# The Pulse

Quarterly News

#### Workforce Professionals ND Chapter

#### July 2023

#### Volume 9, Issue 3

#### **Communications Team**

- Cindy Lynk
- Deanna Saragosa
- Erin Pringle
- Jordan Falcon
- Jaime Lawler

#### In This Issue

## Member Spotlight By Erin Pringle

Susan Ogurek is passionate about serving others. It's what originally drew her to working at Job Service North Dakota. "Having the opportunity to empower our customers, whether it is a job seeker or an employer, helping them connect," she says. She loves when a job seeker reports that they "got the job!" or an employer sends a Thank-You for referring someone for an open position. "Either way, you've made a difference in someone's life." Susan said that is the most rewarding part of her work.

Susan's in her 14<sup>th</sup> year with Job Service North Dakota.



She is currently the Workforce Center Manager in Minot but began her time with the agency serving as the Veterans Employment Representative from 2010 to 2017. "I can hardly believe how long I've been here," she says. "It has been amazing and gone by fast!"

When she's not working, Susan can be found spending time with her husband of 35 years and her menagerie of fur and feather friends. She has three dogs (Hank, Molly, and River), one cat (Pepper), two horses (Ace and Dancer), six cows (Vanna, Buttercup, Joy, Kiwi, Lola, and KC), and

over twenty unnamed chickens. "I'm crazy, but not that crazy!" Susan jokes. She enjoys gardening (of the flower and vegetable/fruit varieties), camping, photography, bird watching, and horseback riding. "The common theme is enjoying God's beautiful creation!" she says. Depending on the season, Susan might be out harvesting her garden, hunting, or baking – all of which she does with her husband.

Let's get to know Susan a bit more with a lightening round of questions:

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## Lunch n' Learn Scheduled - August 16th

The training committee has arranged for Emily How from NDSU Extension to present on "Harvesting and Second Plantings: Getting the Most from your Garden".

The Lunch n' Learn will be presented via Teams on August 16, 2023 from noon to 1 pm. A calendar invitation with a meeting link will be coming soon, so watch your inbox.

If you missed our March Lunch n' Learn which featured Bradley Aune, you can watch the recording from our IAWP Teams folder. Bradley is our veteran's rep in the Fargo Office. We opened that session up to other chapters from around the country and had representation from three or four states. <u>Watch it here.</u> Please note, the file may take some time to download and the presentation starts at about 16 minutes into the recording. It plays right away if you open it from the IAWP Teams group. It is in the Recordings folder.

#### Special Points of Interest

• Mark Your Calendars - Our state chapter's fall training conference will be held in Bismarck on September 28 and 29. More information will be provided in the near future.



### President's Coffee Chat By Chad Howard

Break time and reading rejuvenates your mind; so take a break, and read The Pulse today! Summer is upon us. Many of you have celebrated recent graduations in your

family at the grade school, high school, and college levels. I say congratulations to all of you on your achievements. This is something to be proud of. I know it takes dedication to finish any challenge started.

With the arrival of summer comes the enjoyment of time spent tending to flower and vegetable gardens, keeping the lawn tidy and watered, grilling hot dogs and hamburgers on the patio, walks in the parks, weekend fishing and camping trips at the lake, and vacations to destinations far and wide. I encourage everyone to take time out and enjoy what the outside world has to offer. Summer concerts and festivals are never that far away from home. Stop at a food truck vendor and order more than you can possibly eat in one sitting. I can't promise you won't regret eating so much but every bite will be worth it.

Six months have passed since I have taken on the position of President of the North Dakota Chapter of IAWP. The Chapter is working diligently behind the scenes building its volunteer committees into more cohesive units. The work each committee produces builds greater influence in the direction of our Chapter. I am thankful to each person that volunteers time and effort to the organization and for each member that continues in support of the organization. If you would like to volunteer on a committee, at an event, or submit an interesting article for this newsletter please reach out to a member of the Board of Directors or to a volunteer committee.

Thank you and have a safe summer.

### Respectful Persuasion Is a Relay Race, not a Solo Sprint - 3 Keys to Putting It in Practice By Colin Marshall | May 3, 2023 | Government Executive

The 2024 presidential election is still a year and a half away, but it can feel much closer: President Joe Biden <u>has</u> <u>made his reelection bid official</u>, presumed candidates are <u>giving out-of-</u> <u>state speeches</u>, pundits are already <u>weighing in on nomination</u> <u>hopefuls</u>, and social media is, as ever, a mess of people trying to persuade strangers to back their favorite. All for good reason: Even a little political persuasion in the next year could change the course of history.

I'm a philosopher <u>who studies and</u> <u>teaches the ethics of persuasion</u>. My students are eager to find ways to persuade their friends, family and neighbors about political issues such as climate change and abortion. Moreover, many of them want to persuade with integrity: They want to engage the people they're talking with respectfully, instead of using the manipulative tricks they regularly see in politics and marketing. But what is respectful persuasion, and what distinguishes it from disrespectful manipulation?

There's no simple formula for respectful persuasion. However, some philosophers see crucial hints in the work of <u>18th-century philosopher Immanuel Kant</u>, whose theory of respect has guided many ethicists and policymakers for the past two centuries.

Read the article here.

## Member Spotlight continued

#### (Continued from page 1)

#### What kind of music do you like?

Mainly country and western and I love the traditional and like some of the newer country. Favorite is Chris LeDoux – his songs paint a picture in your mind – I love that! Listen to the lyrics of Western Skies or This Cowboy's Hat!

#### **Favorite TV Shows?**

I like Dr. Oakley, Yukon Vet, The Secrets of the Zoo, To Catch a Smuggler, and Live PD!

What did you want to be growing up? Everything from a Formula 1 race car driver, the female version of Jacque Cousteau, a pilot, librarian to an astronaut – how's that for mix?!

#### Childhood celebrity crush?

I had posters of Tom Selleck on my wall!

What's your game plan if you found yourself in a zombie apocalypse? I have a very good arsenal of weapons – I did mention I hunt right? I'm ready for them!

### Keep Growing - Use Learning Tree Funds By Susan Ogurek

One of the great benefits of being a ND IAWP member is the opportunity to apply for funds to grow your learning! Whether your learning takes place during the workday, after hours or through volunteering, the ND IAWP may be able to assist with the cost.

Every calendar year, a member is eligible to apply for funds under two categories – education or community and professional development. Monetary awards are based upon the number of years you have been a member of the ND IAWP.

- One year of membership \$75.00
- Two to four years of membership --\$150.00
- Five or more years of members --\$250.00

In the education category a member's spouse/partner or children may apply.

The community and professional development category is for the member only.

Additional information on the Learning Tree is just a click away -<u>http://www.iawpnd.com/learning-</u> <u>tree.html</u>. Applications are also available!

Recently, IAWP announced an online course library to grow member's opportunities for professional growth. If you have not had a chance to read the article introducing the library here is the link - <u>https://iawponline.org/</u> <u>introducing-our-new-online-course-</u> <u>library-enhancing-opportunities-for-</u> <u>professional-growth/</u>. The list of learning opportunities is incredible – take the time to check out all the offerings at - <u>https://</u> workforcelearn.com/ Another benefit of being a member of ND IAWP – take advantage of the opportunities, go grow your learning!



### JSND Immigrant Outreach By Amy Nelson

Our immigrant neighbors across North Dakota are coming to the state for opportunity and relationships. They come, many fleeing difficult situations in their home countries, for safety and the promise of a better life. Often North Dakota ends up being their destination because of pre-existing relationships, whether these are family members who have already settled in ND, or friends who have talked with them about the opportunities here. They stay, however, when they can become rooted in the community with those things we all look for in life: stability, a sense of belonging, and gainful employment. Last year 253 individuals arrived in our state through the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), with this year likely to see between 200 and 243 individuals settled

in North Dakota. The majority of these are coming from Ukraine, followed by Afghan Humanitarian Parolees. We are also seeing an increased number of Cuban and Haitian entrants.\* We also host immigrants choosing to move to North Dakota for work opportunities who are coming with a variety of visa situations, such as the H2A Visa program which Job Service helps oversee.

For those who come to North Dakota through ORR, safety and stability are the main focus within the first 90 days. Resettlement agencies like Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), or affiliates of a resettlement agency such as a church group will work with people arriving in the US to make sure they are set up with adequate housing and supportive services and enrolled in ESL classes as needed. After 90 days other help kicks in to help meet more long-term goals, including the State Refugee Coordinator, the Career Navigator, and immigrant-focused nonprofits such as Bismarck Global Neighbors. Job Service is also an important partner in this work.

Many individuals falling under ORReligible populations are wanting to secure employment as soon as possible, and these same individuals can live and work anywhere in the U.S. due to their status. Immigrants offer so much to our communities, including a variety of skills, expertise, and perspectives that can help us address the labor shortage we are experiencing statewide. This is one

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## JSND Immigrant Outreach - continued

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key reason why we should be working to keep them in our communities. The main obstacle to work in the US as an immigrant, apart from navigating the often protracted and complicated legal process, is the language barrier. Job Service is making efforts to bridge the language gap by providing translation tools on our website and utilizing cutting -edge translation technology when working with non-native English speakers in our offices, such as the Instant Language Assistant (ILA) device. Workforce Centers across the state are growing our partnerships in our local communities to make sure we are reaching our immigrant neighbors.

Over the last year, the Bismarck Workforce Center has begun offering Career Readiness classes to ESL learners in partnership with the Adult Learning Center, Bismarck Global Neighbors, our area Career Navigator Aimee Geurts, and the State Refugee Coordinator Holly Triska-Dally. We have developed a curriculum at a basic English level which covers Job Searching, Skills Identification, Resume Building, and Interview Skills. The course culminates with an invitation to our Workforce Center for one of our Workforce Wednesday Hiring Events to speak directly with employers about openings. After the course concludes we continue to work with any individual who seeks ongoing services, which might include enrollment in JSND's programs, attending future job fairs, mock interviews, resume review, or job search support. On visits, English language learners sometimes have the benefit of a translator or mentor with them who can help further ease any language or cultural barriers. We are fortunate to partner with Bismarck Global Neighbors who often

#### assist with this work.

I'd like to share a couple quick stories from our work with immigrants here in Bismarck. One gentleman first came to our office about a year ago through Bismarck Global Neighbors. He and his wife had recently arrived through ORR from Afghanistan. His English was good, but he had a thick accent which sometimes made it difficult for him to be understood. He had been an HR professional in Afghanistan, and his wife a pilot for the Afghan military. He was working at Wal-Mart but needed something higher paying, as his wife was now pregnant, and he was increasingly worried about being able to support his growing family. He came to every job fair eager to find employment. Because he indicated a desire to continue building his skills, he applied to the WIOA program. Initially he wanted training in anything to help him earn an income quickly and was interested in taking a CDL class. However, with his expertise in Human Relations, his WIOA advisor Trent encouraged him to try to pursue that career in the US before exploring another option, even if it took a bit longer to reach that goal. Employment Services staff did a mock interview with him to prepare for upcoming interviews in the field. This provided him valuable feedback that he was able to use at his interviews. Meanwhile, the WIOA team was working to set up an On-the-Job Training in an HR position to grow his experience with the American system. He was soon hired by an area healthcare provider in an HR position, right after his first son was born! Several Job Service staff were happy to help him along his career pathway.

A second great story still in process comes from our recent Career

Readiness class with the Adult Learning Center. Many ESL learners in our Spring classes in Bismarck came from Ukraine, many with professional training and experience to offer our community. One Ukrainian woman with a medical background attended the Workforce Wednesday hiring event at the beginning of June, and we helped her talk with the representative from Missouri Slope, where she has wanted to work and potentially pursue CNA certification. After communicating with her at the fair with the occasional help of the ILA translation device, the Missouri Slope staff person was enthusiastic that our participant should apply! Over the next two days, JSND staff helped her fill out the application. We just got word from Community Navigator Aimee that she had her interview this week. We are hoping for good news! Her husband is also looking for a second job, and we are helping him create a resume in English this afternoon. We look forward to continuing to work with them to meet their career goals and further welcome them into our community!



### Is That a Capitol I See? By Erin Pringle

It all started with friends and a camera.

That sounds like a tag line for a movie about a summer buddy road trip romp. It's not that. Although, come to think of it, it's not too far from the truth, either. Aside from the whole movie thing.

The first photo was at the Massachusetts State House. I was wearing a backpack and my good walking sandals, joyfully grinning at the camera while pointing to a building with a gorgeous gold dome. It was taken before I knew it would turn into something more.

In the spring of 2009, I was in my second year as an <u>AmeriCorps\*VISTA</u> (Volunteer In Service To America) at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, New Hampshire, working in the Center for Service and Community Involvement. I shared an apartment on campus with Eemaan Rameez, a graduate student from the Maldives. We were both adventurous souls with limited budgets, always on the lookout for something fun and inexpensive to do on weekends and decided to walk the <u>Freedom Trail</u> in Boston one beautiful June Saturday.

The Freedom Trail is a 2.5-mile walk to 16 nationally significant historic sites, including the Boston Common, Paul Revere House, Bunker Hill Monument, Granary Burying Ground (where a lot of America's notable citizens are buried), Faneuil Hall, the site of the Boston Massacre, and the Massachusetts State House. Eemaan and I took our pictures at each stop along the trail, and, looking back through my photo album from that walk, I took a lot of photos at the Granary Burying Ground. The headstones were in varying stages of decay and absolutely fascinating to me. But I digress...

The second photo was taken in Montpelier, Vermont. My fellow VISTA friends, Mark and Jake, and I made a pit stop at the Vermont State House before heading out of town after a days-long VISTA meeting/training. Once back on the Interstate, Mark, who had seen my photos from the Freedom Trail, said, "You could make a project out of taking pictures in front of capitols. You've already got Boston and Montpelier. Concord wouldn't be hard to get." Concord was a 20-minute drive from where I was living in Manchester. Totally doable. I had a new mission to take my picture in front of all six State Houses in New England before my VISTA service was up in July 2010.

And with a little help from my friends, I made it happen. Another VISTA meeting/training was close enough to Augusta, Maine to make a quick visit. I was able to visit two capitols in a day when I accompanied a friend home to New York for a weekend: Hartford, Connecticut, and as a bonus, the non-New England State House in Albany, New York. And finally, on one last road trip with Mark and Jake before my VISTA service concluded, we visited Providence, Rhode Island. New England goal accomplished!

I am now nearly half-way there. This summer on a road trip to Texas I snagged my picture in front of my 24<sup>th</sup> State House: Oklahoma. Since my start in New England, I've learned a couple things on this quest to visit all US Capitol buildings.

- 1. If you have the time and ability, go into the capitol and, and if they are available, take a guided tour. Each capitol is fascinating in its own way. Some capitols are architecturally stunning, some have interesting histories and stories, and others have historically significant spaces. I find it endlessly interesting to see what each State chooses to highlight and display.
- I am not the only one who aspires to visit every U.S. capitol. I was wandering around the Washington State Capitol gift shop when I stumbled upon <u>The Capitol</u> <u>Collection passport</u>. This souvenir passport allows visitors to collect

unique passport stamps at each state capitol. Even if you find yourself, like me, obtaining a passport midway through your capitol visits, the passport organizers have a process in place to send you any stamps you've missed. The passport is a fun way to record where you've been and makes a lovely keepsake.

- Talk to people! I'm an introvert. Pushing myself to initiate conversations isn't always the easiest. However, I've learned over time that State Capitol employees *like* talking to visitors. (Yeah, I know, this should've been obvious, but here we are...) They might share interesting trivia about the building or their state or let you view parts of the building that may otherwise be closed to visitors.
- 4. I will always prefer a road trip over flying. Nothing can replace the ability to pull off the highway to dip your toes in a crystal-clear stream while driving through the mountains or investigate the magnificent sand dune you unexpectedly find around a bend in the highway. Our country is full of natural wonders to see and explore that you miss while buckled into an airplane, even if you're lucky enough to snag a window seat. Road trips also make it easier to plan your route through capital cities.

Mark, Jake, and I are still friends and keep in touch. They too are on the quest to collect capitols. We plan to meet up to take a picture together in Juneau, Alaska, but it might be a while yet before that happens. All I know is that the journey will end how it started and continues: with friends and a camera.

My Capitols Journey:

2009 – Massachusetts, Vermont 2010 – New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Maine, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, North Dakota

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## Capitols Project continued

(Continued from page 5)

2011 – Minnesota 2013 – South Dakota, Nebraska 2014 – Oregon 2016 – Iowa 2018 – Utah 2019 – Montana, Washington 2021 – Colorado, Nevada, California, Wyoming 2023 – Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma

View Erin's Capitols Collection photo album <u>here</u>.



Montpelier, VT





Helena, MT

Topeka, KS



**Capitol Passport** 

### Print Friendly By Chad Howard

#### Print Friendly & PDF

(www.printfriendly.com) is a website I use to print webpages without all those annoying banners and advertisements. Selectively delete undesired content and choose to print, email, or download the result. PrintFriendly cleans and formats web pages for perfect print experience by removing ads, navigation, and web page junk, so you **save paper and ink** when you print. It's free and easy to use. Perfect to use at home or the office. Copy and paste a website URL into the Print Friendly dialog box and click Preview to get started.

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### North Dakota Happenings AAA.com/AAALiving | June/July/August 2023

#### July 2 – 4

Mandan Rodeo Days Bull and saddle bronc riders, ropers, and barrel racers welcome spectators to the new rodeo grounds. Don't miss the Independence Day fireworks. *mandanrodeo.com* 

#### July 3 – 4

Art in the Park Festival Vendors, artists, crafters, and shoppers flood Mandan's Dykshoorn Park for a summer shopping and snacking celebration. *artintheparknd.com/#* 

#### July 4

**Bonanzaville 4<sup>th</sup> of July Carnival & Fireworks** Come for the pony rides, games, inflatables, face painting, bingo and more, and stay for the fireworks at dusk. Admission fees support Bonanzaville, a history museum in West Fargo. *Fargomoorhead.org/event/bonanzaville-*4<sup>th</sup>-of-july-carnival-fireworks

#### July 13 - 15

**Downtown Fargo Street Fair** Vendors from around the country tempt 150,000 visitors with their wares at this massive outdoor shopping, street food and live music event. *downtownfargo.com* 

#### July 21 - 29

North Dakota State Fair The biggest fair in the state returns with big-name hip -hop and country music headliners, a high-energy midway, and entertainment for the whole family in Minot. *ndstatefair.com* 

#### July 22 – 23

Buffalo Days Celebrate Jamestown's deep connections with the buffalo! Events include a parade, a car show, a vendor show and a street dance. *discoverjamestownnd.com/events* 

#### August 5 – 6

**Capital A'Fair** Artists and artisans set up shop on the Capitol grounds for this annual outdoor celebration of creativity and commerce. *Bismarck-art.org/special-events-calendar* 

#### August 5 - 6

Indian Arts Festival Learn from tribal historians, elders, and storytellers at Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site near Williston. Artists showcase beadwork, quillwork, ledger art, music, and dance. ndtourism.com/Williston/events/festivals-fairs/ Indian-arts-festival

#### August 10

**Bacon and Brew at the Zoo** This fundraiser for Minot's Roosevelt Park Zoo includes beer and wine samples and music in a festive outdoor setting. *rpzoo.com/bacon-brew* 

#### August 12

#### **Nesting Doll Painting Class**

Learn how to paint a matryoshka (a Russian nesting doll) at the Welk Homestead State Historic Site in Strasburg. The class is free for all ages. *ndtourism.com/ Strasburg/events/exhibits-displays/freenesting-doll-painting-class-welkhomestead-state-historic-site* 

#### August 15

**Pipestem Creek Trail Run** Race along scenic Pipestem Creek Trail near the Jamestown Reservoir. Choose the 3-mile route or the 8-mile option. jamestownparksandrec.com/events/pipestemcreek-trail-run-2

#### August 18 - 19

**Downtown Street Fair** Buskers play to the crowd, and street food vendors sell snacks to shoppers who weave through the booths set up in the heart of Grand Forks. *downtownforks.com/downtownstreet-fair* 

#### September 6 - 10

Harvestfest 2023 Come to Hazen for a parade, food trucks, carnival games, a street dance and so much more. *ndtourism.com/hazen/events/festivals-fairs/harvestfest-2023*#

#### September 8 - 10

**2023 Bismarck Food Truck Festival** Come for 20 food trucks. Stay to build your own derby car, watch Saturday's corgi races and more. *facebook.com/ events/397585955852516/?ref=newsfeed* 

#### September 8 - 10

United Tribes Technical College International Powwow More than a thousand dancers and drummers gather in Bismarck for one of the most popular powwows in the region. unitedtribespowwow.com

#### **Musically Yours**

ND Country Fest (ndcountryfest.com) in New Salem for four days of camping and country music, July 5 - 8



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> We're on the Web! iawpnd.com

#### Member Benefits At-A-Glance

- Conferences
- Education
- Networking
- Professional Development/Recognition
- Publications/Newsletters
- Learning Tree (funds for training and personal or professional development)

## Committees

#### Communications:

Cindy Lynk, Deanna Saragosa, Erin Pringle, Jordan Falcon, Jaime Lawler

#### Conference:

Erin Pringle, Brenda Cornell, Johanna Fajardo, Jordan Falcon, Jaime Lawler, Cindy Lynk

#### Membership:

Chad Howard, Dusty Hillebrand, Catherine Bauer, Johanna Fajardo, Jaime Lawler

#### Retirement:

Elaine Wentz, Brenda Cornell

#### Learning Tree:

Susan Ogurek, Elaine Wentz, Mary Houdek, Nathan Kimball

#### Training:

Becky Lankow, Mike Deisz, Susan Ogurek, Lena Trondson

#### Our Mission

The North Dakota Chapter of the International Association of Workforce Professionals (IAWP) is dedicated to providing networking and professional development opportunities for members to seek solutions to workforce issues.

#### Our Vision

To provide educational and training opportunities for our membership, to enhance the workforce development profession and to ensure the success of our respective agencies/organizations.

#### \$\$ Learning Tree Funds Available \$\$

The learning tree committee has funds available for educational and professional

development. Remember, educational funds are available to members and their families. Applications are available on our website



http://www.iawpnd.com/learning-tree.html

## 2023 Board of Directors

- Chad Howard, President
- Shenille Lillejord, President-elect
- Erin Pringle, Treasurer
- Cindy Lynk, Exec Secretary
- Susan Ogurek, West Area Representative
- Becky Lankow, East Area Representative
- Lena Trondson, Central Representative
- Elaine Wentz, Retiree Representative
- Nathan Kimball, Webmaster
- Jason Sutheimer, Past President