails Conference!

Sam Larson-Frobig, NDRPA President



NDRPA President Sam Larson-Frobig enjoying time at the lake with her sister and nephew.



SEPT. 13-15

NDRPA State Conference and ND Trails Conference, Bismarck

SEPT. 21-23

NRPA Annual Conference, Nashville and Virtual

OCT. 12-14

CPSI Course, Bismarck

Mission

Advancing parks, recreation and conservation for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota.

Strategic Goals

1. Member Services: Provide training, information and networking for parks and recreation stakeholders.
2. Policy Advocacy: Represent parks and recreation interests on public policy issues.
3. Public Outreach: Promote the benefits of parks and recreation and the importance of conservation, health and wellness, and access.



CONTENTS

President's Message	3
Mark Your Calendar	3
NDRPA News	5
Commissioner's Corner	6
Park District News	8
NDRPA State Conference & ND Trails Conference	16
NDRPA Awards Highlight	25
NDPRD Launches ND Passport Program	27

ADVERTISERS

BC6 Builders	2
Rivard's Turf & Forage	7
R.J. Thomas Manufacturing/Pilot Rock	7
Cunningham Recreation/GameTime	8
MTI Distributing	9
My Turn Playsystems	11
The Tessman Company	11
Recreation Supply Company	12
USTA Northern	13
Boom Concrete	19
ACME Tools	19
ND State Procurement Office	21
My Turn Playsystems	21
WSB	22
Associated Supply Company, Inc.	23
Grondahl Recreation Inc.	24
ND Insurance Reserve Fund	24
Dakota Playground	26
Norby Golf Course Design	27

**Thank You to our *FOCUS* advertisers.
We appreciate your business!**

FOCUS is the official newsletter of the North Dakota Recreation & Park Association (NDRPA). It is distributed quarterly to almost 900 parks and recreation professionals and posted on the NDRPA website. Submission of articles and photographs are encouraged in digital format to ndrpaoffice@gmail.com. Photographs should be high-resolution (300 dpi or greater). Advertising information is available online at www.ndrpa.com.

Next *FOCUS* deadline: Oct. 15, 2021

Cover photo: Wilds South Park, West Fargo Park District

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Sam Larson-Frobig

Fargo Park District
701 Main Ave
Fargo, ND 58103
slarson-frobig@fargoparks.com

Past President Kevin Klipfel

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District
400 E Front Ave
Bismarck, ND 58504-5641
kklipfel@bisparcs.org

President Elect Elly DesLauriers

Minot Park District
420 3rd Ave SW
Minot, ND 581701
elly@minotparks.com

Secretary/Treasurer Mike Orr

Grand Forks Park District
PO Box 12429
Grand Forks, ND 58208-2429
morr@choicehf.com

Public Policy Chair Cole Higlin

Mandan Park District
2600 46th Ave SE
Mandan, ND 58554-4749
chiglin@mandanparks.com

Education Chair Matt Mack

Dickinson Parks and Recreation
2004 Fairway Street
Dickinson, North Dakota 58601
mmack@dickinsonparks.org

Engagement Chair Katie Ettish

West Fargo Park District
601 26th Ave E
West Fargo, ND 58078
katie@wfparks.org

STAFF

Executive Director

Shannon Schutt

PO Box 1091
Bismarck, ND 58502
701-355-4458
ndrpaoffice@gmail.com

FOCUS

DESIGN AND EDITING

Shelly Duppong

and Shannon Schutt

Clearwater Communications

WEBSITE

www.ndrpa.com

Annual Meeting Notice

NDRPA will hold its annual business meeting during the Wednesday breakfast at the NDRPA State Conference Sept. 15 in Bismarck. Agenda items include election of board members and review of association activities. An agenda and associated materials will be distributed to members via email the week prior to the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

Scholarships Available for CPSI Course

NDRPA is excited to host the 19th annual Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) Course on Oct. 12-14 in Bismarck. Participants have the opportunity to learn about the latest developments in playground safety through classroom instruction and hands-on site investigation during this two-day course. Individuals interested in becoming a certified playground safety inspector may take the optional exam on the third day. Limited scholarships are available to North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDRIF) and NDRPA members (agency, professional and allied).

Sponsorships from the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department and the NDRIF make this first-class course possible. The event is hosted by the Bismarck Parks & Recreation District. The final course registration deadline is Sept. 10. The course schedule and registration details are available at www.ndrpa.com.

Additional safety precautions will be required:

- All participants will be required to complete a "Participant Health Liability Form" prior to entering the classroom.
- Participants must wear a face mask throughout the course. Individuals with medical conditions may wear a face shield in place of a face mask.

- All participants will have their temperature checked prior to entering the classroom.
- A pre-packaged box or bagged lunch will be provided for each attendee to prevent the spread of contaminants.
- Registrants are asked to stay home and monitor their health if they have or have had contact with a person who has symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days prior to the course date. A flexible refund policy will be established and offered to participants in case someone is not able to attend due to COVID-19 circumstances

Don't Miss the Largest Annual Gathering of Park and Recreation Professionals

There is still plenty of time to register for the 2021 NRPA Annual Conference taking place in Nashville,



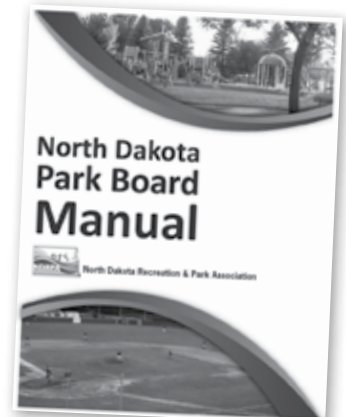
Tenn., Sept. 21-23. Join fellow park and recreation professionals for thought-provoking keynote speakers, more than 60 education sessions and 12 education tracks, an exploration-worthy exhibit hall, and plenty of ways

to network and connect with peers from across the country. Learn more and register at www.nrpa.org.

North Dakota Park Board Manual Available

The North Dakota Park Board Manual equips both new and experienced park board commissioners and staff with the information necessary to effectively carry out their authorities, roles and responsibilities. The manual also includes sample documents such as a joint use agreement and board member job description.

The latest edition of the *North Dakota Park Board Manual* (2018) is available to order online at www.ndrpa.com.



COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



Jennifer Froehlich

Jennifer Froehlich is the newest member of the Mandan Park Board. She attended park board meetings as a citizen to become more involved in the community, and when the opportunity to join the board arose in 2020 and another board member encouraged her to run for the board, she was elected, ready to take on

a new adventure.

Froehlich said her goals as a park board member are to “keep the parks looking nice and to keep adding more activities for current and future families to enjoy.”

One of the challenges park board members face, she said, is keeping taxes low while still being able to fund improvements needed for parks and facilities. She noted discussion is underway in Mandan to expand its park maintenance building as well as find a long-term solution for softball field irrigation issues.

The North Dakota Recreation and Park Association (NDRPA) is beneficial to park board members, Froehlich said. “NDRPA keeps us in touch with what all the other park boards are doing across the state,” she noted.

Some of Froehlich’s favorite parks and recreation activities in Mandan are Raging Rivers Waterpark and visiting the parks in the community. She



noted Mandan has several activities to participate in, including swimming, baseball, hockey, MAC programs, and golf. Froehlich invites readers to visit www.mandanparks.com to explore all Mandan Park District offerings.





Enjoy the Outdoors

...with Pilot Rock Site Products



Across our different product lines we offer hundreds of choices in style, size, features, materials and colors.

Commercial quality products able to withstand years of use and exposure.

Made in the USA since 1959.

Pilot Rock®

PARK • STREET • CAMP SITE PRODUCTS

RJ Thomas Mfg. Co., Inc. • Cherokee, Iowa • 800-762-5002 • customerservice@rjthomas.com • pilotrock.com

Benches • Picnic Tables • Trash Receptacles • Bear Resistant • Bike Racks • Custom Signs • Site Amenities • Charcoal Grills • Campfire Rings



3150 27TH AVE. N
GRAND FORKS, ND 58203

www.rivards.com

Turf / Lawn Seed • Native Grass / Forb Seed •
Hydro Mulch • T & O Fertilizer & Chemical • Ice Melter



TOLL FREE: 800-731-5765

Mike Kaul:	218-779-2543	mike@rivards.com	Turf Seed / Specialty Products
Larry Rivard:	218-779-1214	larry@rivards.com	Turf Seed
Ross Rivard:	701-330-3699	ross@rivards.com	Native/Forage/Specialty Seed

PARK DISTRICT NEWS

All Kids Swim in Mandan

Raging Rivers and HIT, Inc., hosted the first-ever All Kids Swim Day at Mandan Park District Raging Rivers Waterpark on July 20. The event was open to special needs or differently-abled children and their family members to experience Raging Rivers in a

fun and inclusive environment. The event took place from 10 - 11:30 a.m. and admission was \$5 per person. Patrons had access to the kiddie pool, lazy river, tube slides, and bathhouse.

ArtNight in West Fargo

ArtNight broadens the West Fargo Park District's contribution to its community by offering a free event focused on an often-overlooked area of parks and recreation – art.



Recreation Specialist Leah Kelm created the event in 2017 as an opportunity for people to use their imaginations and create in a park setting. The event is an interactive, family-friendly evening outdoors featuring multiple free youth art

projects, live music, local food vendors, and yard games. ArtNight has been held at multiple West Fargo Parks. It was held virtually in 2020, with participants picking up their supplies the week of the event.

More than 250 people attended ArtNight this year in River's Bend Park. Between playing on the playground and trying out this summer's new Spider



Pong yard game, participants found time to be creative. The free art projects included acrylic paint spinner canvases, oil pastel geometrics, twirly rainbows, and melted bead suncatchers. Local musical guest Jon Walters played acoustic covers throughout

the evening as attendees enjoyed delicious artisan pizzas made with fresh ingredients from Blackbird Woodfire. The Plains Art Museum was also at the park during the event, with a wheel to demonstrate throwing clay and showcase different clay building techniques.

The West Fargo Park District foresees this event continuing to happen annually in July in celebration of National Park and Recreation Month.



Well Played.

A community that plays together... stays together.



Everyone deserves the opportunity for outdoor play and physical activity. From design to installation, our team of experts can help guide you to creating the perfect play and recreation space for your community.

800.438.2780 | cunninghamrec.com



CUNNINGHAM RECREATION



Bullseye implements are now available at MTI Distributing! Bullseye offers a full suite of natural and synthetic turf maintenance products for sports field managers as well as valuable solutions for golf course superintendents. From aerating to seeding, grooming to renovating, Bullseye provides the specialized maintenance solutions you need for healthy, play-ready conditions



Synthetic Turf
Equipment



Synthetic Turf
Cleaners



Aerators



Groomers



Seeders

Contact your MTI salesperson today to learn more!



4830 Azelia Ave N Suite 100
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429
800-362-3665

PARK DISTRICT NEWS

BPRD Dedicates New Operations Maintenance Building

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District (BPRD) dedicated its new operations maintenance building on June 16. This much-needed facility replaced the main shop built in 1960 and provides the BPRD Operations Division better efficiency in maintaining more than 3,400 acres of park land throughout the district.

The 10,913-square-foot building includes a reception/lobby area, offices, conference room, break room, locker room, two pull-through maintenance bays, two working bays, wash bay, vehicle lift, equipment lift, overhead equipment crane and mezzanine storage. The building cost was \$2.3 million.



Celebrating North Dakota with 701 Day

Fargo Park District's 701 Day event celebrates North Dakota and showcases the many reasons North Dakotans are proud to be from North Dakota.

The event was full of a variety of North Dakota activities, including an agriculture workshop, North Dakota trivia, local entertainment, photo stations, t-shirt screen-printing, an interactive art piece where community members wrote what they love about North Dakota, giveaways, a scavenger hunt, and more.

701 Day was hosted in the heart of Downtown Fargo at Fargo's newest urban park, Broadway Square. More than 200 people attended the event. This year was the second appearance of 701 Day, and the event started in July 2020 during the midst of COVID-19. The first year of the event was scaled back, but in 2021, Fargo Park District and the community were able to show all their North Dakota pride. This is an annual event that continues each year on July 1.



Choice Health & Fitness Partners with Altru to Support Local Athletes

Choice Health & Fitness and Altru are excited to announce a partnership opportunity in Grand Forks. Choice Health & Fitness Performance Enhancement Team and Personal Trainers expanded to utilize the training space at Altru Performance Center to facilitate additional athletic development programming, personal training and specialized fitness programs beginning June 7.

"By expanding our performance enhancement programs to include training at the Altru Performance Center location, along with our current programming at Choice Health & Fitness and ICON Sports Center, we can continue to meet the needs of our growing

programs and accommodate requests for larger groups," said Mike Orr, Grand Forks Park District Director of facilities and programs. "This partnership allows us to continue our team-based care approach to local athletes through direct access to Altru dietitians, physical therapists, athletic trainers, chiropractors, and physicians at both the Altru Performance Center and Choice Health & Fitness."

"Choice Health & Fitness and Altru have had a strong partnership for several years," said Jennifer Estad, director of orthopedics and neurosciences at Altru. "Altru will continue to support our community partners

in their efforts to develop local athletes through training and are excited for the opportunity to collaborate in our training facility."

Altru and Choice Health & Fitness have an aligned vision to help the Grand Forks' community reach their fitness, wellness and athletic goals.





**GOLF COURSES
LAWN CARE
ATHLETIC FIELDS
PARKS**

A family-owned company serving the green industry since 1950.

- Aquatics
- Fungicides
- Herbicides
- Landscape Supplies
- Insecticides
- Fertilizers
- Grass Seed
- Golf Accessories

St. Paul, MN

1300 Sylvan St.
St. Paul, MN 55117
Phone: (651) 487-3850
Fax: (651) 487-3115

Fargo, ND

610 39th St. N
Fargo, ND 58102
Phone: (701) 232-7238
Fax: (701) 232-7278

Tea, SD

46954 Mindy St.
Tea, SD 57064
Phone: (605) 368-2586
Fax: (605) 368-2809



MY TURN PLAYSYSTEMS

CONTACT US FOR A FREE QUOTE

855-268-7529



A PLAYCORE Company



info@myturnplaysystems.com • www.myturnplaysystems.com

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT • ENGINEERED WOOD FIBER • BASKETBALL SYSTEMS • SHELTERS • SITE AMENITIES

FMWF Chamber Hosts Parks and Recreation: A Community Cornerstone

On Aug. 3, the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo (FMWF) Chamber will host representatives from North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, Fargo Park District, West Fargo Park District, Moorhead Parks and Recreation, and businesses supporting recreational opportunities at the Eggs and Issues event. A part of FMWF Chamber's public affairs and advocacy efforts, Eggs and Issues is a monthly event series that connects members with the most interesting topics, influential public figures and industry leaders to discuss the issues the community cares about. The Eggs and Issues series is designed to be the perfect place for engaged community members to be in-the-know on current events, to educate all and to help power the community forward.

The August event focuses on parks and recreation as a community cornerstone. The FMWF Chamber

explains why it chose to focus part of this well-attended event on parks and recreation:

"Vibrant communities are home to a variety of attractions, but parks and recreation facilities are cornerstones of community development and planning. As we look towards the future and prioritize placemaking in our workforce and livability conversations, it is imperative that our local and state governments continue to incorporate affordable spaces for kids and adults to explore and enjoy. While our FMWF community grows, we must set ourselves apart by creating attractive communities to live, work and play."

The event includes discussion of the importance of communal spaces, opportunities for growth, current and future offerings, and demand for revitalization. The event is held in person with a virtual livestream option for both members and nonmembers.


Fargo Park District Introduces New Registration Software System


The Fargo Park District (FPD) is introducing new registration software for all fall/winter activities and events. Registration for the new system opens Aug. 2. FPD has switched from its previous system, MaxGalaxy, to a new registration software system called PerfectMind. The new PerfectMind software is user-friendly, allowing users to register for programs and activities on any device (desktop or mobile) at any time of day.

PerfectMind benefits for the public include the ability to have immediate registration, receive instant registration confirmations and receipts, view course/program information, manage an account online, view program availability, check current and past registrations, and no convenience fees. All customers new and old are required to create a new account.

PerfectMind benefits for the FPD team are affordability, a new clean look and all-inclusive software for registration and scheduling. The new software also stores all FPD contracts digitally, allowing the public and FPD team to view signed contracts online.

In 2022, FPD will add its shelter rentals and pool passes to PerfectMind. This will make all pool passes electronic, removing the need of having sewn-on patches.

**RecSupply.com**
The Commercial Pool Supply Specialists!™



LOCATED IN BISMARCK!

**Chemicals & Testing • Pool Paint & Repair • Safety & Rescue
Cleanup & Maintenance • Aquatic Fitness • Deck Equipment**

FREE SHIPPING ON QUALIFYING ORDERS OF \$100 OR MORE!

Request a catalog or shop online!

1.800.437.8072 • www.recsupply.com

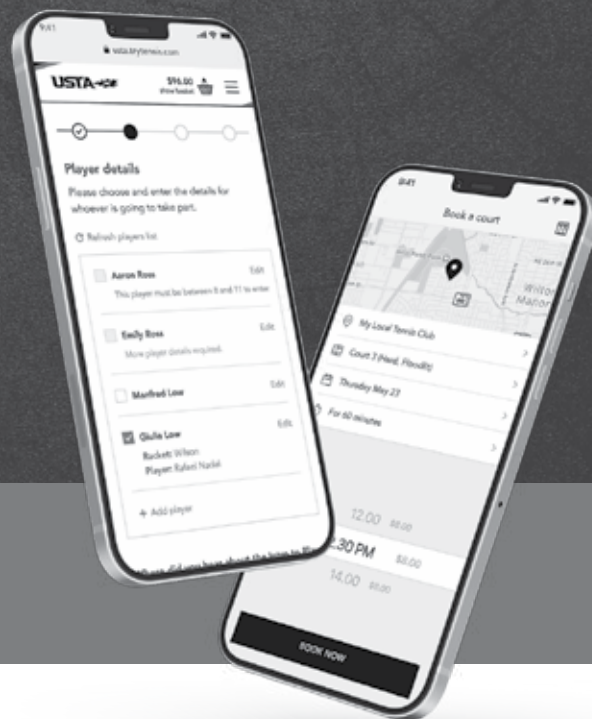
Recreation Supply Company • 515 Airport Rd • Bismarck ND 58504



THE NEW TENNIS SERVICE CENTER

Discover tools, resources, education
and training, now in one location.

**We're streamlining resources
to better service you**



Serve Tennis

Digital Tools to manage programs and your business.



Safe Play

USTA's comprehensive athlete safeguarding program, where you become part of a community that ensures athlete well-being.



Curriculum

Extensive educational resource library developed by the USTA and its partners.



Marketing Generator

Free tools to design and customize your own marketing materials.



Facility Assistance

Services that offer assistance with development, technical, advocacy and more.



Tennis Industry United

Access to resources focused on financial assistance and relief.

Learn more at usta.com/tennisservicecenter

© 2020 USTA. All rights reserved.

Grand Forks Park District Appoints New Leadership

After much consideration, the Grand Forks Park Board of Commissioners has selected new leadership and made strategic changes to the current organizational chart of the Grand Forks Park District. Through strong leadership shown by all the hard-working management staff, along with the new restructure, the Grand Forks Park District (GFPD) is excited to continue providing quality programs and facilities to the citizens of Grand Forks. Congratulations to the staff listed below that received job position promotions.



George Hellyer
Executive Director

George Hellyer, former GFPD superintendent of finance, was selected by the Grand Forks Park Board of Commissioners to assume the role of the executive director of GFPD, held prior by Bill Palmiscno.

Hellyer will oversee all departments and staff of GFPD. Hellyer will directly supervise the directors (Jill Nelson, Mike Orr and Jeff Lancaster), as well as Parks Manager Rick Ziegelmann and Forestry Manager Sean Lee. Hellyer assumed the role of executive director on May 31 and has been with the Grand Forks Park District since 2010.



Jill Nelson
MPA - Director of Operations & Community Relations

Jill Nelson, former GFPD marketing manager, has been promoted to the newly created position of director of operations and community relations. Nelson will now oversee

the operations and staff of King's Walk Golf Course, Lincoln Golf Course, GFPD Community Events/ Recreation Department, and the GFPD Marketing Department. Nelson will also continue to oversee the Grand Forks Parks & Recreation Foundation operations, as well as GFPD external affairs/ community relations. She assumed her new role on June 1 and has been with the GFPD since 2011.



Mike Orr
Director of Facilities & Programs

Mike Orr, former Choice Health & Fitness general manager, has been promoted to the newly created position of director of facilities and programs. Orr will continue to oversee the operations and staff

of Choice Health & Fitness and will also oversee the GFPD sports/recreation programming department, as well as GFPD ball fields and ice arena facilities. He assumed his new role on July 6 and has been with the GFPD since 1989.



Jeff Lancaster
Director of Finance & Administration

Jeff Lancaster, former GFPD accounting manager, has been promoted to director of finance and administration. Lancaster will continue to oversee the accounting

department and staff and is now responsible for all finance and administrative areas, including reporting, forecasting, budgeting, insurance, contract agreements, foundation investments, and bonding. He assumed his new role on July 6 and has been with the GFPD since 2011.



Catie Trontvet
Marketing Manager

Catie Trontvet, former GFPD website and graphic designer, has been promoted to marketing manager, held prior by Jill Nelson. Trontvet will now manage the marketing department and staff.

She is responsible for directing all marketing activities, such as promotion, social media, website, signage, and special projects. Trontvet assumed her new role on June 1 and has been with the GFPD since 2012.

Your Complete **SMILE** Resource!



COMMERCIAL **RECREATION** SPECIALISTS

877-896-8442 | crs4rec.com

Let's Have Some Fun | Smiles. Laughter. Inspiring the human spirit.

That's what it's all about at Commercial Recreation Specialists (CRS). We can help you create fun, memorable experiences with exceptional recreation solutions that enhance the entire community. As a turnkey resource, we provide comprehensive services — planning, design, installation, training, and operational support — to ensure your investment will work for you.

Planning & Design

- Site Assessment
- Conceptual Design
- Strategic Planning
- Site Layout
- Micro & Master Planning



Installation & Service

- Installation
- Maintenance
- Repair
- Winterization
- Training



Operations Management

- Operational Training
- Business Model Guidance
- Analytics & Reporting
- Point-of-Sale Systems
- Public Private Partnerships



Success Story | Fireman's Park Verona, WI

Nestled along the shores of a reclaimed quarry site, Fireman's Park provided the City of Verona with a unique public space for outdoor recreation for decades. The city partnered with CRS and MSA Professional Services to develop an entirely new recreational vision for Fireman's Park that reflected community desires and citizen input. The comprehensive facility now features a 3,600 square-foot interactive Vortex® Splashpad, a 3,100 square-foot playground, new park shelter, beach improvements, shade structures, site amenities, safety surfacing, turf, basketball hoops, kiosk and more!





Level Up Your Land

Anyone can play! **Disc golf** is soaring in popularity as friends and family look outdoors to stay active and enjoy some competitive fun or just a good time. CRS can create a disc golf course that's perfect for your location and budget — **from Par 3 to Championship-level courses**. If you have unused green space, disc golf may be the perfect addition to your venue.



Add the Wonder of Water

Engage the whole community with a **Splashpad®**. These zero-depth aquatic play areas combine the sensation of different water effects - flowing, misting, and jetting — with colorful, interactive features. Splashpads offer a **unique aquatic experience plus endless hours of fun** delighting children and their families all summer long.

Solving Recreational Challenges

CRS is here to provide you with solutions to your recreation needs — from start to finish. Call **877-896-8442** or visit **crs4rec.com**

In addition to providing all of the recreational equipment, CRS provided installation service and start-up training for the Vortex Splashpad. City of Verona Recreation Director Casey Dudley states,

“Working with CRS was a great experience. Ron [President of CRS] was an integral part of this project and helped make it an absolutely wonderful park.”

The Fireman's Park upgrades have brought a totally new aquatic experience to the Verona community that people of all ages and abilities can enjoy for years to come.



To learn more about this, and other CRS projects, visit **crs4rec.com/projects**

**“CRS designed the Splashpad,
playground, and shade features to
meet our vision and budget.”**

- Jason Craft, Alexander Park in Cold Spring, MN



COMMERCIAL RECREATION SPECIALISTS

807 Liberty Dr, Suite 101, Verona, WI 53593

877-896-8442 | crs4rec.com

You won't want to miss the sessions, tours and conversations focused on "Navigating Our Future" at the NDRPA State Conference and ND Trails Conference Sept. 13-15 in Bismarck. Join North Dakota park and recreation professionals at this first-ever joint gathering with trail advocates, managers and users to learn about the latest trends in the field and celebrate the people and impacts of parks, recreation and trails in North Dakota.

KEYNOTES

Leveraging the Impact of Parks and Recreation

For more than a year, the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us that park and recreation professionals are essential to communities across the country. Join us and our Tuesday keynote speaker, Kristine Stratton, CEO and president of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), as she discusses the fundamental role parks and recreation plays in promoting overall health and wellness, driving economic opportunity and providing the critical infrastructure that makes our communities more environmentally resilient. Learn about their initiatives based on NRPA's Three Pillars: Health and Wellness, Equity and Conservation and how telling your community's park and recreation stories can help to elevate the field and create greater awareness about your important work.

North Dakota State Parks: Past, Present and Future

Andrea Travnicek, director of the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, takes us on a journey of revisiting past successes, adjusting to changing needs and modernizing state parks for the 21st century during her Tuesday morning keynote.

Creating and Ensuring a Relevant Parks and Recreation Agency

The challenges of today are multi-faceted and can range from social ills to business models. Do we attempt to solve them all or identify what problems our agencies effectively address? What is most important is to understand how to be relevant, thus making parks and recreation agencies a critical success factor to the success of a community. Along the way, identification and development of critical advocates (hint: your customers) to ensure your success is needed. This Wednesday keynote by Chris Nunes, director of parks and recreation for The Woodlands Township in The Woodlands, Texas, will address how to evaluate where you are, identify critical advocates and implement a plan for relevance.

MONDAY KICK-OFF

Following lunch at Riverwood Golf Course, take advantage of one of four opportunities to enjoy Bismarck

and the company of fellow professionals from across the state.

- Golf Riverwood, a park-land style course with wide, tree-lined fairways and abundant wildlife on the Missouri River flood plain.
- Ride the Rough Rider Trail on a mini ATV (Space is limited to 12 people, and a helmet is required. Transportation will be provided from Riverwood.)
- Hike the Atkinson Nature Trail and experience a trackchair. Then take an interpretive walk through General Sibley Park & Campground.
- Tour downtown Bismarck on the History, Art & Spirits Walk. Visit Camp Hancock and the Former Governors' Mansion, hear chilling tales of Murderer's Gulch, and experience an art gallery and an art alley.

Bismarck's popular Sertoma Park is the site of the evening social and dinner. Big Boy, a Bismarck classic, will cater the meal at the Sertoma Club Community Center.

SESSIONS & MORE

The Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center hosts the conference exhibit hall, educational sessions, awards banquet, and NDRPA annual meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday's breakout sessions include a fourth educational option focused on trails. The Tuesday facility tour includes visits to a number of Bismarck Parks and Recreation District sites.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SMALL PARK BOARDS

NDRPA is pleased to announce five conference registration scholarships are available to park board commissioners or staff from park districts that have up to 1-2 full-time, year-round staff. The scholarship is limited to two people per park board and distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. If your park board submits more than two scholarship requests, additional requests will be placed on a waiting list to be awarded after Aug. 10. To request a scholarship, contact Shannon at the NDRPA office at 701-355-4458 or send an email to ndrpaoffice@gmail.com.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Registration: Register online at www.ndrpa.com. If your agency wishes to register a large group at one time, you may submit the group registration form found on the website. **The deadline is Aug. 25.**

Accommodations: Call the Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center at 701-258-7700 to make a reservation. **The deadline is Aug. 25.**

Raffle Items: Each park district is encouraged to bring at least one raffle item valued at \$50 or more to raise funds for scholarships.



NDRPA STATE CONFERENCE & ND TRAILS CONFERENCE

NAVIGATING OUR FUTURE

SEPTEMBER 13-15 • BISMARCK, ND



THANK YOU To Our Sponsors



BC6 Builders • Dakota Playground • Fireside Office Solutions
Houston Engineering Inc • KLJ • Rivard's Turf & Forage



MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13

PRE-CONFERENCE

11:00am	LUNCH - Riverwood Golf Course
12:00pm	GOLF OUTING - Riverwood Golf Course
12:00pm	DOWNTOWN BISMARCK HISTORY, ART & SPIRITS WALK
12:00pm	TRAILS FIELD SESSION I: Rough Rider Trail ATV Ride <i>Limited to 12 People, Helmet Required</i>
12:00pm	TRAILS FIELD SESSION II: Atkinson Nature Park & General Sibley Park Trackchair Demo
5:30pm	SOCIAL & DINNER Sertoma Club Community Center, Sertoma Park

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14

RAMKOTA HOTEL

7:00am	EXHIBIT HALL, RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION OPENS Breakfast & Past Presidents' Breakfast
8:00am	CONFERENCE WELCOME Randy Bina, Executive Director, BPRD
8:15am	KEYNOTE Kristine Stratton, CEO, NRPA
9:15am	KEYNOTE Andrea Travnicek, Ph.D., Director, NDPRD
10:00am	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS, RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION
10:30am	BREAKOUT SESSIONS - Local Government U: Corey Olson - Attracting & Retaining Employees: Pat Bertagnolli - Managing Your Workload When Everything Is Important: Molly Herrington - Trails: Title VI Compliance: Char Binstock & Pam Todd
11:30am	LUNCH

12:30pm	RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION CLOSES
12:30pm	ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS <i>Directors, Facilities, Programs, Human Resources, Marketing, Aquatics, Operations & Trails</i>
1:30pm	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
2:00pm	BREAKOUT SESSIONS - Dealing with Difficult People: Theresa Porter - ND Open Record & Meeting Law: Sandra DePountis - Leadership & Emotional Intelligence: Fargo Park District - Trails: Ameri Corps State Funds/NCCC/Vista: Ryan Volk & Anna Yeagle
3:00pm	TRAILS SESSION ND Moves Active Transportation Plan: David Leingang
3:15pm	BPRD FACILITY TOUR
4:15pm	TRAILS SESSION Cultural Interactions: Sgt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse
6:30pm	SOCIAL
7:00pm	AWARDS BANQUET Remarks by Kristine Stratton, CEO, NRPA

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 15

RAMKOTA HOTEL

7:30am	BREAKFAST & NDRPA ANNUAL MEETING
8:30am	CLOSING KEYNOTE Chris Nunes, Director of Parks and Recreation, The Woodlands Township
9:45am	BREAKOUT SESSIONS - Change/Culture Management: Chris Nunes - Cybersecurity 2021: Vance Krebs - Active Shooter: Don Moseman
11:00am	BREAKOUT SESSIONS - Enterprise Mindset: Chris Nunes - Are You Crisis Ready?: Donnell Preskey Hushka & Maxine Herr - GIS Asset Mapping: Gordon Lemmel & Christine Dirk
12:00pm	GRAB & GO OR GRAB & STAY LUNCH

Palmiscno Retires After 47 Years with the Grand Forks Park District



On May 26, the Grand Forks Park District (GFPD) hosted a public retirement open house to celebrate Executive Director Bill Palmiscno's 47 years of service with the Grand Forks Park District.

"I've had 47 great years with the park district. It has been an honor working with so many wonderful people over the years, and I have really enjoyed helping to provide recreation opportunities for the kids of Grand Forks," said Bill Palmiscno. "I look forward to retiring so I can spend more time with my family."

Over the years, Palmiscno has played a significant role within the GFPD. Hired in December 1973 as the arena director, Palmiscno moved into various leadership roles at the park district including recreation director, superintendent of parks and

recreation, and finally, executive director in 2013. He has also held many influential positions within the parks and recreation field, serving in roles such as president of the North Dakota Recreation and Park Association, president of the North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association, and state commissioner for North Dakota Cal Ripkin Baseball. Within the field of education, Palmiscno has been a seasoned instructor at the University of North Dakota, teaching in the field of recreation arts and facilities, and served on the Grand Forks School Board for the past 30 years.

"Bill has been a crucial part of the park district for the last 47 years," said Tim Skarperud, president of the Grand Forks Park Board. "We are very grateful to Bill for his leadership and all the great things he has accomplished throughout his career for our community."

Legacy of Grand Forks Golf Legend, Nancy Koch, Lives on At King's Walk

Nancy Koch loved the game of golf. She played it passionately, winning the Grand Forks City Tournament numerous times and was inducted into the North Dakota Women's Golf Association Hall of Fame in 1989. She had a competitive drive when playing the game and a passion for seeing others learn and grow in their golf game, which is why two annual events have been established at King's Walk Golf Course in her honor.

Wanting to see the golf game and courses in the area grow and succeed, Koch was always willing to give her time, resources and knowledge to new and young golfers. Since her passing in 2017, Koch's

friends and family have been working every year to keep all she embraced about the spirit of golf alive in Grand Forks. Returning for its third year, the Free Introductory Kids Clinic, held on June 7, provided children ages 6-11 years old an opportunity to try out the game, hopefully sparking early interest in this great lifelong sport.

In addition to providing an opportunity for youth, King's Walk Golf Course proudly hosted the 4th Annual Nancy Koch Memorial Golf Outing on July 29. In 2020, the event raised nearly \$3,000 for youth golf programs and Neurological Research. By either attending or making a charitable donation,



there are many ways to support Koch's legacy through the event. Donations can be in the form of registering a team for tournament entry, sponsoring a tournament hole or donating either a door prize or an item for the silent auction. King's Walk intends to continue the two events for many years to come to keep Koch's passion for golf alive in Grand Forks.





BOOM
CONCRETE

PO Box 437
Newell, SD 57760
605-456-2600
www.boomcon.com
Email: concrete@boomcon.com

Various Landscape & Precast Products Available

Clovermist Vault Toilets
Benches
Bird Baths
Cisterns
Garbage Cans
Fuel Containment Tanks
Retaining Walls
Septic Tanks
Stock Tanks
Storm Shelters
Call for a Complete List
Products & Prices



Clovermist Standard



Clovermist Plus





SINCE 1948



ACME TOOLS®
BUILDING • REMODELING • WOODWORKING • LANDSCAPING™

DO YOUR BEST WORK™

<p>GRAND FORKS 1705 13th Ave. N 701-746-6481</p>	<p>BISMARCK 3840 E Rosser Ave. 701-258-1267</p>	<p>FARGO 920 36th St. SW 701-476-4600</p>
<p>MINOT 700 20th Ave. SE 701-839-2263</p>	<p>WILLISTON 4960 Hwy. 85 701-577-2263</p>	<p>Mon - Fri: 7:00 - 5:30 Sat: 8:00 - 5:30</p>

10 Locations To Serve You in ND, MN and IA

QUALITY • SERVICE • SELECTION • VALUE

FOR YOUR WARM WEATHER PROJECTS

POWER TOOLS

DEWALT



Milwaukee



Makita



CLIMBING

WERNER





Haulotte



SAFETY GEAR

PORTWEST







MAJESTIC

OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

DEWALT



STIHL



Milwaukee



Makita



Aladdin



EGO



BOSS



Tod Time at the Waterpark

Every Monday in July, Mandan Parks and Recreation offered Tod Time at Raging Rivers Waterpark. Tod Time allows children ages 0-8, along with adult supervision (adults were required to also be in water), to enter the park from 10 - 11:30 a.m. During that time, the Aqua Play Unit was the only available structure for guests to play with a more exclusive group outside the normal operating hours. Admission was \$5 per person. If patrons wanted to stay at the park for the remainder of the day, they were required to exit the park at 11:30 a.m. and stand in line at the ticket window to regain access into the park. This was Mandan Parks and Recreation's second year offering Tod Time.

Toptracer Range Opens in Bismarck

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District (BPRD) installed Toptracer Range technology in 10 indoor driving bays at the Fore Seasons Center at the end of June. This is the same ball-tracking technology that traces the shots of golfers on TV. It offers a fun, engaging, tech-driven experience that appeals to seasoned players, range rivals, friends, family members, and even first-time golfers.

BPRD offered free 30-minute sessions for two weeks of its July Celebration to allow people to test drive the new Toptracer Range. Starting July 26, customers can make reservations in 30-minute increments to play a round of virtual golf, challenge a friend to a game of longest drive or closest to the pin, or simply hit some practice shots.

Pop-Up Park Activities Encourage Community Engagement

This year for National Park and Recreation Month, Fargo Park District (FPD) encouraged its community to engage with FPD through Pop-Up Park Activities. Each week throughout the month of July, FPD dropped off a new activity in a different park location. FPD released each activity on its social media pages and encouraged the community to grab a free item and share photos of themselves using the item on social media with the hashtag "FargoParks." Those who shared their photos were entered to win summer giveaways.



FPD chose four Fargo parks locations across the city. The Pop-Up Park Activities included were branded items such as jump ropes and chalk,



frisbees, bubbles, and tennis balls from Courts Plus Community Fitness at Fargo dog parks. Along with items the community could grab for free in a park, an "I Heart Parks" light up Alpha-Lit sign was placed at three different park locations throughout the month of July including: Island Park, Broadway Square and FPD main offices at the Depot.

FPD saw an uptick in community engagement on its social media pages. The Pop-Up Park Activities weekly Facebook posts received more than 100 likes and 12 shares. The hashtag "FargoParks" had been used on all social media platforms with photos of the community engaging with the various Pop-Up Park Activities and the Alpha-Lit sign.



IS YOUR BUDGET BEING STRETCHED
TO THE LIMIT?



COOPERATIVE
PURCHASING
WILL HELP YOU
AFFORD WHAT
YOU NEED.

Save time & money
with state contracts!

Computers • Copiers/Multifunctional Devices • Software • Vehicles • Paper & Paper Products
Janitorial Products & Trash Bags • Batteries • Food • IT Consulting • Government Credit Card

NORTH
Dakota
Be Legendary.™

Procurement
MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

701.328.2740 • INFOSPO@ND.GOV
ND.GOV/OMB/CONTRACTS

IS YOUR PLAYGROUND COMPLIANT?

IPEMA REQUIRES THAT ENGINEERED WOOD FIBER
MUST BE INSTALLED AT A COMPACTED DEPTH OF **12"**



CONTACT US FOR A FREE QUOTE:
MY TURN PLAYSYSTEMS
855-268-PLAY

info@myturnplaysystems.com



FLEX FIBER ENGINEERED WOOD FIBER

- ✓ 12' FALL HEIGHT
- ✓ IPEMA CERTIFIED (ASTM 1292 & 2075)
- ✓ ADA COMPLIANT (ASTM 1951)
- ✓ SHIPPED LOCALLY (reduced freight costs)
- ✓ HIGH IMPACT ABSORBING and ECONOMICAL

www.myturnplaysystems.com

Bina Receives National Award for Parks and Recreation



Randy Bina, executive director of Bismarck Parks and Recreation District, was selected to receive the 2021 National Distinguished Professional Award by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The award will be presented during the NRPA Annual Conference in September.

Each year, NRPA National Awards are presented to individuals and agencies across the U.S. to honor their efforts – both professional and personal – in the field of parks and recreation. This year, there are 12 categories in the NRPA National Awards program. Recipients are selected from a pool of applicants by NRPA's National Awards and Scholarship Committee and are chosen for excellence in a variety of topics.

The National Distinguished Professional Award

is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field through their leadership, research, advocacy, community outreach, and program development.

Throughout his more than 40-year career, Bina has been a leader in public parks and recreation, engaged locally, regionally and nationally in numerous professional and sports organizations. Among the many recognitions he has received are induction into the North Dakota Recreation and Park Association Hall of Fame and election as a fellow of the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

"This is a fitting capstone to Randy's exemplary career in parks and recreation," says Julie Jeske, Bismarck Board of Park Commissioners president. "His passion for providing affordable and accessible public parks and recreation opportunities for Bismarck residents and visitors is well known, and we are pleased that his efforts are also being recognized nationally with this award."

BECKER PARK
CRYSTAL, MN

wsb

Shaping the future, one project at a time.

Working with communities to build
what's next in infrastructure.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Alex Bialke is the administrative assistant at the central office of the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) in Bismarck. Bialke has lived most of his adult life in Bismarck, as well as in Grand Forks where he received three bachelor's degrees

from the University of North Dakota. He has previously worked for The Walt Disney Company, The Pepsi-Cola Company, as well as Securitas Security Services USA.



P.J. Grine is the assistant park manager at Cross Ranch State Park. Grine is a native of Iowa and has worked for NDPRD for six years. Grine has also worked at Lewis and Clark State Park, Little Missouri State Park and Turtle River State Park as a park

ranger. Grine started working for the department following college and enjoyed it enough to turn it into an exciting and enjoyable career.



Emily Laaveg is the park interpreter at Icelandic State Park. Laaveg is originally from Park River, and this is her first position with NDPRD. She graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., with degrees in history and heritage and museum studies

in May 2020. Laaveg has since worked as a substitute teacher at Park River Area Schools and at the James J. Fiorentino Foundation Museum in Minneapolis.



Eric Lang is the park manager at Lake Metigoshe State Park. Lang is originally from Underwood, and worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service seasonally for 10 years as well as NDPRD for the past 16 years. Lang worked at Fort Stevenson State Park as

assistant manager and managed Cross Ranch, Little Missouri and Sully Creek State Parks for the last 15 years.



Clint May is the administrative assistant at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park. He joined NDPRD in August 2020. Prior to that, he was a UH-60 Blackhawk pilot with U.S. Army and a flight operations manager at a flight school near Seattle. He continues to give flight

instruction and is working on his MBA with the University of Mary.



AJ Torgerson is the recreation division assistant at the NDPRD central office. Torgerson is a native of Bismarck and has worked for NDPRD for three years. Torgerson was one of the seasonal rangers at Cross Ranch State Park for the last three seasons after spending 10

years in the U.S. Air Force.



**Associated
Pool
Builders, Inc.**

For All Your Pool Building Needs...

2121 Lovett Avenue - PO Box 2318

Bismarck, North Dakota 58504

Phone: (701) 258-6012 - Fax: (701) 224-9729

Visit us @ www.associatedpool.com

*Associated
Supply Company, Inc.*

For All Your Pool Supply Needs...

2121 Lovett Avenue - PO Box 2318

Bismarck, North Dakota 58504

Phone: (701) 258-7302 - Fax: (701) 224-9729

A black and white photograph of an indoor playground with various slides, climbing structures, and platforms. The equipment is set on a soft, padded floor. In the background, a sign for 'WEST FARGO' is visible.

PLAY THAT MOVES YOU.

LIVING OUR MISSION

The world needs more connection. More movement. More community. Play brings people together and helps communities thrive. It is our passion and our mission to bring Play That Moves You to the communities we serve.

It's time to Join Our Movement.

Grondahl
RECREATION INC.
grondahlrecreation.com

PROUD REPRESENTATIVE OF
Burke.

Trademark(s) are the property of BCI Burke Company. © BCI Burke Company 2021. All Rights Reserved. 701-572-7897

A black and white photograph of an outdoor sports complex. In the foreground, there is a basketball court. In the background, there is a baseball field and a soccer field, all surrounded by trees and a fence.

For North Dakota. For Local Government. For You.

NDIRF NORTH DAKOTA
INSURANCE
RESERVE FUND

www.NDIRF.com • (701) 224-1988

2020 NDRPA AWARDS HIGHLIGHT

CITIZEN ADVOCACY AWARD

The North Dakota Recreation and Park Association's (NDRPA) Citizen Advocacy Award honors individuals for outstanding contributions to the park, recreation and conservation movement through education and activating the public in their community, state or at the national level.

An individual who exemplifies advocacy on behalf of all North Dakota's park and recreation agencies is Dana Schaar Jahner.

Schaar Jahner served as the very first executive director of NDRPA from 2007-2019. She also served as the project manager for the North Dakota Park and Recreation Department's (NDPRD) 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORP) and the 2014-2019 North Dakota Scenic Byway Program Strategic Plan.

During Schaar Jahner's service, NDRPA had many accomplishments:

Each year, the association published its quarterly magazine, *FOCUS*, and biennially published the Professional Directory.

During the 2009 state legislative session, NDRPA was able to introduce and pass a bill that raised the bid requirements for park districts from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

In 2010, the organization launched the NDRPA *eUpdate*, a monthly electronic newsletter to supplement *FOCUS*. The organization also added a commercial membership category and had nine commercial members join the first year it was offered.

During the 2011 state legislative session, NDRPA was successful in supporting legislation that raised the concession bidding requirement from \$500 to \$25,000. NDRPA also adopted a new logo in 2011 and created a short video to help market the organization to students in the parks and recreation field.

In 2012, NDRPA co-hosted the first-ever North Dakota Trails Conference with NDPRD. This collaborative conference continued for eight years and resulted in a combined conference with NDRPA this year.

During the 2013 state legislative session, NDRPA was part of a coalition that supported creation of an Outdoor Heritage Fund of up to \$30 million for the biennium to be used for conservation and recreation efforts in the state. NDRPA also worked successfully with other political subdivision associations to oppose many bills that negatively impacted park districts,



Pictured left to right: Randy Bina, executive director of Bismarck Parks and Recreation, Dana Schaar Jahner, 2020 NDRPA Citizen Advocacy award recipient and Kevin Klipfel, facilities and programs director of Bismarck Parks and Recreation.

such as caps on property tax levies and limits on building authorities.

In November 2013, the association completed a multi-year project to determine the economic contribution of state and local public parks and recreation in North Dakota. The project was the joint effort of NDRPA, 12 local park districts and NDPRD, and the research was conducted by North Dakota State University's Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics. The total annual economic contribution of these agencies was estimated at \$802 million.

In 2014, two task forces were formed to work on issues of importance to NDRPA members: a university task force aimed at building a stronger relationship between state colleges/universities with recreation-related degree programs and NDRPA; and a track meet task force developed to continue a statewide program as the Hershey's program was discontinued.

During the 2015 state legislative session, NDRPA supported funding for parks and recreation through the Outdoor Heritage Fund and Community Grant Program. The association also supported the Governor's property tax levy consolidation for political subdivisions and worked successfully with other political subdivisions to oppose bills that negatively impacted park districts, such as additional notifications of property tax increases and changes to assessment projects.

In 2015, NDRPA filled Memorial Hall with exhibits

showcasing the value and benefits of parks and recreation in March during Parks Day at the Capitol. The association continued to host Parks Day each following legislative session. Beginning in 2017, Parks Day was held in partnership with NDPRD.

In 2016, for the first time, NDRPA adopted a legislative platform in preparation for the 2017 state legislative session. A member meeting was held in November to discuss the legislative process and key policy issues impacting parks and recreation.

During the 2017 legislative session, although it was a challenging session due to the significant state revenue shortfall, the association worked successfully with other political subdivisions to oppose bills that negatively impacted park districts, such as budget caps.

With support from the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), the association updated and expanded the *North Dakota Park Board Manual* (first published in 1985) in 2008, 2015 and 2018 to reflect the most accurate and up-to-date information. NDRPA also hosted a summer 2018 training webinar based on the manual for park board commissioners.

During the 2019 state legislative session, NDRPA worked successfully to pass a number

of bills, including increasing the park district bid threshold, allowing approval of park district general obligation bonds with a protest period, and ensuring park districts have the ability to protest special assessments approved by other political subdivisions.

Each year, NDRPA has hosted a playground safety program in the spring. From 2007-2010, the National Playground Safety Institute was offered. Beginning in 2011, the Certified Playground Safety Inspector course has been offered.

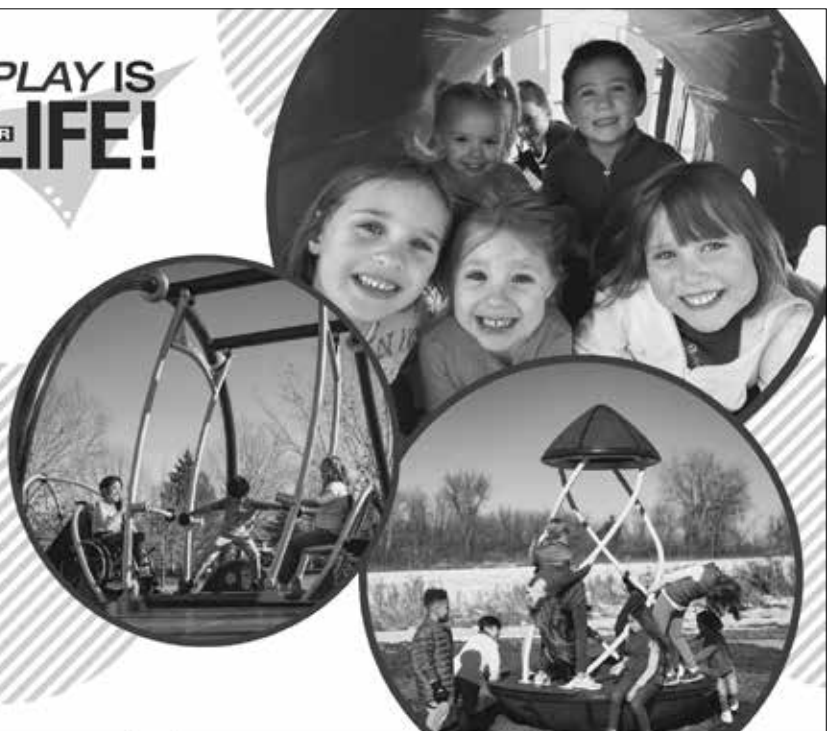
For her efforts in leading NDRPA with confidence and professionalism; for her dedication to the parks, recreation and conservation cause; for her commitment to positively impacting legislative policy on behalf of all of North Dakota's park districts; and for her leadership, passion and compassion, NDRPA was pleased to award Dana Schaar Jahner the 2020 Citizen Advocacy Award in September 2020.

Today, Schaar Jahner continues her work in the parks and recreation field. She joined Bismarck Parks and Recreation District (BPRD) in April 2021 as the district's new community relations manager, where she continues to advocate for the important role of public parks and recreation in Bismarck.

Fun, Fitness and Far More!
Dakota Playground

PLAY IS
OUR
LIFE!

- Playground Equipment
- Safety Surfacing
- Shade Structures
- Splash Pad/Spray Parks
- Outdoor Musical Equipment
- Outdoor Fitness Equipment
- Site Furnishings
- Picnic Shelters
- Scoreboards
- Aluminum Bleachers
- Sports Equipment
- Flag Poles



CONNECT
WITH US:



Facebook Linked In Instagram

844-599-0757

sales@dakotaplayground.com

DakotaPlayground.com

NDPRD Launches North Dakota Passport Program



The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) and the State Historical Society of North Dakota recently introduced the North Dakota Passport Program. The goal of the

new program is to help residents and out-of-state travelers make the most of their visits to recreational and historical sites throughout the state. The program is similar to other programs at state and national levels that have been popular among travelers. The North Dakota Passport is an all-in-one guide to adventure as users collect stamps at 37 featured destinations, varying from state parks and recreation areas to state historic sites and museums. All 37 locations have a designated outdoor Passport Station where users can transfer the stamp with a pencil or crayon. Additionally, staffed locations have a stamp available in park offices, visitor centers or museums.

“Last year, the state parks saw a significant increase in visitation, and many first-time users found enjoyment in outdoor recreation and realized the importance of the parks. We hope this program continues to inspire new users and helps long-time visitors experience the state parks and recreation areas in new ways,” said Andrea Travnicek, NDPRD director. “With rising interest in outdoor recreation and road trips, it’s the perfect time to launch this adventure guidebook in support of tourism and economic growth in communities near the state parks and

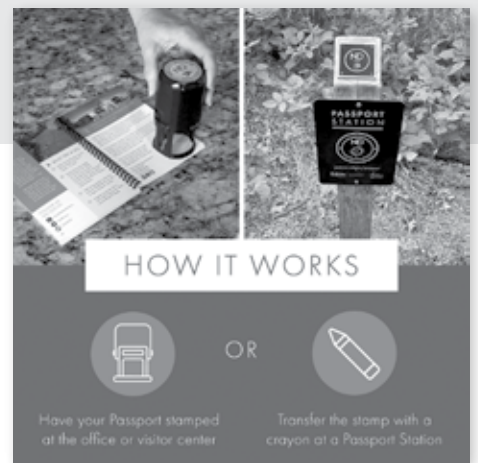
across the state.”

The North Dakota Passport can be purchased at 13 state parks and 11 state

historic sites and state museums. The Passport is also available for purchase online through both agencies’ websites. The 88-page spiral-bound book has a durable, waterproof cover and comes with a drawstring backpack, making it easy to keep in the family vehicle or carry along on the trail. In addition to space for stamps, the North Dakota Passport includes fun facts and must-see and do checklists for each location.

“Our state historic sites and museums and their surrounding communities make great road trip destinations for families,” said State Historical Society Director Bill Peterson. “People might be surprised to discover all of the hidden gems and unusual history stories in our own backyards at our 59 historic sites, as well as the outdoor activities, the walkability of the grounds, variety of trails, and views of stunning landscapes throughout the state.”

For more information and a complete list of participating locations, visit parkrec.nd.gov/passport.



NORBY GOLF COURSE DESIGN



Phone: (952)361.0644
Email: kevin@norbygolf.com web: www.NorbyGolfDesign.com



FOCUS

PO Box 1091
Bismarck, ND 58502

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
BISMARCK, ND
PERMIT 256



NDRPA STATE CONFERENCE & ND TRAILS CONFERENCE

NAVIGATING OUR FUTURE

SEPTEMBER 13-15
BISMARCK, ND



NORTH
Dakota | Parks & Recreation
Be Legendary.™



REGISTER AT WWW.NDRPA.COM