Tobacco Program Enrollment Ends April 30

By Gretchen Bromley
Natural Resources Management

The North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) is still helping state employees and their dependents, age 18 and older, to quit smoking or chewing tobacco. The last enrollment date is April 30, 2007.

Break Away from Nicotine (BAN) is the approved smoking cessation program serving the Fargo area (refer to the information box below). To be eligible for this program, the employee must have NDPERS health coverage.

According to Cheryl Stetz, health educator with Fargo Cass Public Health, the quit rate for participants in the Fargo BAN program last year was 31 percent. The Mayo Clinic quit rate for the same time period was 28 percent.

BAN is a one-year program. To participate, contact Fargo Cass Public Health and schedule an appointment. Cass handles all enrollment procedures and forms.

The initial visit begins with a treatment planning session to help you determine which nicotine replacement therapy is best for you. An appointment with your doctor may be required if a prescription is needed. Three additional visits cover relapse prevention strategies. Follow-up takes place at three, six and twelve months and may be done by telephone, email or onsite visits—whichever you choose.

For further information contact Chelsey Matter, BAN coordinator with Fargo Cass Public Health.

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Annual Blood Drive

By Bill Vandal
University Police and Safety Office

The annual NDSU Staff Senate Blood Drive is scheduled for 10 am—2:30 pm, December 5-6. The bloodmobile will be parked at the southwest corner of the Memorial Union in the motorcycle parking area between the Ag Biosystems Engineering and South Engineering buildings.

Free T-shirts will be presented to those who donate. Participants must be 17 or older and at least 110 pounds. Donors also must show identification containing legal name and one of the following: date of birth, social security number, United Blood Services assigned donor number or photo identification.

Appointments are preferred, but not necessary. Walk-ins are accepted. To register go to www.bloodhero.com and enter the sponsor code: ndsustaffsenate (lower case, no spaces) to find the event, or contact Bill Vandal at 1-8668 or william.vandal@ndsu.edu.

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Staff Senate Meetings

All staff are welcome!

Memorial Union
9:30 am – 10:30 am

December 13
- John Adams, VP of Finance
- Faculty Brass Quintet

Dakota Ballroom*

January 10
- Craig Schnell, VP of Academic Affairs

New Ballroom*

February 14
- Pierre Freeman, Research Compliance & Training Officer

New Ballroom*

*Room assignments may change due to the ongoing renovation of the Memorial Union. Please check posted schedules for any room changes.
What do wearing a badge, being female and loving one’s job have in common? They describe Sergeant Vicki Berg and her work with the NDSU University Police and Safety Office (UPSO).

Berg joined NDSU in June 2005 as one of three sergeants who report to Captain William MacDonald. A lieutenant and four officer positions complete this law enforcement staff, but two officer positions are currently vacant. This office is definitely short staffed!

“Even when fully staffed, the hours are tough,” said Berg. Schedules rotate monthly as staff provide 24/7 coverage for the main campus, downtown campus, all satellite locations (e.g.: Skills & Technology Center, research facilities and barns, etc.) and all city blocks closest to campus.

“You get into the swing of things and then...BAM...it switches again.” This is especially challenging for Berg who, together with her husband, an officer on the North Dakota State College of Science police force in Wahpeton, have five children.

But you won’t find a frown on this sergeant’s face.

“The work is different all the time and I get to help people in so many ways,” says Berg.

Patrolling, responding to emergencies, assisting City of Fargo police, giving safety presentations, staying current on city, state, and federal law, as well as campus rules and regulations, and attending regular law enforcement training to maintain her peace officer’s license, are some of the ways in which Berg’s work offers both challenges and rewards.

Working in a traditionally male field presents another challenge. “Occasionally, there are some who don’t respect women, but I’ve never had a problem.” According to Berg, voice, attitude, demeanor and content carry more weight in critical situations than physical strength. “It’s all in how you communicate to keep a situation under control.”

Berg believes everyone at NDSU has a role to play in effective, timely law enforcement on campus. “Officers can’t be everywhere,” says Berg. “Staff, faculty and students can help by being our eyes and ears.”

NDSU’s theme, It’s About People, is one Berg takes to heart. “This is a community here. We need to think of everyone as our neighbor and watch out for each other.”

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If you have a story idea for the Staff Spotlight, contact Holly Erdmann at 1-7513.
Campus Kudos Recipients

Campus Kudos is a certificate of appreciation for student workers, staff, and faculty. Staff Senate sponsors this program to encourage NDSU employees to recognize co-workers when they exhibit one or more of the following valued behaviors: customer service, continuous improvement, teamwork, integrity, and quality. Campus Kudos recipients receive $3 in gift certificates, which may be redeemed at either the Minard Hall or Memorial Union Coffee Carts. These gifts are sponsored by President Chapman. Campus Kudos recipient photos are displayed in the FLC corridor of the Memorial Union. Staff Senate encourages NDSU employees to submit nominations via the staff senate website, or by contacting Holly Erdmann at 1-7513 or Holly.Erdmann@ndsu.edu.

Wendy McQuay, Receptionist
Dean's office — College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

“Wendy greets each person who comes to our office and answers most of the phone calls that we receive. No one leaves our office or calls without feeling warmly welcomed and sincerely assisted. She is kind, courteous, and friendly...Wendy seeks out additional work and then manages that within her busy day. She has offered to help other staff members and has agreed to take on tasks that others have done in the past. I could not be more impressed with a staff member than I am with Wendy McQuay.”

Tonya Stokka, Campus Visit Coordinator
Office of Admissions

“Tonya is the campus visit coordinator which is probably one of the most “thankless” jobs on this campus, but so VERY important in promoting NDSU. Tonya is always very pleasant and very understanding when calling to set up appointments for prospective students to meet with faculty members. I had occasion to work with Tonya recently on a situation which really was beyond the call of duty for her position…Tonya has made NDSU, and me, look good at a college in Maine. THANKS TONYA!”

Hoeven Recognizes Two NDSU Employees

By Steve Bergeson
University Relations

Two NDSU Facility Management employees received the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Public Service during ceremonies September 18 in Bismarck. Governor John Hoeven presented awards to Karen Roesch and Matthew Walker during a luncheon at the capitol to kick off State Employee Recognition Week.

Roesch was recognized in the services category. She is a custodian who is responsible for the campus’ new Research and Technology Park, and was instrumental in preparing Research for occupancy. According to a letter of nomination, "She came to work every day looking forward to completing and learning new ways to do her job to the best of her abilities, and always with a smile."

Walker is a plumber who was recognized in the trades and crafts category for completing important work at NDSU Downtown. "Matt’s over-all work performance includes the following: taking pride in doing a good job and doing it right; knowledgeable about his job; good at what he does; (and) up to date in modern technology."

The award recipients were nominated by their peers and selected by a committee of five judges who reviewed and scored the nominations. Nominees were rated on their overall job performance, contributions to their department, commitment to customer service, working relationship with fellow workers and involvement in their community. A total of six awards were presented.

Several NDSU employees traveled to Bismarck for the presentation, including Barb Geeslin, assistant to the dean of business, and Sharon Morgan, account technician in the AES Agriculture Budget Office. Both are on the Council of State Employees (COSE) board of directors.
New Event Banners

By Laura Dallmann
Electrical & Computer Engineering

There are now two banners that may be used at events sponsored by Staff Senate. Each banner features the new Staff Senate logo and the Staff Senate mission statement. One banner is for indoor use only; it is a vertical banner with a stand. The other banner can be used indoors or outdoors; it is displayed horizontally. Both banners incorporate NDSU’s official green and gold colors.

Thank you to Janine Trowbridge, Laura Dallmann, and Ellen Puffe for their work on the Staff Senate banners. The banners will look great at future Staff Senate events! If you would like to use one of the banners, please contact Laura Dallmann at 1-7607.

Donations Accepted for Tree and Gift Cards

The State Employee Recognition Week (SERW) Committee decorated a holiday tree for Frasier, Ltd. After being on display at Innovis Hospital, it will be given to a single-parent family with three boys for the holiday season.

The SERW Committee provided the decorations and the time spent decorating. If you would like to participate, a small donation can be applied towards gift cards for the family. Along with the gift cards and the tree, the family will also receive a plaque indicating the contributors.

If you would like to be a part of this holiday sharing, please contact one of your committee representatives: Char Kuss, Cereal & Food Sciences, Harris Hall; Sharon Morgan, Ag Budget Office, Morrill Hall; Terri Nelson, Ag Communication Print Shop, Morrill Hall; Clarice Hackman, Library; Cindy Kozojed, Telecommunications, Thorson Maintenance; Diana Kowalski, Library; Jolean Pederson, Safety Office, ANPC Bldg.

The SERW Committee is part of the Council of State Employees (COSE) and represents all state agencies in the Fargo area. For more information about COSE, visit their web site at www.state.nd.us/cose/

Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening

By Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know, His house is in the village though. He will not see me stopping here, To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer, To stop without a farmhouse near, Between the woods and frozen lake, The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake, To ask if there is some mistake. The only other sound's the sweep, Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep.

Campus Holiday Hours

Holiday Hours are Monday, December 18 through Friday, December 29, 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. All NDSU departments are to resume regular business hours on Tuesday, January 2, 2007.