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Year 134, Issue 258 (c) 2014

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Art going public



John Stennes, staff photographer

▲ "Soaring Eagle," a statue by Bennett Brien, is displayed on the UND campus.

■ Civil art 'humanizes' places, expresses identity, lecturer says

By Charly Haley
Herald Staff Writer

With nearly 100 colorful, varying images, public art expert Jack Becker engaged an audience at the North Dakota Museum of Art on Thursday night, hoping to inspire ideas for 42nd Street South and other parts of Grand Forks.

Becker, founder and director of the Twin Cities nonprofit Forecast Public Art, was invited by NDMOA and the Community Foundation to speak to Grand Forks community members about public art, with the hope that his experience and art examples would spark ideas for the proposed 42nd Street Destination Corridor.

"This is just for inspiration," said Kristi Mishler, executive director of the Community Foundation.

An audience of about 50 people — including city employees, UND employees and other community members — took in Becker's presentation, which had many examples of public art from around the Midwest, as well as nationally and inter-



John Stennes, staff photographer

▲ "Flood Rescue" by P. Richard Szeitz is in downtown Grand Forks.

nationally.

Familiar examples he showed ranged from monumental, such as the Gateway Arch in St. Louis and the Eiffel Tower in Paris, to closer to home, such as Paul Bunyan and Babe in Bemidji.

Those sculptures are examples of communities becoming identifiable by their public art, Becker said.

Public art "humanizes" cities, Becker said. He showed some examples of interactive sculptures, where people could write notes or

take photos to share on social media.

One example of interactive artwork Becker shared was a giant chalkboard in New Orleans, where

ART: See Page A2

Spotting domestic danger

- System aimed at assessing threats to victims, improving response

By Stephen J. Lee
Herald Staff Writer

Domestic violence workers and police are working to better identify when a domestic disturbance can turn lethal.

The Community Violence Intervention Center in Grand Forks is bringing in a new training method to give officers and anyone responding to domestic violence better tools in assessing how lethal any situations might be to add more certainty to getting more help faster to where it's needed the most.

The "lethality assessment," will make sure everyone is on the same page through a method of "scoring" victims according to risk, said Jennifer Albert, director of the Community Coordinated Response at CVIC.

So if officers relay that a victim is, say, level eight in risk, it will

DOMESTIC: See Page A6

Lawmakers question REAC loan

- Senator: Bank's funding of building's purchase may conflict with law

John Hageman
Herald Staff Writer

North Dakota legislative staff will investigate whether a \$9.8 million loan agreement that UND signed to buy a struggling research facility can be voided.

Sen. Ray Holmberg, R-Grand Forks, brought up the potential issue with the loan during a legislative hearing Thursday, where lawmakers continued to question higher education officials on last year's purchase of the Research, Enterprise and Commercialization building on the UND

REAC: See Page A6

BIG SKY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

FRIDAY



5:00 PM - Semifinal #1
#1 North Dakota vs.
Lowest remaining seed

7:30 PM - Semifinal #2

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SATURDAY:

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

3:00 PM

Winner heads to the Big Dance! NCAA Division 1 Tournament

betty engelstad sioux center

Higher pay OK'd for home care, nursing home workers

By Don Davis
Forum News Service

ST. PAUL — Kurt Rutzen trusted his personal care attendant, who helped him with such varied tasks as bathing and filling out complex government forms.

The Minneapolis man told a Senate committee Thursday that the attendant left the company that provides services to the disabled and elderly, probably for more money. "I was heartbroken."

With large turnover in the home health care industry, Rutzen added, it now is tough to establish such trust with personal care attendants and other caregivers. "They want to stay," Rutzen said. "It comes down to ... unfortunately, the pay."

A Senate health and human services committee approved a bill to boost home caregivers' funding 5 percent and nursing home workers' pay to a lesser extent. The plan is expected to be folded into an overall bill adjusting the state budget that lawmakers passed last year.

"We need to provide qual-

ity care for these people with disabilities and seniors in their homes," Sen. Kent Eken, D-Twin Valley, said as he explained his bill.

The added money in his bill "will allow them to live more independently and be more of a part of their communities," Eken said.

Home care providers only have received a 3.4 percent funding boost since 2003, Eken said.

The bill originally only applied to home care workers such as personal care attendants, nurses, life-skill trainers and others involved in home care.

Eken said low pay for such workers in his northwestern Minnesota district is especially troubling. A care giver in his area gets training in Minnesota, he said, but then can move to North Dakota and earn \$2 an hour more.

The objective of the original bill was to be able to retain home care workers, who can provide services less expensively than nursing homes, thus keeping people in their homes longer.

Outdoors report

LAKE OF THE WOODS

Walleyes are starting to move, with good reports coming off the mud flats in 22 to 24 feet of water or 28 to 31 feet. Walleyes, saugers, tullibees and perch are being found in 30 to 32 feet near Knight and Bridges islands, Long Point and Gull Rock areas. Walleye reports off Pine Island have been best in 24 to 27 feet. The big northern pike have started hitting sucker minnows during afternoon hours in 6 to 10 feet or 13 to 15 feet. Walleyes also are moving on the Rainy River in 12 to 19 feet of water in front of the gaps leading to the lake and in front of the Baudette, Minn., airport. Reports from locals in the area indicated the Rainy River as of Wednesday was open between the Little Fork and Big Fork rivers closer to International Falls, Minn. At the Northwest Angle, walleyes, saugers, perch and crappies are hitting in 24 to 27 feet of water.

DEVILS LAKE

Perch fishing remains very good, reports Devils Lake fishing guide Mark Bry. Best perch action is in 30 to 45 feet of water, with most of the walleyes coming from 12 to 20 feet. Rattle spoons remain the go-to lures tipped with waxworms, spikes, minnows or minnow heads. The ice is still good, Bry said, but it's the time of year when anglers should be extra careful near edges, cracks and current areas.

BEMIDJI AREA

Perch are scattered on the mud throughout Lake Bemidji from 8 to 42 feet of water, but the bigger fish seem to be coming from 30 feet of water or deeper. Lake Pimushe is producing bluegills in 14 to 20 feet, and there's an evening crappie bite on Campbell Lake in 18 to 22 feet.

BLACKDUCK AREA

Gull Lake is producing bluegills in 12 to 18 feet of water and crappies over 15 to 20 feet. Look to Rabideau Lake for crappies and bluegills in 14 to 20 feet. Perch action remains consistent on the 20-foot mud of Island Lake and in 5 to 10 feet on Blackduck Lake.

CASS LAKE AREA

Perch action has improved along LeRoy's Bar in Pike Bay or the Stony Point area and the north side of Star Island on Cass Lake in 6 to 8 feet of water. Look for crappies in the north arm of Kitchi Lake and Wolf Lake in 28 to 30 feet during the evening hours.

LAKE WINNIBIGOSHISH

Staying mobile and hole-hopping continues to produce better catches of good-sized perch. The shoreline breaks and points along the west side are holding pods of perch in 12 to 15 feet of water. The main-lake bars also are giving up nice fish in 14 to 16 feet of water. It seems the bigger perch are more active when the sun is out.

LEECH LAKE

Perch are biting in many areas, but the trick has been to find a school with better numbers of big fish in it. The Hardwoods, Sand Point, Goose Island and Grassy Point are all holding perch in 6 to 10 feet. Tullibee reports have been limited, but look to the deep water of Stony Point to start producing fish.

DETROIT LAKES

Look for sunfish and crappies on the outside weed edges of Little Detroit Lake, Deadshot Bay, Floyd Lake, Tamarack Lake and Lake Melissa in 10 to 12 feet of water. Crappies and tullibees are being found suspended over 40 feet or deeper on Long Lake by Vergas, Minn., along with Loon Lake, Lake Sallie and Rose Lake.

PARK RAPIDS AREA

Look for bluegills in the Mill Pond area on Straight Lake in 12 to 14 feet of water. Fish Hook Lake is giving up bluegills in 10 to 13 feet, while Big

Mantrap Lake is producing crappies — most are suspended over 25 to 28 feet — during the evening.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING REPORT

■ **Turtle River State Park, N.D.:** The park has lost a lot of snow with the recent warmer weather, but there's still enough on the trails and sledding hill for one last weekend. This will be the chalet and warming house's last open weekend for the season. All three ski trails loops are in poor condition and likely will be closed after this weekend.

■ **Grand Forks Greenway:** The winter cross-country skiing season appears to have come to an end.

■ **Lake Bemidji State Park:** Warm weather followed by freezing temperatures have made ski trails icy. Waxless skis are best for these conditions. Trails are in poor condition and will be groomed when conditions allow; 11-inch base; 10 miles groomed; local snow depth 20 inches.

■ **Lake Bronson State Park, Minn.:** Trails were groomed March 4 but are beginning to deteriorate with the warmer temperatures. Conditions are fair, with an 8½-inch base and seven miles at least partially groomed; local snow depth 19 inches.

■ **Old Mill State Park:** Trails are open but are in poor condition and will not be groomed the rest of the season; 8-inch base; six miles groomed; local snow depth 18 inches.

SNOWMOBILE TRAILS REPORT

■ **Lake Bemidji State Park:** Fair snowmobiling conditions, with a 9-inch base and three miles groomed; local snow depth 20 inches.

■ **Lake Bronson State Park, Minn.:** Good conditions, with an 8½-inch base and three miles groomed; local snow depth 19 inches.

■ **Old Mill State Park, Minn.:** Trail is groomed and in good condition, with an 8-inch base; one mile groomed; local snow depth 18 inches.

■ **Lake Region Trail (Nelson and Ramsey counties):** All trails except Trail 3 are closed. Info: (701) 328-5377.

■ **Northeast Trail (Cavalier, Pembina and Walsh counties):** Trails are open. Info: (701) 328-5377.

■ **Red River North Trail (Pembina and Walsh counties):** Closed from lack of snow.

■ **Red River South Trail (Grand Forks and Walsh counties):** Closed from lack of snow.

DOWNHILL SKIING REPORT

■ **Buena Vista Ski Area near Bemidji:** 12- to 36-inch base, groomed. Skiing and snowboarding hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. today, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Snow tubing hours: 4 to 8 p.m. today and noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Info: bvskiarea.com.

■ **Frostfire Ski Area near Walthalla, N.D.:** 12- to 25-inch base, making snow when needed, open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays. Info: frostfireskiarea.com.

— Outdoor News and Herald staff reports

ART/

Continued from Page A1

people passing by were asked to write what they wanted to do before they die.

Another was a light-up art installment at a movie theater in Minnesota, where the lights changed colors depending on where people touched a railing surrounding the art.

"Public art should not be underestimated for what it can do for communities," Becker said.

When considering public art, on 42nd Street or elsewhere, he said, Grand Forks should ask: "What's the goal for the city? What's the big plan for the city? And how can public art reinforce that?"

During a question-and-answer after the presentation, Mishler asked about who maintains public art and who generally pays for it.

Thousands of communities — ranging from big cities to small towns — have figured out funding for large-scale public art projects, Becker said, and he mentioned some examples of funding models.

But before anything can be figured out, local lead-



John Stennes, staff photographer

▲ The Camp Depression Tribute sculpture by Curtis Flexhaug is on the UND campus.

ers should frame their goals for the project, he said.

"For art on 42nd Street, answer the question, 'What would success look like?'" he said.

Call Haley at (701) 780-1102; (800) 477-6572, ext. 1102; or send email to chaley@gfherald.com.

These N.D. hips don't lie

WATFORD CITY, N.D. — So I took a Zumba class recently.

I know, I know. I'm way behind on this fitness phenomenon that gets us all together in a big room to cha-cha, salsa, and drop it like it's hot in the name of Latin music and exercise.

But if you saw me shake my hips, you would understand that my hips, indeed, don't lie. No. They tell the honest truth about many things once they're let loose — the first truth being that they can't be let loose.

The second is I'm a soulless nerd.

The third revelation? I shouldn't have dropped out of dance class in kindergarten.

But surprisingly, Tuesday's Zumba class wasn't my first attempt at salsa dancing in my life. No. When I was a senior, I played Rosie in Watford City High School's rendition of the musical "Bye, Bye Birdie."

Rosie is a fiery Latina who wants to be an English teacher's wife. In a moment of rebellion, she goes to a bar in her tightest-frilliest-most-salsa-ey dress, and proceeds to work through her troubles by singing and cha-cha-cha-ing all over the stage, jumping, twirling and high-kicking her way through to a big finish.

Needless to say, Rosie and I didn't exactly deal with stress in the same way.

So here's where I mention that my mom was a dancer. A ballerina actually. A ballerina that introduced "arabesques" to the farm kids of Watford City when she arrived in the early '80s. She taught aerobics to their mothers, schooled the local gymnasts in something called ballerina arms, helped the ice skaters extend their lines and coached her daughter, Rosie, through a salsa dancing solo she would perform in high heels, under a spotlight, while singing in front of the entire town.

Looking back at these moments I give thanks to the technology gods that YouTube was invented after I was out of high school.

Regardless of the fact that my level of grace is a 2 on a scale of 10, and that I opted out of tutus when I was 5 years old, dancing has always been a part of my life.

Yes, I've been known to make serious interpretive dances to Bette Midler's "Wind Beneath My Wings"



Jessie Veeder

✉ jessieveeder@gmail.com

and perform it with my cousins while wearing one of my grandma's old mint green polyester bridesmaid dresses in my grandparents' tiny ranch living room.

As kids trying to entertain ourselves all those miles from town, I was charged with slicking my hair back, drawing on a fake mustache and dressing up in suspenders to act as my big sister's dance partner. She was the petite, ballerina-esque one who actually inherited by mother's genes, and made jitterbug, swing and waltz routines on the linoleum of our kitchen floor look easy.

Needless to say, my tiny dancing sister ruined me. Turns out men don't appreciate being led in a two-step on the dance floor. Same goes with being spun and dipped. Who knew?

It's just one of the reasons I stick to singing. These were the memories running through my head as I attempted to roll my hips, shake my butt and find my inner J.Lo somewhere under my baggy sweats and T-shirt.

"We should've dressed in costumes," I suggested to my little sister in basketball shorts who was rolling her shoulders and flipping her hair next to me, busy being the reason I stepped foot in this little exercise phenomenon in the first place.

"If I had something in fringe and spandex I know I'd be better."

She laughed and told me to stop distracting her, and I went back to working on something that was supposed to look like a shimmy.

Meanwhile, my mind returned to leaps, twirls and moving couches out of the way to make room for the full Paula Abdul routine my sisters, cousins and I were about to perform for our entire family in leftover polyester wedding outfits scrounged up from the depths of the basement closets.

I wonder where that mint-green bridesmaid's dress ended up?

If I can find it, I'm wearing it next week.

See ya in Zumba. Cha cha cha.



Our 'Other Mother'

Some of us are lucky enough to have an "other mother" — not a biological mother, but a woman who gave love, encouragement and guidance that made a lasting difference. She may be a foster mother, adoptive mother or "extra" mother who stepped in to fill an important need. How did she affect your life? If you'd like to share your story, send comments and cherished memories of your "other mother" to accent@gfherald.com or mail them to 375 Second Ave. N., Grand Forks ND 58202, ATTN: Other Mother.

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