

**\*FPCC Press Release\***

Summer 2014 has kicked off at Fort Peck Community College with an exciting new venture through the Ag Department, a community garden. The garden will be located in the lot north of the FPCC James Shanley Library on the Poplar Campus. The community garden's dimensions will be 150 feet by 100 feet and house a variety of organic, Non-GMO vegetables, herbs and roots. The garden will be a five phase project; Phase 1- Ground Clean Up, Phase 2- Soil Preparation, Phase 3- Fencing, Phase 4-Planting and Phase 5-Harvesting . Due to rainy weather in the beginning of May and extensive work in Phase 2, the garden was delayed with planting, but with the help and volunteers from the Fort Peck Tribes Transportation Program, McGowan Farms, and the FPCC DeMaND Program, the soil preparation phase is nearly completed and the expected planting phase should commence by the first week of June. In addition to the community garden, the group is busy around campus with a Tire Flower Planter Project, Farmer's Market Project, Wild West Days Outreach Project and landscaping.



The FPCC staff involved with the project includes Larry Wetsit, Adriann Ricker, Scott Smoker and Terrance Gourneau. In addition to the staff, there are five FPCC College Student Interns and one High School Mentoree student. The Ag Intern Crew includes two Army Combat Veterans, Alex Herral & Marty Reum, one Army Veteran, Jordis Ferguson, and one Air Force Veteran, O'Dale Brown; all of which show their fortitude, resiliency and work ethic on a daily basis. It should be noted as well that Alex Herral served as the 2014 FPCC Valedictorian. In addition to our veterans, Nikolas Ogle, a FPCC Student, and his brother Connor Ogle, high school student, are on board and developing strong work skills and invaluable knowledge about cultivating the land. The crew would like to thank the direction of area gardeners and farmers, as well as local businesses Steamboat Dry Goods and Gysler's Do It Best Hardware for their help. If you would like to volunteer or know more about the garden please contact Adriann Ricker at 406-768-6331 or stop by the DeMaND/Ag Intern office downstairs of Greet the Dawn.