

and "getting to know you" day. All participants divided into work teams, so that each team had some from every community in it.

The real work began at 6:30 the next morning, when all volunteers needed to be getting up and ready for the day. Breakfast was served promptly at 7 a.m., and volunteers made their own sack lunches. Cleaning up the kitchen and living areas by team was followed by morning devotions time. They would head out to their work stations by about 10 a.m.

The two main projects the group worked on were assisting with a kids' club (two days) and painting houses (two days). There was preparation and clean-up time for each. And there was time for side-trips as well. They visited a nursing home, took in a national forest with a foot bridge across a canyon, visited with a government worker, saw the memorial site/grave of Sacajawea, and bought some handicrafts.

It was sunny and hot there, so shower time was after they

returned from their work sites each day. They had a little bit of free time before supper, and when that was cleaned up, they had praise and worship time.

Michael, one of the staff members, often spoke to them in the evenings. Thursday night's worship included a foot washing ceremony.

"It's a good experience for the kids," explains Pastor Beth, who also went last year. "It allows them to see and experience other things, and work and serve in a different way. Hopefully, they bring back a new perspective. It's challenging to see the poverty there. [But] the evening group time really helps the kids process what they've seen."

This was Jessica Hager's first trip with YouthWorks. "Even with how the people were living, it was amazing to see how God was still working! I felt God's love everywhere," she recounted. "I learned that a lot of the stereotypes we hear aren't true, and that we take things for granted. I already knew that, but seeing 20 people live in one house helped me really realize how much we do have."

Jessica helped with the kids crafts during kids' club. "[the kids] were so happy, and just wanted to

be loved. They wanted hugs instead of High-5s."

Kayla Ramsay echoed Jessica's comments. "It was great. I love teaching the kids. And, yes, I would do it again!"

Even the males on the trip enjoyed it. Highlights were "the fellowship with other believers and playing games with the kids," said Reese Johnson.

"One thing I noticed, is that compared to Belcourt, the houses were very close together, and looked better/cleaner at Belcourt," said Brett Hardy.

His highlight was also working with the kids. He was in the "reading group" that read Bible stories and stories that the kids picked out. "On the last day, one kid gave me a hug and told me that he loved me," Brett said.

This was Brett's second outing with YouthWorks, and he enjoyed it more this time, because he was more relaxed and got to know the staff better.

Corey Flaagan thought the best part of the trip was making new friends. He made friend with the people from the other groups, as well as the people with which they worked. "I helped with the crafts during day camp. We made bird out of paper and bracelets from beads and yarn."

Even though his "worst memory" of the trip was the trip (riding all the way down there in cramped quarters with luggage between your legs), he would still do it again next year.

Chaperone Karla Henschel said she would absolutely do it again. "The highlight was helping the kids. Logistically, painting the houses was more of a challenge. We finished one full house, most of a second, and began a third."

The local group was able to offer some ideas to the YouthWorks team, like storing wet brushes in plastic in the freezer to reduce the amount of clean-up time. "They did a great job on a very low budget," Karla continued. "Even the meals were decent...It was worth my week's vacation!"

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

relating to Reclamation and Gas Pipeline Safety.

Public Service Commission


will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the N.D. Admin. Code.

Commission Hearing Rm. 12th Floor State Capitol Bismarck, ND

Tues., Aug. 9, 2011 10:00 a.m.

A copy of the proposed rules may be obtained by writing the Public Service Commission, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 408, Bismarck, ND 58505-0480 or by calling (701) 328-2400, toll free 1-877-245-6685 or Relay North Dakota TTY: 1-800-366-6888 or NDPS@ND.gov. This information is also available to view on our web site at www.psc.state.nd.us under "Formal Actions/Case Search". Also, written comments may be submitted to the Public Service Commission at the above address, until September 26, 2009. If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the Public Service Commission by telephone or by writing to the address above at least 24 hours prior to the public hearing.

Kevin Cramer, Commissioner
Tony Clark, Chairman
Brian P. Kalk, Commissioner



Birdling BITS BY Cindy Brook

Hatchling

I saw my first baby cardinal of the season. She was so cute. Still a little fuzzy with a short, whisk-broom tail. But what I loved about her most of all were her big, bright, shiny eyes. Eyes new to the world. I love birds!

E-mail: birdlingbits@cfl.rr.com
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