As of September 2009, the United States’ Veteran population was estimated at over 23 million people. Of that number, roughly 60% of Veterans were under the age of 65. Our Veteran population is constantly on the rise, as is their need for assistance in the areas of mental health, physical health, education, work, and finances.

Abraham Lincoln once said that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) was established for one purpose: “To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.” The VA does just that by providing a wide range of benefits to those who serve our country and their families. These benefits include:

- Pensions
- Education and Training
- Home Loan Guaranties
- Life Insurance
- Burial and Memorial Benefits
- Transition Assistance (including vocational rehabilitation)
- Health Care

To qualify for most benefits, one must have served in the active military, naval, or air service, and have been discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable. Reservists and National Guard members may also qualify for certain VA benefits if they were called to active duty and completed the full period for which they were called.

Health Care benefits include co-pays, readjustment counseling, prosthetics and sensory aids, outpatient dental care, home alterations for disabilities, mental health services, suicide prevention hotlines, work restoration programs, nursing home care, and more. Additionally, if a person has a service-connected disability (a disability that is incurred or aggravated during service), they may receive compensation in a monthly payment not subject to federal or state tax.

(Continued on page 3)
Yes, there are actually rewarding moments when you work for legal aid. Unfortunately, they are not financial rewards. Legal aid lawyers are the lowest paid in the profession. But there is clearly something to be said for justice when the little guy prevails – when David defeats Goliath.

Our system of justice has been around for over 200 years. It is there so citizens can resolve their disputes with one another and/or their government. It is a long way from perfect, and those folks with money and resources prevail a lot more often than those without. But every once in awhile the little guy does win. The judge says no, Ricky, you cannot evict this lady so you can double the rent to oil field workers. The juvenile referee says no, YCC, today I’m going to give this teenager one more chance to straighten out with his parents in his home. The appeals court says no, trial judge, you missed that one – let’s get it right.

Unfortunately, those moments do not come often enough. On top of that there are not enough resources (thus staff) to handle all of the requests for legal help we receive, so we spend too much of our time turning people away when they ask for help. The late Judge Ralph Bekken (the late Judge James Bekken’s father) told me a long time ago in a courtroom in Stanley, North Dakota, “You know, Jim, legal aid is fast becoming the bureaucracy it started out to help poor people fight.”

Why? Plain and simple, there are just not enough dollars available to operate a civil legal aid program like an adequately funded public defender’s office. Robert A. Mandel, an ancient legal aid program director who migrated south years ago, told me the demand for free legal services for the poor is infinite; the challenge for the program is how to utilize your limited resources.

In today’s world, legal aid programs do a lot more than provide legal aid to low-income folks. They have to in order to keep their doors open. At LSND only about half of our money is general legal aid money. The rest of it is client-specific or project-specific. It means the contractor or grantor provides us funds for a specific purpose, such as helping people on and near the reservations with tax problems, or providing new Americans with a general overview of their legal rights and responsibilities in this country. Over the past six years, we’ve received funds from sources like the IRS, Native American Rights Fund, HHS, Bush Foundation, and Otto Bremer Foundation, of which not one dollar was for general legal aid to the poor. I’ve written more grants over the past few decades than I care to count.

It is a crazy way to do business. Most of the time you need more baling twine than legal pads. But at the end of the day, you have provided help, hope and a little access to justice.

Happy Holidays!
(Assistance for Veterans Continued from page 1)

The VA offers the Post-9/11 GI Bill to help with tuition, housing, and book costs for eligible Veterans and servicemembers attending college if they served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. The Marine Gunner Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship makes these same benefits available to children of those who died in the line of duty since September 11, 2001. The Montgomery GI Bill also provides educational benefits, but other eligibility requirements must be met.

Numerous VA programs assist homeless Veterans with health care needs, case management, residential treatment, transitional housing, education, crisis intervention, and counseling. For more information, visit www1.va.gov/homeless/.

Under the Civilian Health and Medical Program, certain dependents and survivors can receive reimbursement for most medical expenses. Death gratuity payments in the amount of $100,000 are available to the next of kin of servicemembers who die while on active duty or within 120 days of separation as a result of service-connected injuries or illnesses. If eligible, VA also provides pensions to low income surviving spouses and children of deceased Veterans with wartime service. Children of Vietnam or Korean Veterans born with certain birth defects may be eligible for a monthly monetary allowance.

1. For more information on each of these areas, visit www.va.gov/.
2. Apply at https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/ or call 1-877-222-VETS.
3. North Dakota’s VA Medical Center, as well as its Regional Office, is located at 2101 Elm Street in Fargo, ND. Call 1-800-827-1000.
4. VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics are located in Bismarck, Dickinson, Grafton, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Minot, and Williston.
5. Veteran Centers are located in Bismarck, Fargo, and Minot.
6. If you have additional questions, contact Legal Services of North Dakota.

Winter Fun Facts:

**WHAT COLOR IS SNOW?** Believe it or not, snow is actually clear/transparent. Snow appears white because the crystals act as prisms, breaking up the light of the sun into the entire spectrum of color. The human eye is unable to handle that kind of sensory overload. Therefore, we see the snow as white or sometimes blue.

**HOW MANY SNOWFLAKE SHAPES ARE THERE?** It is said that scientists think there are five different shapes of snow crystals. A long needle shape, hollow column that is shaped like a six-sided prism, thin and flat six-sided plates, six-pointed stars and intricate dendrites.

**WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENT SNOW FLAKE SHAPES?** It is said that the shape of a snow crystal depends on the temperature at which it was formed. When the temperature is around 32°F to 25°F thin six-sides plates are formed. At 25°F to 21°F long needle shapes are formed. At 21°F to 14°F hollow columns are formed. At 14°F to 10°F six-point stars are formed. At 10°F to 3°F dendrites are formed. The colder it is outside, the smaller the snowflakes that fall. The fluffiest snow falls during warmer temperatures.
“So Christmas is this Saturday, but payday isn’t until the Thursday after that. When little Sally went to Santa this year, all she wanted was the Xtreme Hopscotch II video game. That costs $85, and I can’t disappoint her. But I don’t have the money. I need a loan to get me through until payday.”

To make up for cash shortages, some people turn to payday loans. Payday loans work like this: Frank wants to borrow $100. He goes to XYZ Payday Loans. He writes a check to XYZ for $100 plus their fee of $15, for $115 total. XYZ gives Frank $100 in cash, and keeps his check for $115. On Frank’s next payday, XYZ cashes Frank’s check and the loan is paid off. The idea is that on payday, Frank will have enough money in his checking account to pay the check to XYZ. (Sometimes payday loans are done electronically. The lender electronically deposits the funds in Frank’s account, and electronically withdraws the funds and the fee on the next payday.)

What if Frank doesn’t have $115 on his next payday? Most payday lenders will allow a borrower to renew or “roll over” the loan. To renew his loan, Frank would pay another $15 to XYZ, who would once again hold his check until Frank’s next payday. By Frank’s next payday, he would owe $30 in fees. What Frank would end up doing is paying $30 for a $100 loan.

Fees that amount to a high annual percentage rate are one of the criticisms of payday loans. If Frank paid $15 for a $100 loan for two weeks, the annual percentage rate is 390%. Another criticism is that renewal fees can sometimes add up to a large part (or even more than) the original loan.

North Dakota law imposes some limits on payday loans. (State law calls payday loan companies “deferred presentment service providers.”) Some of these limitations are designed to address some criticisms or disadvantages of payday loans. Payday lenders are licensed and regulated by the North Dakota Department of Financial Institutions.

The maximum amount of any one loan is $500. The fee charged for a loan or renewal can be a maximum of 20% of the loan amount. (In Frank’s case, the $15 fee is legal in North Dakota because it is 15% of the amount of the loan. Under state law, the fee could be as much as $20). Before making a loan, a payday lender has to verify that you have a checking account.

The most that any borrower can owe to all payday lenders in the state at any one time is $600. If you owed $600 on all your payday loans and fees, you cannot take out any more payday loans until you pay some of your current loans. The Department of Financial Institutions maintains a database of borrowers so lenders can make sure they are not lending to someone who has reached the $600 limit. Whenever you make a loan, it gets put in to the database. Loan fees must be posted in large print in the lender’s office. Each loan must have a separate written agreement. This agreement must state the amount of the loan and amount of the fee. The annual percentage rate must also be given.

A borrower has the right to rescind (or cancel) a loan 1 day after the loan money is received. When that happens, a borrower is not charged the fee (or the fee is returned). Of course, the borrower has to return the loan money when the loan is cancelled.

(Continued on page 5)
A borrower can pay a loan off early, but does not get a reduction of the loan fee. The maximum term of any loan and renewal is 45 days. That means a loan and its renewal and fees must be paid up in 45 days. A loan from one lender cannot be paid off with a new loan from that same lender.

A person has to wait 3 days after making one payday loan before making a second payday loan.

A payday loan can be renewed once. A renewal must be for at least 15 days. This is designed to prevent borrowers from renewing over and over, and having renewal fees cost more than the original loan.

A payday lender cannot take property, like a tuba or a car title or a diamond ring, as security for a loan.

If you write a bad check to a payday loan company, the loan company (or a bill collector they hire) can charge a $20 bad check fee. You can be sued in court for the amount of the check (and the bad check fee). You cannot be charged with a crime, unless the checking account was closed when the check was written.

Payday loans can sometimes be used for short term credit. North Dakota law tries to limit payday loan amounts and number of renewals so people will not make payday loans a habit. Even with North Dakota’s restrictions, payday loans can be a very expensive form of credit. Payday loans might not be a good idea for non-essential things like Christmas presents.
What are you willing to do for a child? On October 15, 2010 I heard James Forman Jr. give the keynote address to the Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit. It was stunning. James talked about how we have the moral obligation to defend children in our juvenile system. What was most impressive is that James not only talks a great story, he backs it up—his story is amazing.

James graduated from Ivy League Brown University and attended Yale Law School where he was book reviews editor for the Yale Law Journal. James then clerked for a Judge in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and then Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. With these qualifications James was destined to write his own ticket. Instead of Wall Street, James chose to be a public defender in Washington D.C. with a special emphasis on defending children. While defending children in the D.C. courts, James began actually talking and listening to his clients. He listened and heard a message loud and clear: the children wanted something better for themselves. Instead of passing his clients off to another agency James, along with another attorney, David Domenici, started the See Forever Foundation. The two attorneys started a tutoring program for children in the ‘system’. After being tutored, the children would then work at a pizza delivery service owned by James and David. James talked about how the children would be responsible for the entire pizza delivery service. But neither James nor David were satisfied. They both quit their jobs as attorneys and started a private tuition-free school to help children in the ‘system’. The school gained charter status quickly and the school has opened up branch schools in D.C., including a school in the infamous D.C. juvenile prison system. James talked about how successful the schools have become because the people care—they care about the children and they listen; they do not pass the child on to someone else. The schools and the foundations have continued to grow and affect children on a daily basis.

Near the end of his keynote address, James talked about the Criminal Justice class he teaches at Georgetown Law School. James told how he takes his class of law students to the juvenile prison and teaches them along side the children in the prison. He talked about how these future lawyers were able to understand these children are real and so are their needs.

When James’ address was finished there were very few dry eyes and the standing ovation spoke volumes about one person who was willing to do for a child. What are you willing to do for a child?
The Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents provides attorneys for indigent parties in criminal and juvenile matters as required by the federal and state constitutions and by North Dakota laws. To have an attorney appointed, there must be a “right” to an attorney in the particular type of case, and the party must be indigent.

When is there a right to an attorney? In a criminal case, a person has a right to an attorney “at every stage of the proceeding from initial appearance through appeal . . . .” A person would not have an “initial appearance” until charges have been filed against the person; therefore, there is no right to have an attorney appointed until after a criminal defendant has been charged with a crime. In Juvenile Court, if a child is alleged to be unruly or delinquent, the child will have a right to an attorney at all stages of the proceedings; however, parents do not have a right to an attorney in informal adjustment proceedings, nor do they have a right in cases where the child is alleged to be unruly or delinquent, until the dispositional phase of the case.

How is it determined that a party is “indigent?” A person who wants an attorney appointed to represent him has to show the court that he is indigent. To do this, the party, or the parent of the party if the party is a minor child, submits an application for services to the court for it to review. The applications can be found on the Commission’s website (www.nd.gov/indigents/docs/applicationchildinjuvenile.pdf) or obtained from the Clerk of Court or Juvenile Court in which the case is pending.

The judge may personally review the application, or the judge may delegate this responsibility to the clerk of court, or in a juvenile case, to a referee or juvenile court staff. However, if the clerk, referee, or juvenile court staff determines that the party is not indigent, the party will be allowed to have that determination reviewed by a judge, if the party requests it.

On the application, the party’s income and assets to determine whether the party can afford to hire an attorney. The party must also provide information about the income and assets of any spouse, and the number of persons in the household. For the purposes of the application, household members are those persons for whom the party (or parent) owes a legal duty of support, or who have a legal duty to support the party, such as spouses and their minor children. A roommate for whom the party has no legal support obligation would not be a “household member.” Under the current version of the guidelines, a party who has a household of four will qualify for services if the gross income (the income before taxes and other deductions are taken out) is $2297 or less per month, and has equity of less than $20,000 in realty and personal property. A party with a larger income or more equity in his property may still qualify for an appointed attorney if there are “exceptional factors.” For example, the court may find a party to be indigent if the party has a somewhat larger income, but is paying significant medical bills, or is caring for aged or ill family members who require additional expenses, or if the type of case is more difficult and might require an exceptionally large retainer if the party were to hire a private attorney.

If the party is found to be eligible for an appointed attorney, an attorney is assigned by the Commission to handle the case. The Commission has sixteen full-time public defenders and over forty contract attorneys who provide services in North Dakota district and juvenile courts. These attorneys are experienced, well-trained, and very interested in criminal and juvenile law.
Gift Cards/Certificates:

Gift certificates and gift cards especially have become very popular in the past several years. These cards allow the recipient to “get what he or she really wants.”

In North Dakota, there is a law that addresses gift certificates/cards. This law states that the recipient may not be charged additional monthly or annual service or maintenance fees on gift certificates/cards. The time for redemption on the gift certificate/card may not be limited to a date before six years after the date of purchase. The gift certificate/card may not contain any statement suggesting that any different expiration date or redemption date apply to the gift certificate/card.

Universal or “general use prepaid” gift cards are the most frequently purchased gift cards and allow the recipient to go just about anywhere they want to make their purchase including retailers and restaurants. Examples of these general use cards include mall gift cards contained on a plastic card or other electronic payment device and redeemable at the unaffiliated stores throughout the mall.

“General use prepaid cards” (such as those sold at local shopping malls), however, are not subject to these rules. Therefore, if you are considering giving a general use card as a gift, you first may wish to inquire if there will be any fees charged against the balance on the card which would reduce value of your gift and if so, the time period within which the card must be used to avoid incurring any fees. Be sure to tell the recipient about these conditions.

If a company goes out of business or files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, the gift card holds no value - the recipient is out of luck and the gift giver out the money.

A gift card can be the perfect gift for the “person who has everything,” but to avoid potential problems it should be spent within a reasonable period of time.

Store Return Policies:

Be sure to check each store’s refund and exchange policy. If you have to return an item to a store, you have only limited rights.

A store may set its own policy, which may include a cash refund, a store credit, an exchange, or no refund at all. Others may limit the amount of time in which a return may be made, such as 30 days from the date of purchase, or charge a re-stocking fee.

Many companies also allow items purchased from their catalogue or website to be returned to the local store.

It is best to ask about return/refund policies before buying anything—and always save your receipts for at least 90 days after your purchase.

For more information contact:

Office of Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division
4205 State Street, Bismarck ND 58503
Website: www.ag.nd.gov
Several major health care changes began rolling out on Sept. 23.

Many Americans who buy new insurance plans beginning Sept. 23 will have access to new benefits, such as preventive screenings, and improved protections, such as coverage that can’t be taken away if you get sick. Parents of adult children will also have the option of insuring their children through their current coverage. Americans who already have insurance will be eligible for some new benefits when their next plan year starts and should check with their insurer or employer for more information.

Beginning Sept. 23, several new benefits became available to people purchasing a new health insurance plan:

- Health insurers must cover recommended preventive care - such as cancer screenings and flu shots - free of charge. Check with your doctor to find out what care is right for you.

- Health insurers can no longer drop coverage (sometimes known as “rescission”) after a customer has gotten sick. Many insurance plans have already voluntarily stopped this practice - now it will be illegal.

- Health insurers can no longer place lifetime limits on coverage that can cut off care for people with high costs. Also, annual coverage limits can be no lower than $750,000. This minimum will be raised annually, and eliminated entirely in 2014.

- Consumers now have an easier way to appeal an insurance company’s decision to deny coverage for needed care. If an insurer still denies their claim, appeals can be made to an outside board.

- Family health insurance policies must cover adult children up to age 26 if they do not have access to job-based health insurance. Some insurance plans and employers have already made this benefit available. Check with your insurer or your company’s human resources department for more information.

- Health insurers must provide coverage to children under age 19, regardless of their health history or pre-existing conditions.

For more information on the new health care law and what it means for you, please visit www.aarp.org/getthefacts.

You can also watch a 30-minute Prairie Public television program with Senator Kent Conrad explaining what the new health care law means to you and your family. Go to www.prairiepublic.org.

AARP North Dakota News, October 2010
Volume 8, Issue 9
Rural Sexual Assault and the Need For Victim Legal Help

By: Suzanne Kramer-Brenna, ND Council on Abused Women's Services / Coalition Against Sexual Assault in ND (NDCAWS)

With most of us here in North Dakota living in non-metropolitan areas such as small towns and farms and ranches, our state is considered “rural”—a demographic with its own unique characteristics. Yet, rurality is actually “more of a ‘state of mind’ and attitude than . . . an area on a map . . . or persons per square mile” (Sims, 1988). Holding its share of benefits and virtues, rurality means farms owned by generations of the same family and closely-knit small communities. Rurality also means, for many, a deeply held religious faith and a sense of security that this place is a “safe” place to live and raise a family.

As so many women are well aware, however, life in rural ND also comes with its dangers; in particular, the danger of being raped by someone they know and trust. In 2009, 830 victims of sexual assault (SA) were served by crisis centers around North Dakota, and about 90% of victims were female (NDCAWS, 2010). From what we know about rural SA, these numbers are quite low. In fact, rural SA occurs at significantly higher rates than in urban areas but is less likely to be reported (Shugart, 2003).

And, in at least 43% of all SA cases in ND last year, the assailant was a friend/acquaintance/date/partner of the victim (NDCAWS, 2010), negating the commonly-held idea that most rapes here are “stranger” rapes. Actually, most rural SA victims know the perpetrator, often as a husband or intimate partner/boyfriend. Sexual violence within marriage or intimate relationship is a common experience among many rural women, particularly battered women who are attempting to leave the relationship. For these women, the layout of the land and rural cultural characteristics confound and complicate what is already an extremely painful and violating experience.

Strict rural social codes dictating privacy and maintaining families’ reputations also mean SAs are “mostly hidden crimes, hidden both intentionally and unintentionally by . . . [features] of a close-knit culture or an isolated lifestyle” (Lewis, 2003). Victims find not only disclosing the rape to a friend or family member but also reporting the rape and seeking legal help immensely difficult. Often, victims cannot receive the legal protection and support they need because of “unwritten cultural rules that dictate secrecy of personal problems . . . [and] the importance of family reputation over personal justice” (Shugart).

In addition, with barriers in place such as small town politics and a lack of priority given to rape cases, rural SA victims are frequently reluctant going forward with legal processes for recourse and retribution because they feel that “in the courtroom, who you know will determine the outcome . . . it’s all about who you know and how much money you have” (Logan, 2005). Legal processes are noted to be especially re-victimizing and dehumanizing, as victims are forced to tell and re-tell the details of the

(Continued on page 11)
(Rural Sexual Assault Continued from Page 10)

assault and feel the loss of control in making decisions regarding their case. The few women who make the attempt feel it “was a disaster’ and that there was ‘a disregard for humanity’ in the process” (Logan).

Victims can also face long-lasting difficulties and trauma dealing with financial and personal safety issues related to the assault. Prolonged time off from work to deal with the rape aftermath can lead to loss of income, or loss of a job. Living in close proximity to the perpetrator - the same small town or even in the same house - a victim’s personal safety is put in jeopardy. Relocating, with the lack of decent and affordable housing in many rural areas, is often an impossibility.

With all this in mind, we can see that many rural victims would benefit from affordable and accessible services from dedicated reduced fee and pro bono attorneys trained in SA-related civil and legal issues such as privacy rights, housing, employment, and protection orders. What’s more, the aid and support of an attorney can restore to the victim the basic needs and necessities taken from her as a result of the rape and ensure her current and future safety and wellbeing.

For example, a victim suffering damages can sue the offender in civil court for personal injury including assault, battery, or intentional infliction of emotional distress. Punitive damages may also be available. This gives the victim an outlet for her anger, and lets her regain some of the power the assail-

ant took from her (WV SA Legal Guide), more completely compensating her for the psychological and emotional injuries caused by the assault.

With legal help, a rural victim in certain circumstances can file an action against a third party liable for the SA, such as a person or business that was negligent in providing reasonable security or in preventing the assault. This usually requires some sort of special relationship between the victim and the person or business that failed to prevent the assault [employee-workplace, student-campus, tenant-landlord, or guest-hotel] (WV). If the assault occurred at work, a victim may be able to pursue a claim against her employer through internal workplace procedures. And, if the victim was assaulted by a professional, an attorney can also help her file a complaint before a professional administrative board. The offender can then be disciplined by this regulatory body. A complaint to one of these bodies can proceed whether or not criminal charges were filed.

Numerous rural women’s lives are changed because of SA, and the effects can last for years - or a lifetime. With certain rural cultural attitudes continuing to uphold sexual violence against women, there is much work to be done in our state around changing norms and attitudes, educating communities, and coordinating legal help to be more supportive of rural SA victims. If we are to overcome these and other barriers that victims face in entering and utilizing the legal system to seek the help they deserve, readily available and compassionate legal help is crucial.
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the promise of equal justice under law is the most fundamental tenet of our justice system; and

WHEREAS, many North Dakotans continue to lack access to legal assistance that is often critical to their independence and safety, thereby compelling them to resolve on their own, complex legal issues involving basic rights to child custody, housing, health, employment and financial security; and

WHEREAS, while members of North Dakota’s legal community donate thousands of hours of pro bono legal services and make generous financial contributions to public interest legal organizations, and, despite legislative financial support of indigent legal services, there continues to exist an unmet need for legal assistance for thousands of disadvantaged North Dakotans; and

WHEREAS, Rule 6.1 of the North Dakota Rules of Professional Conduct underscores that lawyers have a special professional obligation to ensure that our justice system is accessible to all; and

WHEREAS, Celebrate Pro Bono Week, October 24-30, 2010, sponsored by the State Bar Association of North Dakota in conjunction with the American Bar Association, is designed to educate the public about the service pro bono lawyers provide to improve the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable citizens in our state;

NOW THEREFORE, the North Dakota Judicial Branch hereby recognizes and commends all pro bono volunteers for their contributions to those in our state who are most in need, and urge all members of the State Bar Association of North Dakota to engage in this worthy civic cause.

Dated this 12th day of October, 2010.

/s/
Gerald W. VandeWalle
Chief Justice
North Dakota Supreme Court

Attest: /s/ 
Clerk of The Supreme Court

(SEAL)
LSND would like to say **THANK YOU** to all the attorneys that have accepted and/or completed a case(s) under LSND’s PAI project in 2010 or provided a presentation at our CLE’s. All your hard work and efforts are appreciated!

Christopher Carlson, Bismarck
James Coles, Bismarck
Kent Morrow, Bismarck
Susan Schmidt, Bismarck
Anne Summers, Bismarck
Rob Ackre, Cando
Joseph Vetsch, Devils Lake
Diane Melbye, Dickinson
Jason Loos, Fargo
DeAnn Pladson, Fargo
E. Jane Sundby, Fargo
Kenneth Bulie, Grand Forks
Carrie Francis, Minot
Reed Soderstrom, Minot
El Marie Conklin, New Town

Theresa Cole, Bismarck
Rebecca Graves, Bismarck
Hon. Dale Sandstrom, Bismarck
Bonnie Storbakken, Bismarck
Swain Benson, Bottineau
Michael Hurly, Devils Lake
Robert Keogh, Dickinson
Neil Gillund, Fargo
Ronald McLean, Fargo
Anna Stenson, Fargo
Margaret Bad Warrior, Ft. Yates
Lee Finstad, Grand Forks
Mark Rasmussen, Minot
Chitra Ramanathan, Moorhead MN
Don Krassin, Wahpeton
Legal Services of North Dakota’s 7th Annual Christmas Continuing Legal Education is being held at the 7 Seas in Mandan on Friday December 10th. The educational event is being provided free of charge for public interest lawyers as a thank you for the work they do. The State Bar Association of North Dakota has approved the event for 5 ½ hours of CLE credit, including 1 hour of ethics. Speakers include Justice Dale Sandstrom for the North Dakota Supreme Court, Anna Stenson an immigration lawyer from Fargo and Linda Isakson from North Dakota Council on Abused Women’s Services along with three LSND staff attorneys.

Summer Employment Opportunities
LSND will again be hiring law students for the summer of 2011. We anticipate positions in Bismarck, Minot and Fargo. The law clerk positions provide excellent hands on opportunities. Jordan Moe, a third year law student from UND worked in the Minot Law Office last summer. He had the opportunity to argue a case before the North Dakota Supreme Court.

LSND Staff Training
September:
Paulette Throntveit - North Plains Conference on Aging and Disability - Moorhead, MN.
Sara Flores - Basic Lawyer Skills, Center for Legal Aid Education, Las Vegas, NV.

October:
Brad Peterson - National Juvenile Defense Conference - Washington, DC.

November:
Kelsee MacIntosh-Elig - National Legal Aid and Defender Annual Conference, Atlanta GA.

December:
Vickie Fox - Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Conference, Washington, DC.

Additionally, a number of staff attended the SBAND Administrative Law Seminar in Bismarck on October 22nd, 2010.
Listed below are the cities and locations where Legal Services of ND conducts legal outreach. The dates and time vary; however, if you check our web site at [www.legalassist.org](http://www.legalassist.org), under the Legal Outreach Calendar you will find a current schedule complete with dates and times.

*Outreach involves our attorneys and paralegals going into the rural areas of our state to provide needed legal help and community education.*

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<tr>
<th>City</th>
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<tr>
<td>Belcourt</td>
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<td>Belcourt</td>
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<td>Burleigh County Senior Center</td>
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<td>Sunset Senior Center</td>
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<td>Jamestown</td>
<td>James River Senior Citizen Center</td>
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<td>Mandan</td>
<td>Golden Age Services Senior Center</td>
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<td>Minot</td>
<td>Commission on Aging</td>
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<td>Minot</td>
<td>Milton Young Towers</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Town</td>
<td>Legal Services Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valley City</td>
<td>South Central Senior Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wahpeton</td>
<td>Senior Center</td>
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<td>Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Williston</td>
<td>Williams County Courthouse</td>
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<td>Williston</td>
<td>Heritage Center</td>
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**LSND BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laurel Forsberg, President</th>
<th>Wade Enget, New Town, ND</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Williston, ND</td>
<td>Al Lerberg, Parshall, ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Tomlinson, Vice President</td>
<td>Paul Murphy, Carrington, ND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minot, ND</td>
<td>Robert Manly, Fargo, ND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Kae Kelsch, Secretary/Treasurer</td>
<td>Veronica Kirkaldie DeVils Lake, ND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bismarck, ND</td>
<td>Gary Ramsey, Dickinson, ND</td>
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<td>Jodi Colling, Mandan, ND</td>
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<td>Alan McDonagh, Grand Forks, ND</td>
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<td>Dr. Larry Goresapo, Belcourt, ND</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal Services of North Dakota
1025 N 3rd Street
PO Box 1893
Bismarck ND 58502-1893

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

LSND Secretaries:
Kelli Moe, Minot
Audrey Solheim, Bismarck
Beth Brown, Bismarck

LSND Other:
Keith Engbrecht, Finances, Bismarck
Willa Rhoads, PAI, Bismarck
Audrey Wingerter, Legal Assistant, Bismarck
Gale Coleman, Intake Coordinator, Minot
Lois Luchsinger, Legal Assistant, Minot
Crystal Davis-Wolfrum, Intake, Minot
Clarine DeGroot, Office Mgr., New Town
Kiley Hermanson, Legal Assistant, Fargo
Jessie Van Camp, Extern, Fargo
Ismael Pease, Extern, Fargo

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Mikayla Jablonski, Bismarck
Meredith Vukelic, Bismarck
Jim Fitzsimmons, Bismarck
Rich LeMay, Minot
Ed Reinhardt, Minot
Bob Will, New Town
Linda Catalano, Fargo
Kelsee Macintosh-Ellig, Fargo
Sarah Flores, Fargo

LSND Paralegals:
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Vickie Fox, New Town
Paulette Throntveit, Fargo
Stacey Fetzer, Bismarck
Tom Masa, Minot

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