



EVENT NOTICE – Friday, September 26, 2025
Fargo Public School District #1

The following information is for media outlets for the purpose of assigning staff coverage to the event.

**LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO GET HANDS-ON
EXPERIENCE WITH SNAKES**

Snakes might be slithery and scaly, but they don't have to be scary.

- WHAT:** Snake Keeper Russell Keys visit
WHEN: **Monday, September 29** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
WHERE: Longfellow Elementary School, 20 29th Avenue North, Fargo
CONTACT: **Caira Pfau**, Longfellow fifth grade teacher, pfau@fargo.k12.nd.us or 701.446.5027 for more information.

About 80 fifth grade students at Longfellow Elementary School will get an up close and personal look at a collection of snakes as they are visited by snake keeper Russell Keys. Keys is bringing 10-20 snakes to the school to give the students a hands-on experience with the slithery creatures.

Keys will give a presentation about the snakes, sharing important biological facts and information about the snakes, primarily corn snakes, pine snakes, kingsnakes, and rat snakes. He hopes to show the students that snakes can be friendly and can be touched under the correct circumstances.

Keys keeps snakes as a hobby, raising approximately 600 baby snakes a year. He hosts a yearly program in his hometown of Carrington, N.D. called Snake Day, at which he gives presentations about snakes. He has also given presentations about snakes at Fort Totten Historic Site and White Horse Hill National Game Preserve, where he volunteers and works on the board of directors.

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