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Wednesday, January 30, 2013

Volume 38 • Number 50

## Richland County Farm Service Agency Aids Farmers & Community



Pictured here is the staff at the FSA office. Back row L to R: Jeff Nielsen, Tammy Lake, Kayleen Peters. Front row L to R: Tiffany Steffan and Kyra Hagberg.

By Ashley Harris

Although the overview generated for the Farm Service Agency states, 'The Farm Service Agency administers farm commodity, crop insurance, credit, environmental, conservation and emergency assistance programs for farmers and ranchers', that doesn't begin to describe the in-depth work they do. The employees at the Richland County FSA office do far more than what can be described in one overview statement.

The Richland County FSA office has a County Executive Director and four Program Technicians that can assist you with the various programs they offer. Each Program Technician handles specific programs and duties.

The county executive director, Tammy Lake, has been with the FSA for 22 years now. After being a program technician herself, she put in for the director position and got it. She directs and manages the program and administration operations for the Richland County office.

Kyra Hagberg, originally from Harlowtown, MT, has been with the FSA for a little over a year now. Her main focus is the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), which is a voluntary program available to agricultural producers to help safeguard environmentally sensitive land. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. Hagberg also covers office administration and Emergency Conservation Program, which is emergency funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to fix farmland damaged by natural disasters and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought.

Jeff Nielsen, originally from Plentywood, MT, has also been with the FSA for about a year. His main focus is on the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP). The DCP provides income support to producers of eligible commodities based on production history, such as acreage and yields. It does not depend on the current production choices. Counter-cyclical payments are made when the effective price for eligible commodities is less than the target price. Nielsen also keeps all farm record changes, such as sale or lease of property. Along those same lines, Nielsen also takes care of

the Geographical Information System (GIS). GIS uses satellite imagery to look at fields. He is responsible for making adjustments due to oil wells, or land changes.

Tiffany Steffan, Sidney native, has been with the FSA about 4 months now. Her main focus is on crop certification. Any producer that participates in the various FSA programs is required to report total crop acres in the spring to the FSA office. So between May and July the producers come into the office to report what crops were seeded, when they were seeded and what their intended use is. Steffan also handles two different loan programs as well. One of the programs is the Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL). FSFL provides low-interest financing for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The other program is Marketing Assistance Loan which provides producers with financing at harvest time to meet cash flow needs when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows.

Kayleen Peters, also a Sidney native, has been with the FSA right around 3 months. Her main focus is on Disaster Programs, such as Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). SURE provides assistance to producers that suffered from crop losses due to natural disasters. The program is currently accepting claims for the 2011 crop year up through June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Along the same lines, NAP provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when natural disasters cause low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting from occurring. Peters also handles payment eligibility, which is required of all producers wanting to participate in any FSA programs. The main thing that eligibility is based on is whether a person or entity is "actively engaged in farming", cash rent tenant, or a foreign person.

The Farm Service Agency is very important to Richland County, as it also works with the County Commissioners on disaster paperwork. In the case of a natural disaster, such as a flood or severe drought, the two entities work together to get the paperwork put together and sent in to the governor's office. As Tammy Lake, County Executive Director stated, "We play a pivotal role to those designations." So FSA not only aids farmers and ranchers in the area, but also the entire community.

The Richland County FSA office is located just out of town at 2745 W. Holly St. in Sidney. They can be contacted at 406-433-2103.

## Bills for the Bakken: Proposals Abound to Address Infrastructure, Education Needs

By Amy R. Sisk

Renee Rasmussen spread both arms wide in front of her to demonstrate the magnitude of the problems facing her eastern Montana school district as it endures a steady stream of new students, largely thanks to the oil boom.

"It keeps me up at night," the Bainville School District superintendent told a committee of lawmakers last week. "I do not have a method to pay for teacher housing or to pay for the school, whether that be \$60,000 modular classrooms or whether that be an add-on."

It's no secret that towns like Bainville along the oil-rich Bakken formation face a number of logistical challenges as workers and their families flock to the area. People cannot find places to live, towns must build larger sewage and water systems, crime has increased and roads need repair.

One of the big issues lawmakers face during this legislative session is how the state can help communities like Bainville grapple with the boom.

Legislators heard testimony last week on the first of a number of proposals to help the Bakken – most of them bills that would help the region financially.

Rep. Rob Cook, R-Conrad, said people across Montana reap benefits from the government's take of oil production tax revenue and federal mineral royalties, but it's the communities along the Bakken that need it most right now.

Utilities at capacity

Cook, along with several other legislators from both parties, has a bill in the works to handle what he deems the most critical of infrastructure needs: water and sewerage.

"When you get to capacity, you can't build any more housing," he said. "Until you solve the water and sewer infrastructure issues, you can't even begin to solve the housing issues."

His proposal would send 25 percent of the state's share of federal mineral royalties to cities and towns in the region. That money, which amounts to about \$8 million a year, would match counties' current take of the royalties. Currently, the state gets 50 percent of federal mineral royalties. Of that, 75 percent goes to the state's general fund and 25 percent goes to counties. Under Cook's proposal, the state would get 50 percent, cities would get 25 percent and counties would get 25 percent.

Additionally, the bill would send a one-time lump sum of \$15 million to the region, a figure identical to what Gov. Steve Bullock laid out in his proposed budget. It would also send \$10 million over each of the following two years, at which point the royalties kick in.

Another proposal, House Bill 218, would establish a grant program through the Montana Board of Oil and Gas.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Duane Ankney, R-Colstrip, told the House Appropriations Committee last week that under his proposal, cities could submit applications to the board for specific infrastructure projects. The board would then disperse up to 25 percent of the state's share of federal mineral royalties to fund the proposals.

Representatives from the Montana Organizing Project and the Northern Plains Resource Council spoke in opposition of the bill, although both said they agree with its intent.

"We cannot support transferring revenue from the general fund, hurting other community programs across the state," said Sheena Rice, a community organizer for the Montana Organizing Project.

Rather than take away money from the state treasury to address impacts, she suggested the financial burden fall on companies gaining the most from development.

Funding schools

As some lawmakers advocate for infrastructure needs, others look for ways to ease the burden on schools.

Legislation passed during the previous session restricted the amount of oil tax revenue school districts in oil-producing areas could keep, capping it at 130 percent of districts' budgets. Any remaining revenue went to the state.

A number of eastern Montana districts have received an influx of students whose parents moved to the area for work,

Continued on page 16.



## Rau School Student of the Quarter

Rau School is pleased to announce Zoe Thom as our Student of the Quarter. Zoe is the daughter of Jesse & Jodi Thom of Sidney. Zoe is an outstanding and enthusiastic learner. She is an extraordinarily creative writer, and genuinely enjoys “playing” with words. Zoe puts 110% into any and all academic tasks. It is fun to see her face light up when she is about to learn something new. However, academics are not her only strengths. She is also a good friend to her schoolmates. She is always ready to help others, or draw friends into a unique game. We at Rau are proud to award Zoe Student of the Quarter.



Zoe Thom

## Brorson Elementary Student of the Month



Casey Wells

Casey Wells is Brorson Elementary School's student of the month. Casey is the son of Joe and Trish Wells. He is in Kindergarten. Casey is a very willing, hard worker. He is always ready to help someone else and be their friend. Casey enjoys reading books. When he grows up he wants to drive a semi-truck like his Dad.

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## Textile Workshop Feb 9

There is still space in workshops scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 9 at the MonDak Heritage Center. The same workshop will be offered at 9am and again at 1pm. Marie Shirley Jones, from Red Lodge, will answer questions regarding her work which has been on exhibit at the MonDak this month, and will guide participants through several of her methods for dyeing and transfer work. She incorporates many artistic approaches into her unique and wonderful work. Come see her work for a preview of the workshop. Space is limited. Registration is \$20.

Questions or Comments? Email us at mdhc@richland.org or call 406-433-3500

The MonDak Heritage Center is located at 120 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE, Sidney, MT.

# Sidney Students of the Month



Tyler Watterson

Tyler Watterson is Student of the Month at West Side School. He takes initiative, making sure jobs get completed. Tyler is always willing to help others and is conscientious and kind-hearted. His positive attitude and hard work makes him successful in Math. Bowling and computer math games are his favorites. Tyler is the son of Bob Watterson.



Garret Leland

Sidney Middle School is proud to announce Garret

Leland as the Student of the Month. Garret has been selected for this honor due to the positive expectations he fulfills of being safe, responsible, respectful, and a learner at Sidney Middle School. Garret is a student who is always hard working and is diligent when it comes to his studies. Garret respects and is respected by students and teachers alike. He is always willing to pitch in and give a hand whenever needed.

Outside of school, Garret keeps busy with numerous interests and activities. He has been an active member of the 4-H Club, volunteering with service projects, and has shown a steer each year at the fair. Garret also loves hunting and helping out on the family ranch. Garret excels in football, playing on both sides of the ball, wrestling, and throwing the discus and shot put for the Sidney Middle School Track and Field program. Garret, an eighth grader, is the son of Tim and Tammy Leland.

The Foreign Language Department has chosen French III student Courtney Anderson and Spanish II student Taylor Thiessen as their outstanding students. Both

students are self-motivated, cooperative students who actively participate in class. They are eager to learn and continue to strengthen their knowledge in all aspects of the language. With their enthusiasm and perseverance they are exemplary role models for fellow students. Courtney is the granddaughter of Mary Lou Anderson and Taylor is the daughter of Tony & Lesley Thiessen.



Courtney Anderson



Taylor Thiessen

Ryan

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2013 Ram 1500 Tradesman Quad Cab



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\$29,069

2013 Ram 1500 Sport Quad Cab



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\$40,975



# MDT Schedules Two Informational Meetings To Discuss MT16/MT 200 Glendive To Fairview Speed Limit Investigation

Submitted by Lori Ryan

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is conducting two informational meetings to discuss the MT 16 / MT 200 Glendive to Fairview speed limit investigation. The area of investigation begins on MT 16 at approximately Reference Post (RP) 0.6 at the I-94 Interchange in Glendive and extends northeasterly to the intersection of County Road 123 (RP 50.4) south of Sidney. The investigation resumes at Sidney's northern

city limit boundary (RP 52.6) north of the MT 200 intersection with Holly Street, and extends northeast on MT 200 to the Fairview city limits (RP 62.5). The investigation excludes areas within the city limits of Glendive, Sidney, and Fairview. It also excludes the special speed limit already established for the community of Savage (R.P. 32.0).

The purpose of the meetings is to:

- \* discuss the concept of establishing a 65-mph day/

night speed limit for cars and trucks on the rural portions of these highways,

- \* explain the findings of the speed limit investigation and,

- \* gather public comment.

The informational meetings will be held in the following locations:

- \* Monday, February 4, 2013, starting at 6 p.m. at the Dawson Community College, 300 College Drive, Ullman Center Lecture Hall (UC 102) in Glendive, MT

- \* Tuesday, February 5, 2013, starting at 6 p.m. at the Sidney High School cafeteria, 1012 4th Avenue South East, Sidney, MT

Both meetings will have the same agenda and will follow the same format.

## Super Bowl Partiers Should Plan Ahead

Submitted by Charity Watt Levis

One of the biggest party days of the year brings fans together to enjoy the 47<sup>th</sup> Super Bowl game on Sunday, February 3. If you are among those who will be joining friends at a local bar or house party, the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) advises care in planning a safe and sober ride home.

The reminder from MDT also points out that serving alcohol in your home can make you liable if something happens such as personal injury or property damage caused by an intoxicated guest. And for your friends, the impact of a DUI arrest can last for years or the rest of their lives. Almost half of the deaths on Montana roads

occur in crashes where alcohol is involved.

The state agency provides these tips for enjoying the big game while reducing the many costly risks associated with drinking and driving.

Provide games or entertainment that do not involve drinking. Imbibing alcoholic beverages need not be the central activity of the gathering.

Serve alternatives to alcoholic beverages. Many fun and interesting recipes are available. Your guests may enjoy experimenting with non-alcoholic juices, sparkling ciders, mixers and flavored syrups.

Supply plenty of food throughout the party.

Recruit some of your guests to provide a sober ride

or help friends get home in a cab.

Arrange overnight accommodation for those who shouldn't drive themselves home.

Stop serving alcohol well before the end of the party. You can serve a special "second-half" punch that is non-alcoholic.

As a party host, stay alert, and be aware of how much your guests are drinking.

If you are going out with friends, choose a bar that is near a hotel where you can book rooms rather than drive home.

For more safety-related information please access the Montana Department of Transportation's website [www.plan2live.mt.gov](http://www.plan2live.mt.gov)



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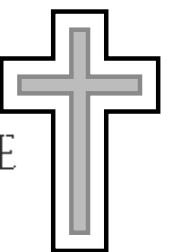
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STATISTICS

Lake Water Level Reports

	Fort Peck	Sakakawea
Current Elevation.....	2250.0	1828.5
Last Week's Elev. ....	2234.0	1829.9
One Year Ago .....	2235.6	1838.3
Release For Day (C.F.S.) .....	12,400	23,100

Watford City Weather Data

Source: North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Jan. 21.....	3	-9	16
Jan. 22.....	5	2	18
Jan. 23.....	16	3	18
Jan. 24.....	6	4	18
Jan. 25.....	11	5	20
Jan. 26.....	21	18	22
Jan. 27.....	39	15	23

Sidney Weather Data

Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Jan. 21.....	8	-6	0.00
Jan. 22.....	20	5	0.03
Jan. 23.....	9	3	0.00
Jan. 24.....	34	6	0.00
Jan. 25.....	26	7	0.00
Jan. 26.....	38	14	0.01
Jan. 27.....	33	18	0.00
Average YTD Precipitation.....			0.45

# Dryland Research Focus of NPARL BrownBagger

**Submitted by Beth Redlin**

With only 13-14 inches of average annual rainfall, dry-land farmers in the MonDak region need to know the best farming strategies for utilizing that limited moisture and improving nutrient use to sustain yields and remain profitable. Researchers with the USDA-Agricultural Research Service's Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory (NPARL) in Sidney are studying new rotations and management practices to help make that happen and ARS Agronomist Brett Allen will share results from existing dryland research and upcoming new projects as part of the lab's BrownBagger series this Friday, Feb. 1.

Dr. Allen's presentation, entitled "Dryland Cropping Research in NE Montana," runs from noon to 1 pm, and addresses diversified cropping systems incorporating pulse crops such as pea and lentil, oilseeds such as canola and camelina, and dryland corn, as well as long-term projects looking at spring wheat and durum management and diversification. He will also briefly discuss other new and ongoing research focusing on studies of cover crops and a new national project on oilseeds for biofuels.

NPARL's 2013 BrownBagger series is held in the lab's Tech Transfer Room on Fridays, from noon to 1 p.m. The lab

is located at 1500 N. Central Avenue in Sidney, MT.

Other speakers in this year's series include:

Friday, February 15: Gadi V.P. Reddy, New Superintendent & Associate Professor of Entomology/Insect Ecology at Montana State University's Western Triangle Ag Research Center; "Integrated Control Tactics of insect pests in Tropical and Subtropical Crops"

Friday, March 1: Erin Espeland, NPARL Plant Ecologist; "Production farm location affects subsequent seed performance in Sandberg's bluegrass"

Friday, March 15: Robert Srygley, NPARL Insect Ecologist, "U.S. Agriculture in a Changing Climate"

Friday, March 29: Upendra Sainju, NPARL Soil Scientist; "Life-cycle assessment of dryland greenhouse gas emissions affected by cropping sequence and nitrogen fertilization"

For more information, contact Beth Redlin at 406-433-9427.

# EVENTS

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## Richland County

**Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT Zone.**

**Thurs., Jan.31**  
**12 p.m.—** The Sidney Kiwanis Club meets every Thursday at noon at the Elks Lodge.  
**12 p.m.—** Savage Senior Center will host a meal.  
**12:45 - 1:45 p.m. —** Sidney Senior Ciiizen Center will be having a potluck lunch and cards. For more info. call 406-433-8077.  
**5 p.m. —** TOPS, Crestwood NW entrance, Weigh-ins 5-5:30 p.m., Meeting 5:30-6 p.m.  
**6:30p.m.—** Sidney Moose Lodge Pinocle games.  
**7 p.m. –** NAN Concert "Bottom Line Duo", Sidney Middle School.  
**7 p.m. —** Interfaith Community Outreach will host a Coffee Hour at the LDS Church, 1215 5th St SW.  
**8 p.m. —** NA meeting, Millers' Corner banquet room.

**Fri., Feb. 1**  
**11:30 a.m. —** Sidney Senior Citizen Center will be hosting a meal. For more info call 406-433-8077.  
**1p.m. —**Fairview Senior Citizens meeting, cards and meal at local cafe. More info , call Elaine Portra, president, 742-5635, Elmina Cook, 742-5286

**Sat., Feb. 2**  
**9 a.m. —** AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg.  
**10 a.m. —** Gamblers Anonymous at Millers' Corner.  
**7 p.m. —** AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg.  
**7 p.m. —** Celebrating Chocolate at MonDak Heritage Center, tickets available at The Heritage Center.

**Sun., Feb. 3**  
**1 p.m. —** Savage Senior Center will be hosting cards, coffee, and potluck at 1pm.  
**6:45 p.m.—** Early Bird Bingo at the Moose Lodge regular bingo at 7 p.m.  
**7 p.m. —** AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg.

**Mon., Feb. 4**  
**11:30 a.m. —** Sidney Senior Citizen Center will be hosting a meal. For more info call 406-433-8077.  
**Noon —** AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg.  
**5:30 - 8:00 p.m. —** Sidney Area Dollars for Scholars Phonathon.

**Tues. Feb. 5**  
**5:30 - 8:00 p.m. —** Sidney Area Dollars for Scholars Phonathon.  
**7 p.m. —** AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg.

**Wed., Feb. 6**  
**11:30a.m. - 1p.m. —**The Sidney Women of the Moose will serve soup until gone.  
**6 p.m. - 8p.m. —** Interfaith Community Outreach will host a free meal and get acquainted at the Assembly of God church, 414 E. Main St.

## McKENZIE COUNTY

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT Zone.

**Wed., Jan. 30**  
**8 p.m.—** Al-Anon, Sanford Room, McKenzie Co. Public Library.

**Thurs., Jan. 31**  
**8 p.m.—** AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride.

View all monthly events on our calendar at [www.roundupweb.com](http://www.roundupweb.com).

## NEMLMOA Meeting

The Northeast Montana Land and Mineral Owners Association will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at the Nemont Friendship Room in Scobey, MT. The meeting will begin at 2 p.m.

Anyone with questions or concerns related to oil and gas activity is encouraged to attend the meeting.

## Small Steps to Health & Wealth

**By Ludmila Keller**

With the beginning of 2013, millions of New Year's Resolutions have been made. Popular resolutions range from losing weight to improving finances, and are a great way to start a new year and new life. Unfortunately, it is not long after New Year's Day that many of us break our resolutions. While people start out energized with sweeping resolutions, they may soon reach a wall on how to achieve them. A better approach would be to identify small action steps which are easily attainable in our day-to-day lives. For instance, reducing calories by as little as 100 per day or taking 10-minute walks after dinner could produce a 10-15 pound weight loss in a year's time.

If your New Year's Resolution involves improving your health or wealth, consider participating in the *Small Steps to Health and Wealth™* program. As part of Sidney High School's Adult Education program, Richland Extension will offer this fun 9-week program, which encourages participants to make positive behavior changes to simultaneously improve their health and personal finances. Participants will learn about 25 behavioral strategies that are effective for improving health and wealth, and will be encouraged to pick 3 or 4 strategies to apply to your own life. This is a great opportunity to find out how you can increase your savings, cut spending or lose a few pounds among others. To register call FCS Extension Agent Ludmila Keller at 406-433-1206. The program will take place from 5:30PM to 6:30PM at the Sidney High School, starting January 31. Registration is \$20 (free for seniors) and includes a workbook. Let's take the small steps to realize our resolutions.

## Bennie Bernhardt Eschenbacher, 95, Froid, MT

Funeral services for Bernhardt "Ben" Eschenbacher, age 95 of Froid, were at 10:00 a.m., Monday, January 28, 2013 at the Froid Lutheran Church in Froid, MT. Burial was in the Grandview Cemetery, near Froid, MT.

Ben passed away Wednesday, January 23, at the Roosevelt Memorial Nursing Home in Culbertson, MT.

## Kathleen "Katie" Pust, 65, Sidney, MT

Funeral service for Kathleen "Katie" Pust, 65 of Sidney was 10:00 a.m., Saturday, January 26, 2013, at the Sidney Lutheran Brethren Church in Sidney with Pastor Matt Richards officiating. Interment was held in the Lambert Cemetery, Lambert, MT under the direction of the Fulkerson Funeral Home of Sidney. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

Kathleen "Katie" died on Tuesday evening, January 22, 2013, at her home in Sidney, MT.

## Albert DeMangelaere, 95, Sidney, MT

Albert DeMangelaere, age 95, died early Friday morning, January 25, 2013 at the Sidney Health Center in Sidney, MT. Cremation has taken place and a service will be held at a later date under the direction of the Fulkerson Funeral Home of Sidney.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).



# Richland County Injury Prevention Team Would Like To Acknowledge And Thank Blue Rock Companies

Submitted by Richland County Injury Prevention Team

During 2013 The Richland County Injury Prevention Team would like to recognize a local business each month that promotes responsible, safe and positive practices with their employees. The team believes that safety policies implemented in the workplace not only create a safe work environment but also help keep our community safe. Employees not only use these practices at work but take them home, which make them great role models in our community.

Blue Rock Companies implemented and has had in

effect a Seat Belt Policy since 1987 and NO Cell Phone Use Policy for their employees for over 10 years. By implementing this policy they are not only keeping their employees safe so they can go home each night to their families but also return again to work...by keeping our community safe. With increased traffic on our roadways these two policies alone will keep their drivers safe and alert to other drivers who may be distracted.

Karen Olson Beenken shared with Richland County Injury Prevention Team: "The safety and health of our employees and the communities we serve are very important to us. We work hard to

provide a strong backbone and a safe working environment for our employees. Seat belt use and safe cell phone use are two very easy ways to help people stay safe. We recognize people are human and make mistakes, but if we can help raise the level of consciousness by putting policies in place that prevent accidents, then our employees are safe and the communities are as well."

The injury prevention team would like to applaud the efforts of Blue Rock Companies and their employees for caring about the safety of our community. By putting the policy into action they are encouraging good driving habits which in turn will be

paid forward when their drivers model good driving practices to others who look to them as a role model.

Thank You Blue Rock For All You Do In Support Of Our Community.

If your business has, or if you know a business that has a Seat Belt Policy, a No Usage Cell Phone Policy or other policies that help make Richland County a safer place to enjoy life please contact Mary Friesz, Richland County Injury Prevention Specialist at the Richland County Health Department 433-2207. The Richland County Injury Prevention Team can also assist you in creating & implementing policies.

## January National Stalking Awareness Month

Submitted by Richland County Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Stalking consists of any persistent and unwanted behavior that causes or intends to cause fear or harm in a victim and is illegal in all 50 states. According to Montana Code Annotated 45-5-220, "a person commits the offense of stalking if the person purposely or knowingly causes another person substantial emotional distress or reasonable apprehension of bodily injury or death by repeatedly:

(a) following the stalked person; or

(b) harassing, threatening, or intimidating the stalked person, in person or by mail, electronic communication, or any other action, device, or method. For the first offense, a person convicted of stalking shall be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not to exceed 1 year or fined an amount not to exceed \$1,000, or both. For a second or subsequent offense or for a first offense against a victim who was under the protection of a restraining order directed at the offender, the

offender shall be imprisoned in the state prison for a term not to exceed 5 years or fined an amount not to exceed \$10,000, or both. A person convicted of stalking may be sentenced to pay all medical, counseling, and other costs incurred by or on behalf of the victim as a result of the offense."

Stalking behavior includes asking the victim's friends, family, school or employer for personal information, or searching for it on the internet, to use it to keep track of a victim. Calling, emailing, and texting repeatedly are also stalking. Showing up at the same place as your victim repeatedly is not a coincidence, it is stalking. Other examples of stalking include spreading rumors and misinformation about the victim and vandalizing a victim's personal property.

These behaviors may not be illegal on their own and each behavior individually may not prove that you are being stalked. Stalkers often plan their actions carefully so they are less likely to be reported. However, it is the pattern of incidents added

together that cause a victim to feel fear and may constitute stalking.

"Cyber-stalking" is another form of stalking and is also illegal. Any of the above mentioned behaviors done via the internet may fall under the definition of "cyber-stalking". If you are wondering where to draw the line between feeling like you have a secret admirer or are the victim of a stalker, consider if the attention you are receiving is wanted and flattering or unwanted and you feel afraid or intimidated by the person.

Richland County Coalition Against Domestic Violence is here to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse, and stalking with filling out applications for orders of protection and safety planning. We hold a women's support group and offer limited short term housing for victims and their children. Our phone number is 406-433-7421 and the office is staffed Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. We can also be reached through the hospital at 406-488-2100 and law enforcement at 406-433-2919 or 406-433-2210.

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ROI Relies on Legislative Action

Submitted by Cindy L. Elson

Many people know that Richland Opportunities, Inc. (ROI) provides recycling opportunities for much of Richland County. Or area residents may know that ROI provides group homes and an apartment complex for people with developmental disabilities. ROI does all of the above and more. ROI's mission is to provide services to adults with developmental or intellectual disabilities. This support is provided by staff working with people in their homes, at their place of employment or by providing transportation. However, most people do not understand how ROI is paid to provide this range of services and the need for legislative action.

ROI is a private non-profit agency that contracts with the State of Montana's Department of Public Health and Human Services. The contract is paid through a rate reimbursement system for those with developmental disabilities and every two years as part of the legislative process, the rate of payment is established. This rate is set in House Bill 2, which renders financial support for the Department of Public Health and Human Services. In the 2011 legislative session, Medicaid rates were reduced by 3.2% or back to rates paid in July of 2008. This decrease has had negative impacts on ROI and its services.

Usually when a business has to cut costs, there is an option to reduce employee's hours. Because ROI's rate is tied to a specific number of staff hours, ROI cannot decrease the number of staff hours, cut their hours

of service or close their facilities. ROI does not have the option of requesting mill levies or increasing tuition to cover shortfalls as schools or higher education do. Though there was a decrease in ROI's budget, the costs for providing services have risen and these costs have been further hastened by the demands of the local economy. ROI completed a comparison of our current costs versus the costs in July of 2008. The significant percentage of cost increases are overtime hours - 298.83%, staff recruitment—32. 6%, fuel costs – 10%, food costs – 27.9%, housekeeping supplies – 36.94%, gasoline cost - 47.5%, and rentals – 144%

The increased costs have impacted ROI immensely. However, the increase in costs and decrease in budget is only part the whole scenario in Sidney. In October, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program completed a telephone survey of local residents. The survey results estimated the average cost of living in Sidney at \$2,939 per month with ROI paying an average wage of \$1,666 per month. ROI has increased staff wages by 8% since 2008, but the lack of increase in the rate has lead to a severe hiring dis-

advantage for ROI. Currently ROI is spending 99% of the money earned through the contact to staff wages and benefits.

Until 2010, ROI was one of the top 10 private employers in Richland County, employing an average staff of 45. At this time, ROI has a workforce of 32, a decrease of 30% of their necessary staffing and this has placed a huge burden on ROI. ROI has paid 550 hours of overtime per month for the last year, in order to receive the full rate that is allowed,. The decrease in the rate reimbursement has devastating consequences for ROI. When asked about what the community could do, Cindy Elson, ROI's executive director responded, " First let me thank the community for their support. With the community's assistance in financial donations and gifts in kind, we have been able to enhance the lives of people who we support. Now we need people to contact the legislature. The more people who contact their legislators about ROI and its need, the more likely there will be a positive response. If people need more information, please call me at (406) 488-3341 ext. 4 or email at roi@midrivers.com."

Class C Tournament Helpers Needed

Sidney High School is hosting the Class "C" District Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament, starting on Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, and continuing to the Final games on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. A total of 24 games will be contested over that six day time span. The tournament is in need of helpers in scorekeeping, and score clock operation for the tourney. Anyone interested, please contact the Activities Office at Sidney High School.



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# Sidney High School BPA Regional Meet

Sidney High School's Business Professionals of America hosted the regional meet on Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Marcos Aguilar, Grade 12: 8<sup>th</sup> Place, Business Meeting Management; 9<sup>th</sup> Place, Banking & Finance; 9<sup>th</sup> Place, Legal Office Procedures  
Heidi Anderson, Grade 12: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, VB Net Programming; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Video Production Team; 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Medical Office Procedures; 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Insurance Concepts; 8<sup>th</sup> Place, PC Servicing & Troubleshooting  
Dustin Bailey, Grade 10: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Business Meeting Management; 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Advanced Spreadsheet Applications; 10<sup>th</sup> Place, Administrative Support Concepts  
Luke Beenken, Grade 9: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team; 7<sup>th</sup> Place, Parli Pro Concepts; 10<sup>th</sup> Place, Banking & Finance  
Ashley Bjork, Grade 12: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team; 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Desktop Publishing; 9<sup>th</sup> Place, Management/Marketing/Human Resource Concepts  
Molly Brodhead, Grade 12: 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Legal Office Proce-

dures; 6<sup>th</sup> Place Basic Office Systems; 6<sup>th</sup> Place, Computer Programming Concepts  
Bryana Christensen, Grade 9: 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Computer Security; 7<sup>th</sup> Place, Keyboarding Production  
Casey Christensen, Grade 9: 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Spreadsheet  
Eliska Cvrkalova, Grade 11: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Broadcast News Team; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Presentation Management Individual; 9<sup>th</sup> Place, Computer Programming Concepts  
Matthew Dynneson, Grade 9: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Computer Security  
Mandi Heinle, Grade 12: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Insurance Concepts; 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Project Management Concepts; 8<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Spreadsheet Applications  
Tori Hill, Grade 11: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Broadcast News Team; 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Extemporaneous Speech; 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Presentation Management, Individual; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Management/Marketing/Human Resource Concepts; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Medical Office Procedures; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Business Meeting Management  
Olivia Hintz, Grade 12: 1<sup>st</sup>

Place, Broadcast News Team; 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Business Meeting Management; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Legal Office Procedures; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Management/Marketing/Human Resource Concepts; 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Administrative Support Concepts  
Maci Holst, Grade 12: 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Advanced Interview Skills; 10<sup>th</sup> Place, Basic Office Systems  
Brady Johnson, Grade 10: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team  
Megan Johnson, Grade 11: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Insurance Concepts  
Adam Lake, Grade 10: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team; 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Presentation Management Team  
Mark LaPan, Grade 10: 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Word Processing; 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Presentation Management Team  
Nicole Moore, Grade 11: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Basic Office Systems; 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Management/Marketing/Human Resource Concepts; 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Interview Skills; 5<sup>th</sup> Place Business Meeting Management; 6<sup>th</sup> Place, Medical Office Procedures  
Colin Moran, Grade 11: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Computer Security; 3<sup>rd</sup>

Place, Banking & Finance; 6<sup>th</sup> Place, Keyboarding Production  
Colton Moran, Grade 12: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Administrative Support Team; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Medical Office Procedures; 8<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Word Processing; 8<sup>th</sup> Place, Computer Programming Concepts  
Louie Reyna, Grade 10: 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Presentation Management Team; 7<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Word Processing  
Tresha Sanders, Grade 11: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Video Production Team; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Graphic Design Promotion

Kiara Shaver, Grade 12: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Keyboarding Production  
Hailey Steinbeisser, Grade 10: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Broadcast News Team; 6<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Word Processing; 8<sup>th</sup> Place, Basic Office Systems  
Krista Steinbeisser, Grade 12: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Medical Office Procedures; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Broadcast News Team  
Cade Strasheim, Grade 9: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Broadcast News Team  
Chelsea Strasheim, Grade 12: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Broadcast News Team; 5<sup>th</sup> Place, Integrated Office Applications

Jared Troudt, Grade 11: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Database Applications; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Video Production Team; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Entrepreneurship  
Austin Watterson, Grade 9: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Keyboarding Production; 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Computer Security  
Molly Wilkinson, Grade 12: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Broadcast News Team; 6<sup>th</sup> Place, Legal Office Procedures; 6<sup>th</sup> Place, Project Management Concepts; 7<sup>th</sup> Place, Business Meeting Management; 10<sup>th</sup> Place, Fundamental Word Processing



**Area Hockey Action**  
Watford City's Daniel Marmon scores against Sidney on a backhand shot during the first round games of Tournament in Grand Forks. The Oilers defeated the Rangers 10-0. (Photo by Kathy Taylor)



Sidney High School BPA participants pictured here include: Front L to R: Jared Troudt, Nicole Moore, Bryana Christensen, Tresha Sanders, Colton Moran and Cade Strasheim; Second row L to R: Heidi Anderson, Molly Wilkinson, Megan Johnson, Mandi Heinle, Krista Steinbeisser, Chelsea Strasheim and Colin Moran; Third Row L to R: Olivia Hintz, Tori Hill, Eliska Cvrkalova, Ashley Bjork, Molly Brodhead, Hailey Steinbeisser, and Maci Holst; Back Row L to R: Dustin Bailey, Mark LaPan, Luke Beenken, Marcos Aguilar, Louie Reyna, Matt Dey, Brady Johnson, Adam Lake and Casey Christensen.



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# JMAC Resources – Taking the Risk and Giving Back

By Tie Shank

Growing up on a farm in the Columbian Basin Irrigation Project, Jon McCreary, owner of JMAC Resources, is no stranger to hard work and Midwestern values. "As a young man, I witnessed my father working extremely long hours on construction jobs during the day and doing farm work late in to most evenings. As an early teen, I spent my summer days driving tractor, stacking hay and changing siphon tubes. I enjoyed many afternoons of swimming in irri-

gation ditches and playing sports with the neighborhood kids, who lived within a couple of miles from my family's farm. I grew up in a giving home where my parents befriended people that others avoided. They faithfully served their church, gave to those in need and gave their children opportunities they themselves never had," states McCreary.

McCreary graduated from college in 1990 with degrees in finance and accounting and then began a career in corporate finance. His ability to simplify com-

plex problems and steer the decision committees and boards of directors with sharp analysis and solid recommendations was quickly recognized and he advanced rapidly. Despite his early success; becoming the Chief Investment Officer of a large life insurance company and later, the Chief Financial Officer of a publicly traded commercial bank, his goal and ambition was to go back to his independent roots, exercise his entrepreneurial skills and to run his own company.

In 2007, McCreary heard about the start of the oil boom in North Dakota. After completing some due diligence, which included several conversations with industry regulators and Williston locals, he saw tremendous investment opportunities across all oilfield service businesses. He found that most of the existing company owners were in or approaching their retirement years and there were a number of small companies for sale. He decided to risk it all, selling everything he had and borrowing every penny he could, to purchase a small oilfield contracting company that had been around since the late 1970s. McCreary advised, "My liabilities were already more than my assets due to the nationwide real estate collapse, prior to 'doubling down' on the oil patch." The year leading up to the purchase (2007) the company's sales had already grown from under one million annually to \$3.5 million, and then tripled in 2008 under his first year of ownership. Even though the company had been around for over thirty years, every facet of the company had to be changed to keep up with rapid growth. JMAC purchased tens of millions of dollars of equipment, took on significant debt and soon was unable to pay vendors on time due to slow paying customers causing a lack of working capital. Additional debt increased risks, but

also offered additional rewards considering the potential the oil boom offered.

Due to the global financial collapse in 2009, North Dakota oil prices dropped to \$30 a barrel. Many exploration companies lost their funding and laid down rigs everywhere. Thanks to a hard winter and strong customer relationships JMAC Resources struggled through the slowdown by plowing snow for their oilfield customers. Getting through that fall and winter meant draining his own 401K account to make payroll. Eventually the rigs came back and the worked flowed in leading to record revenue in 2010 and again in 2011. To date, JMAC and their affiliates have grown to over 200 employees and perform work for most of the exploration companies working within an eighty mile radius of their Williston shop.

**Administration** – In the beginning, the initial staff consisted of a receptionist and a bookkeeper who performed all of the accounting functions. Invoices were created manually on spreadsheets. This simple form of accounting didn't allow JMAC to perform job costing; therefore, they undertook a major software update. They chose software designed for contractors five times

their size, for its capabilities and potential to automate and integrate many manually performed functions. Now, JMAC has the ability to calculate

the cost to operate each piece of equipment, each individual job and much more. Their accounting staff has grown to eleven extremely busy individuals, including three CPAs. In an effort to keep customers satisfied they provide customize invoices, alter invoice frequency and customize reports for customers.

Relationships – For JMAC and its subsidiaries, constant communication with their customers is of the utmost importance. McCreary states, “Our business is built around our relationship with our customers. When we fail in this area, it hurts our reputation and it is difficult to recover and rebuild; therefore we constantly strive to maintain and build strong relationships.” Richard Nelson, Public Relations Officer, who can be credited with bringing in much of the Company’s early business, puts it simply, “Communication, communication, communication.”

Challenges – “My job, as the owner is to remove obstacles faced by managers and their job as managers is to remove obstacles faced by supervisors and crews. The last five years have been a constant process of adding people, equipment and services, enabling us to deliver what the customer needs when they need it,” states McCreary. One of the major challenges for JMAC has been managing growth. McCreary states, “Early on it was difficult to find quality workers, but as time went on we managed to hire experienced operators and find

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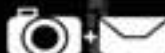


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**JMAC owner John McCreary.**



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# Poker Tournament

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quality managers.” Other challenges for JMAC included the need to depend upon other companies to help complete jobs for customers. McCreary stated, “We needed to become self reliant so we could control our own destiny and deliver for our customers.”

JMAC also encountered problems with material suppliers, equipment rental companies, contract mechanics and other general contractors not being willing or able to meet their customers’ needs. These problems were the catalyst that led to a new materials division which is now as large as any other in the Bakken, and a growing fleet of hundreds of pieces of heavy equipment serviced by a quality team of experienced in-house mechanics.

**Business Lines –** JMAC and its sister companies provide the following services:

\*Heavy Civil includes various oilfield services, location construction, road building, large & small site grading, reserve pit construction and reclamation. Jason Ekblad, Project Manager, advises, “We construct roughly 100 oilfield locations per year, which consumes approximately ¾ of a million tons of gravel per year.”

\*Underground Utilities includes municipal water and sewer construction & repair, oilfield location flow line construction and service, residential and commercial work.

\*Aggregates or Materials includes production and sales of a variety of materials including scoria, road gravel, crushed, screened and washed products. Brandon Lerbakken, Materials Division Manager adds, “We have become a premiere aggregate supplier by producing the highest quality aggregate and strategically placed material sources to meet the various needs of oilfield and DOT work.”

\*Environmental services include oil spill clean ups, solidification of muds and sludges, special waste disposal, roll-off box services, fly ash & cement sales and delivery, trucking of materials for use in construction and cleanups at disposal sites.

\*Trucking – JMAC and its affiliates move several million cubic yards of dirt, rock, waste and other materials, as well as thousands of tons of heavy equipment annually with a fleet of close to one hundred trucks and trailers.

Other Companies & Subsidiaries –

\*On the environmental side, JMAC owns On-Site Maintenance (OSM). JMAC had always closed reserve pits and reclaimed pad sites using third parties to deliver fly ash for the

solidification of cuttings. OSM was created to solve the problem of inconsistent delivery of fly ash. Creating a dry bulk hauling company was very difficult at a time when there were up to one year waits for dry bulk trailers. Based in Beulah, OSM has the ability to deliver over one hundred thousand tons of fly ash to the oilfield annually. As the industry trended toward pitless drill sites with solid control systems, OSM innovated by providing portable silos for their customers to use for short term storage in the solidification process.

\* Located just outside of Williston on HWY 85, JMAC’s Indian Hill’s Disposal (IHD) Company disposes of hydrocarbon and salt impacted oilfield and industrial waste. They also offer a roll-off service for construction, demolition and household debris. IHD recently received an award for commitment and leadership in solid waste and recycling in North Dakota from the North Dakota Solid Waste & Recycling Association. Currently, they have several other landfill sites in various stages of the acquisition and the permitting process. “We consider ourselves stewards of the environment. It’s our job to do the best we can to take care of the waste generated by the activities in this economically privileged part of the country,” said Chris Kreger. “We challenge the entire industry to do the same!”

\*Redland LLC is an affiliated real estate holding and development entity managed by JMAC employees and focused on real estate opportunities within North Dakota. Redland owns and leases over 100,000 square feet of commercial shop space as well as over 400 bedrooms through a combination of homes, townhomes, manufactured homes and man camp trailers for its employees, their families and other oilfield service companies. Redland LLC has also developed a 100 acre site industrial park, which is now home to several oilfield service companies and is in the process of permitting a 20 acre residential site in the City of Williston with over 100 residential lots, and has plat- ted 160 one acre river view lots in McKenzie County just across the Missouri River from the City of Williston.

Shop Maintenance - A quality, well run shop is very important in such a harsh environment and JMAC has just that. It’s important to attract quality mechanics and technicians and to provide an efficient space to work protected from extreme temperatures. After a couple years in a 6000 square foot shop, JMAC acquired property and constructed a 30,000 square

foot shop/office combination on 139<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW. in Williston, ND. With the new shop they are able to wash trucks weekly and each truck is examined by a night mechanic for minor repairs and preventative maintenance. This process ensures efficiency and keeps everybody running. The shop also affords JMAC the opportunity to keep its fleet of over 500 pieces of equipment in proper working order. There are not a lot of service providers in the Williston Basin and when something breaks down it’s imperative to have the ability to repair it as soon as possible.

**Efficiency –** In the first few years JMAC relied heavily on third party truckers. When it became apparent they needed more of their own trucks and trailers, they targeted the most efficient configuration that would work well given the significant weight restrictions put on early in the spring and sometimes lasting late in to the summer. They chose a combination of four axle trucks and long four axle trailers to maximize their hauling capacity under most conditions. This gave them the ability to haul more weight for their customers and thereby reduce their customer’s transportation costs. An added benefit of the larger loads is lower labor cost and fewer trucks required for the same job.

**Employee Benefits -** In order to attract the best employees in the market, JMAC offers a full range of benefits which include 401K contribution matching, company provided health insurance, paid vacation and lots of overtime. In addition to this, JMAC offers subsidized housing for their employees. Housing is a very important tool which allows JMAC to attract quality employees to support their growth. Judy Billehus, Human Resource Manager, commented, “We have a great team of dedicated and committed employees due to our custom benefit package as well as the company’s leadership and vision.”

**Goals and Outlook –** General Manager, Rob Krom, who oversees a majority of JMAC and affiliates operations says, “My goal for the company is to consistently and safely deliver qual-

ity products and services that fulfill customers’ needs while exceeding their expectations. JMAC Resources is a great place to work. It is imperative that we never lose sight of our goals to serve our customers while maintaining and developing a safety culture that puts people ahead of everything else.”

The outlook for JMAC is strong in spite of the tremendous increase in competition for all their services that has evolved over the last several years. The competition has helped sharpen their focus, skills and their results. In 2013 they are anticipating modest growth among all of their business lines.

McCreary wants everyone who works for JMAC and affiliates to be proud of their work, enjoy working together and to be proud of what they can all accomplish together. It is difficult for him to pinpoint their success, “As a company, we have been blessed with great opportunity, great employees with good attitudes, experienced managers and quality leadership at all levels. I can’t be more proud of what has been accomplished here and many times feel the least responsible for our success. I am extremely thankful to all our employees and customers that have played a role in building the Company.”

**Greatest Accomplishments –** “Above all the business accomplishments we have achieved as a company, I am proud of how our success has enabled us to provide our employees with well above average compensation levels. Our success has also given us all a great opportunity to give back to our community and to the less fortunate,” states owner McCreary.

JMAC is rolling out a new ‘pay it forward’ program for 2013. Locally JMAC is active in community organizations and is working on ways to provide coats to needy children in local schools, provide aid to those facing domestic abuse, and actively participate in cleanup projects sponsored by the city and industry affiliates. McCreary added, “It’s a great honor to be in a position to give to those who are truly in need.”

# Sidney Wrestling Club Competes at Miles City AAU Invitational Tournament

Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, the Sidney Wrestling club wrestlers competed in the Miles City AAU Invitational Tournament. Results are as follows:

### TOT Division

Carter Grimmet - 45lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Brandon Becker – 50lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place

### BANTAM Division

Carter Wicorek - 45lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Beau Rindahl – 45lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Zander Dean – 50lbs, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Kendell Young – 60lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Zeke Grimmett – 60lbs, 5<sup>th</sup> place; Chace Waters – 70lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> place

### MIDGET Division

Blake Benson – 65lbs, 4<sup>th</sup> place; Tucker Nevins – 70lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Grady Nelson – 75lbs, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Nathan Romo – 75lbs, 4<sup>th</sup> place; Cole Humphries – 95lbs, 5<sup>th</sup> place

### NOVICE Division

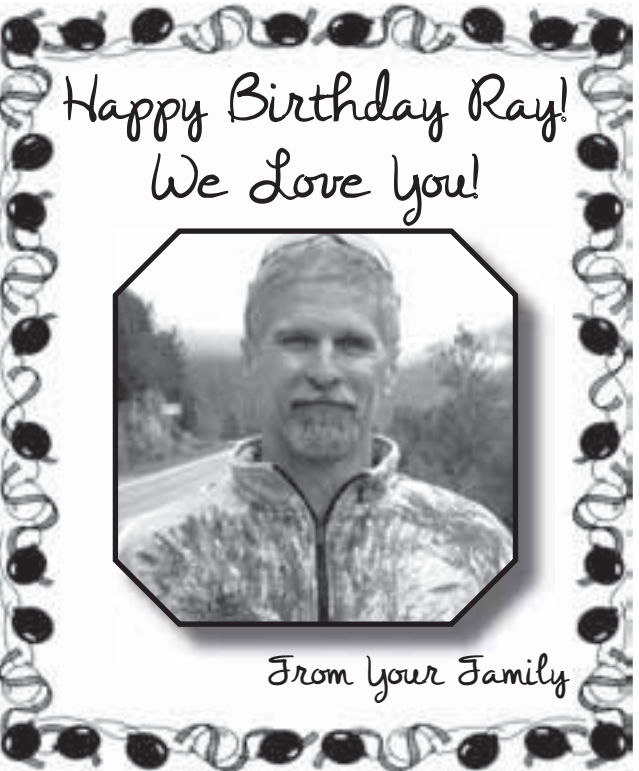
Jed Escobedo – 65lbs, 4<sup>th</sup> place; Kade Rindahl – 65lbs, 5<sup>th</sup> place; Christian Dean – 70lbs, 1st place; Everett Jensen – 70lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Matthew Hansen – 75lbs, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Jett Jones – 90lbs, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Riley Waters – 90lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Russell Young – 95lbs, 4<sup>th</sup> place; Brodey Skogen – 100lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Trevor Dean – 100lbs, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Cash Cundiff – 110lbs, 4<sup>th</sup> place; Trey Schepens – 135lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place

### SCHOOLBOY Division

Jace Winter – 90lbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Avery Gurney – 105lbs, 5<sup>th</sup> place;Waylon VanBuren – 110lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Jace Johnson – 110lbs, 4<sup>th</sup> place; Christian Cassey – 110lbs, 1<sup>st</sup> place

### CADET Division

Trace Jones – 115lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> place





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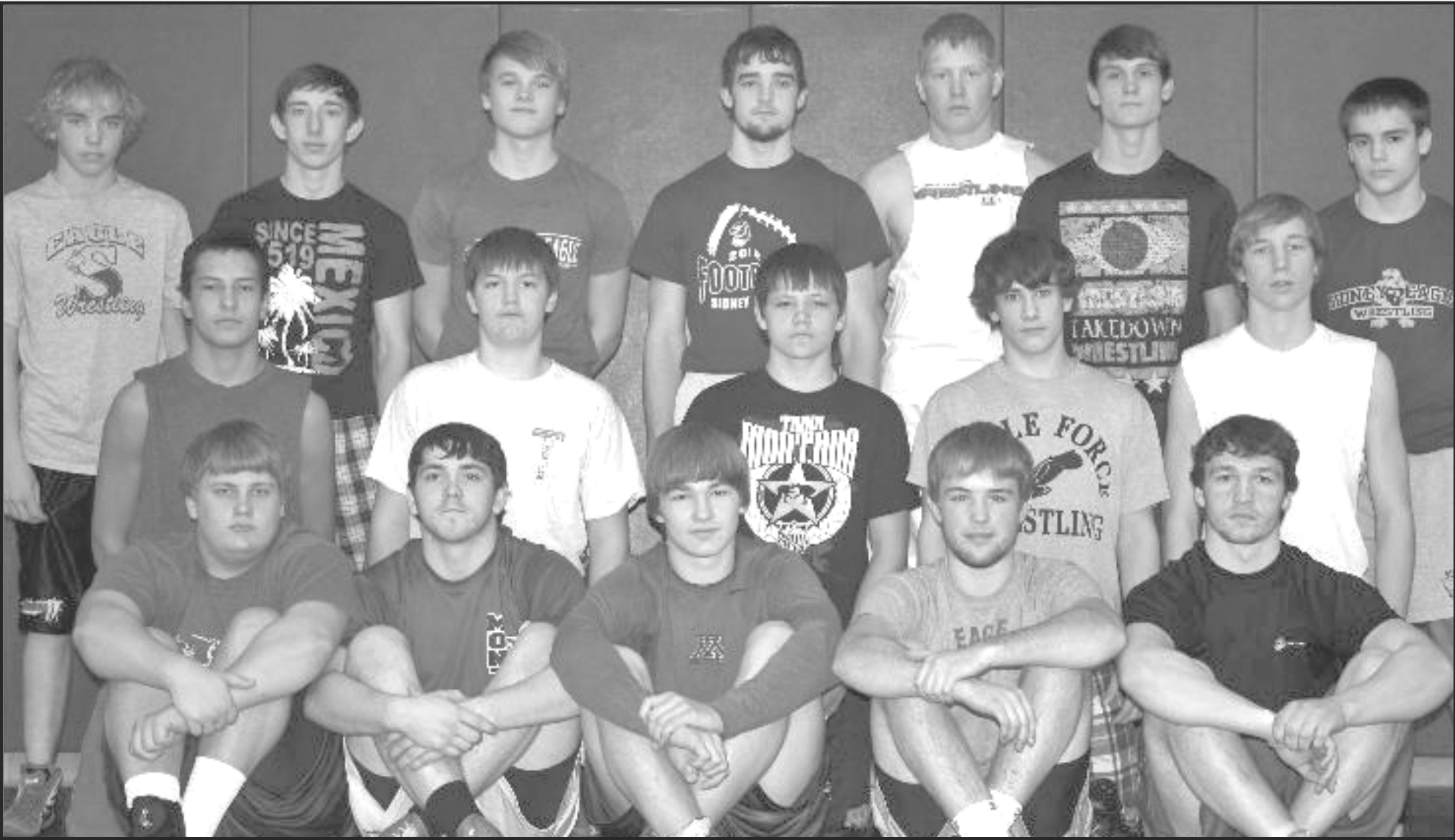
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# Good Luck Sidney Eagle



Sidney High School Wrestling Squad 2012-13

Back left to right: Wyatt VanBuren, Layne Schafer, Cody Johnson, Jordan Stevens, Ryder Peterson, Gresh Jones, Ethan Graves. Middle left to right: Braden Rooks, Hunter Nice, Brady Gorder, Ryan Chatterton, Devon Bassett. Front left to right: Josh Alexander, Dace Fisher, Cody Christian, Jesse Ziler, Spencer Brost. Not pictured: Garrett Darby, Deven Torgersen, Oakley Chase, Doug Rooney, Christian Gomez, Aaron Galvin, Sarah Toth, Christian Eggar, Chris Gartner.



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# Wrestlers At Divisionals

## Class A Eastern Divisional Wrestling Tournament

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**Saturday Feb. 2, 2013**

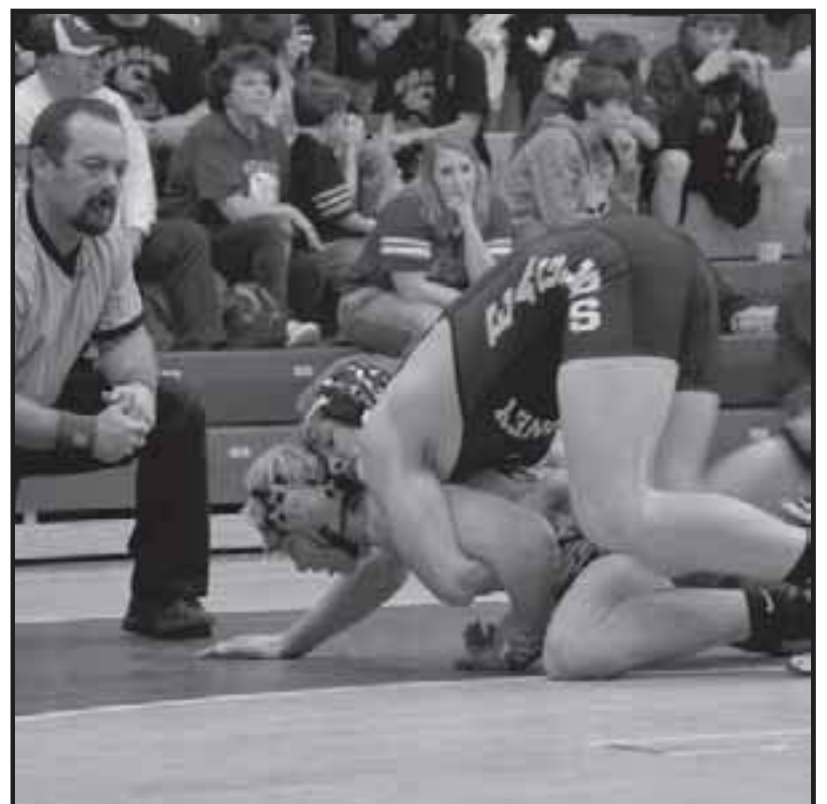
**10 a.m. First Round • 12:30 p.m. Semis • 6 p.m. Finals**



  
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## Fairview Fire Department Donation

Fairview Chamber of Commerce president Ray Trumpower, left, and Chamber member Darrell Finsaas, right, present a check for \$1000 to Fairview Fire Chief Lloyd Fugate in appreciation of the department's outstanding service to the community. The fire department will use the money to purchase needed equipment.

## Montana State Library and Sidney-Richland County Public Release Videos Highlighting Impact of Libraries on Montanans

Submitted by Heather Cotter

The Montana State Library and Sidney-Richland County Public Library are pleased to announce the release of a series of three videos that highlight the impact libraries have on the lives of Montanans. The video "Supporting our Communities through Change and Challenge" highlights our local library including staff, board members and one of the many business owners who use our facility for their work.

The videos were filmed at the Sidney-Richland County Library in Sidney; the Bitterroot Public Library in Hamilton; the Hearst Free Library in Anaconda; the Lewis & Clark Library in Helena; the North Lake County Public Library in Polson; and the Web on Wheels (W.O.W.) Bus, which is a branch of the Missoula Public Library.

"Montanans across the state are improving their lives, achieving their life-long learning goals, furthering their communities, and connecting with family and friends at their public libraries," said Jennie Stapp, Montana State Librarian. "These videos demonstrate the impact that Montana libraries have on their patrons and communities."

The videos feature stories from patrons, community members, and library partners that use their local library to learn how to run their home-based business using technology; assist job-seekers as they look for the right employment using library resources; complement their home-school curriculum with library resources and computers; learn how to use the latest technology resources; and manage their business in the oil fields of northeastern Montana.

The videos can be found on the MTLibraryNext YouTube channel, or at the following hyperlinks:

Bringing Technology to Montanans: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mS-l4p7-\\_iU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mS-l4p7-_iU)

Providing a Foundation for Businesses and Families: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCngmQtgCR0>

Supporting our Communities through Change and Challenge: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCtM6z6Gtno>

"The Sidney-Richland County Public Library, as is the case with all libraries, is where our community meets," said Heather Cotter, library director. "Whether it's for a book discussion group or to hear a speaker or to learn how to apply for a job online, libraries are where Montanans come together."

A 2011 survey of Montanans demonstrated that nearly 40% of Montana library patrons using their library's public access computers were looking for a job. Other uses of the public access computers as reported by Montana library patrons included email (79.5%); news and entertainment (41.9%); paying bills and managing finances (26.7%); taking an online course (15.7%); completing homework (15.7%); and signing up for public benefits (9%).

In particular, Richland County residents are using the library to learn new skills, find jobs and engage with a changing community. Access to computers and technology, and the ability to be a life-long learner are crucial to the success of our community, and the library is committed to providing everyone access to those resources.

The videos were completed as part of the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP), a federally funded (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) project administered by the Montana State Library. Matching support for BTOP is provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Montana State Library, and some participating public libraries. Funding for the videos was provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The BTOP program has provided a combination of computers, software, assistive devices, network hardware, staff funding, broadband upgrades, and digital literacy training to 43 public libraries with the goal of improving access to the Internet at public libraries.

In its first two years, by working through local Montana libraries, the BTOP program:

- Provided Internet access to over 700,000 patrons annually;
- Delivered over 400 new computers, including children's computers;
- Installed ADA-compliant software and peripherals;
- Provided over 1,300 hours of digital literacy training to 900 librarians;
- Provided over 10,000 hours of digital literacy training to 55,000 patrons;
- Increased average broadband download speeds in participating libraries from 3 mbps to 15 mbps;
- Helped fund the Web On Wheels, which provides Internet access and training to rural patrons in Missoula County; and
- Ensured all participating libraries have high-performing public wireless access.

As part of BTOP, Richland County residents now have access to 12 high-quality public access computers with high-speed internet, free open WiFi, an ADA-compliant workstation and a "petting zoo" of eReaders to try out. We also have kids computers loaded with educational games and activities for young people to practice reading, math, and the skills they'll need to be tech-savvy as they grow up.

"Montanans are accessing their public libraries in person and online in record numbers," said Stapp. "As evidenced by our usage statistics and these new videos, Montana libraries are a hub of learning, a bastion of freedom, a cultural center, a community center, and the heart and soul of our beautiful, inquiring communities."

For more information on the library impact videos or the statewide BTOP program, please contact Sara Groves at (406) 444-5357 or by email at [sgroves@mt.gov](mailto:sgroves@mt.gov).



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# Sports Booster WEEKLY SCHEDULE

## Basketball

- Thursday, January 31**  
Sidney boys at Glendive, 7:30 p.m.  
New Town boys at Watford City, 7:15 p.m.
- Friday, February 1**  
Plentywood girls at Sidney, 7 p.m.  
Plentywood boys at Sidney, 7 p.m.  
Bainville girls at Med Lake, 6 p.m.  
Bainville boys at Med Lake, 7:30 p.m.  
Circle girls at Fairview, 6 p.m.  
Circle boys at Fairview, 7:30 p.m.  
Culbertson girls at Lambert, 6 p.m.  
Culbertson boys at Lambert, 7:30 p.m.  
Froid girls at Med Lake, 6 p.m.  
Froid boys at Med Lake, 7:30 p.m.  
Savage girls at Brockton, 6 p.m.  
Savage boys at Brockton, 7:30 p.m.  
R&L girls at Lambert, 6 p.m.  
R&L boys at Lambert, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, February 2**  
Trenton boys at Watford City, 7 p.m.  
Glendive girls at Sidney, 7 p.m.  
Savage girls at Fairview, 6 p.m.  
Savage boys at Fairview, 7:30 p.m.  
Westby/Grenora girls at Culbertson, 6 p.m.  
Westby/Grenora boys at Culbertson, 7:30 p.m.  
Bainville girls at Brockton, 6 p.m.  
Bainville boys at Brockton, 7:30 p.m.  
R&L girls at Froid, 6 p.m.  
R&L boys at Froid, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 5**  
Watford City boys at Parshall, 7 p.m.  
Brockton girls at Lustre, 6 p.m.  
Brockton boys at Lustre, 7:30 p.m.

## Wrestling

- Friday, February 1**  
New Salem at Watford City, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, February 2**  
Sidney at Laurel Divisionals, 10 a.m.

## Gymnastics

- Saturday/Sunday, February 2 & 3**  
Sidney at Minot

## Hockey

- Friday, February 1**  
Watford City Girls U19 at Sidney, 7 p.m.  
Watford City Girls 12U at Sidney, 5:30 p.m.  
Watford City Peewee at Minot Tourney, 1:30 p.m.  
Sidney Jr. Gold at Fargo Freeze, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, February 2**  
Sidney Jr. Gold at Moorhead, 1 p.m.  
Watford City Peewee at Minot Tourney, 1:30 p.m.  
Minot Wolves at Watford City Bantam, 5 p.m.  
Crosby Jr. Gold at Watford City, 7 p.m.
- Sunday, February 3**  
Miles City Girls U19 at Sidney, 12 p.m.  
Sidney Jr. Gold at Mayport, 12 p.m.  
Watford City Bantam at Hazen, 12 p.m.  
Watford City Peewee at Minot Tourney, 1:30 p.m.  
Watford City Girls 12U at Bottineau, 3:45 p.m.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT WANTED**

The Roundup has an immediate opening for a full time administrative assistant Mon. 8-5, Tues. - Fri. 9-5. Basic computer skills a plus. Will be answering multi-lined phone, waiting on customers, some book keeping & entering classified ads. Benefits include; paid holidays, health care allowance, one week paid vacation after one year. \$400 signing bonus after three month trial period. Apply with Sidney Job Service & take required testing.

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On November 16, 2012, Go Black Gold, LLC – Sole Member: Larry W. Larsen, filed an application for the issuance of a license to be used at GO BLACK GOLD, 13318 Highway 200, Fairview, Richland County, Montana.

Protests against an application must be (1) made in writing, (2) mailed to the Department of Revenue, Liquor Licensing, PO Box 1712, Helena, Montana 59624-1712, and (3) received and date stamped by the Department no later than the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013. Protests will be accepted from residents of the county from which the application originates, residents of adjoining counties, or residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in subsection (4)(d) are met.

Each protestor is required to mail a separate letter that contains in legible print, the protestor's full name, mailing address, and street address. Each letter must be signed by the protestor. Protest petitions bearing the names and signatures of more than one protestor will not be considered. Protest letters must provide the trade name, or applicant name associated with the license being protested for identification purposes. Protest letters must contain a clear statement of the writer's intent to protest the application. The grounds for protest of an application for a new license are limited to those set out in section 16-4-405, MCA for denial of a license, and public convenience and necessity as set forth in section 16-4-203, MCA. Protest letters which do not provide the information described in this paragraph will not be considered valid protest letters. Only those grounds for protest raised in valid protest letters will be considered at hearing. An individual's testimony at hearing will be limited to the grounds for protest raised in that individual's valid protest letter.

If the department receives a sufficient number of protests to require a hearing pursuant to section 16-4-207(4)(a), MCA, a hearing will be scheduled in Helena, Montana. If the department receives a sufficient number of protests to require a hearing pursuant to section 16-4-207(4)(b), MCA, to determine public convenience and necessity, a hearing will be held in the county in which the proposed premises is located. All qualified protestors will be notified of the time, date, and location of the hearing. Hearings are typically scheduled within 90 days following the protest deadline.

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Lunch Menus

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Thurs., Jan. 31: Tomato soup, toasted cheese, peaches.  
Fri., Feb. 1: Hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, pears.  
**Richey Schools**  
Thurs., Jan. 31: BBQ pork nuggets, roasted potatoes, fruit & veggies.  
Fri., Feb. 1: Super nachos & salad bar.

**E. Fairview School**  
Thurs., Jan. 31: Taco pasta bake, lettuce salad, pineapple/banana salad.  
Fri., Feb. 1: BBQ pulled pork on a bun, rice, garden salad.  
Mon., Feb. 4: Chicken fajitas, rice, green beans, applesauce, bun.  
Tues., Feb. 5: Baked ziti, garden salad, corn, peaches, breadstick.  
Wed., Feb. 6: Spaghetti, garden salad, pineapple/banana salad, garlic bread.

**Fairview School**  
Thurs., Jan. 31: Chicken fettucinne, ceasar salad, corn, breadsticks.  
Fri., Feb. 1: Super Bowl Lunch.  
Mon., Feb. 4: Chicken gravy over noodles, peas, pears & bun.  
Tues., Feb. 5: Pizza hotdish, toss salad, corn & applesauce.  
Wed., Feb. 6: Chicken burger, potato, corn & pineapple.

**Savage School**  
Thurs., Jan. 31: Sub sandwiches, lettuce, chicken noodle soup, peaches.  
Fri., Feb. 1: Hamburgers, fries, grapes.  
Mon., Feb. 4: French dips, calico fries, pudding, fruit cocktail.  
Tues., Feb. 5: Mashed potatoes/meat gravy, peas, peaches, dessert.  
Wed., Feb. 6: Stew, biscuits, pears.

**Lambert School**  
Thurs., Jan. 31: Tater tot hot dish, salad, buns, apricots.

**Culbertson School**  
Thurs., Jan. 31: Sloppy joe's, lettuce salad, fruit cocktail.  
Fri., Feb. 1: Fish sticks, tater tots, hush puppies, mandarin oranges.

**Rau School**  
Thurs., Jan. 31: Tater tot-hotdish, green beans, mandarin oranges.  
Fri., Feb. 1: Sub sandwiches, chips, veggies, fruit.

**Bainville School**  
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The Richland County Weed District has been chosen the "2012 Outstanding Weed District" at the State Convention of the Montana Weed Control Association held in Great Falls January 15-17. The RCWD has been in operation since the early 60s. It's present Weed Coordinator is Dick Zoanni. The County Weed Board, representing all areas of Richland County, is made up of Johnnie Johnston, Don Iverson, Dale Edam, Dan Thornton, and Mark Casterline. Previous Weed Coordinators include Ken Babcock, Con Donvan, and Red Lovce. All have been assisted by Louis Kimbrell.



**Krista Steinbeisser blocks #44 during the Billings Central game on Friday in Sidney. The Lady Eagles lost the game 52-48. (Photo by Kathy Johnson)**



**Sidney Eagles were victorious over Hardin on Saturday with a score of 76-50 in Sidney. Colin Moran shoots a basket at the game Saturday. (Photo by Kathy Johnson)**

# Bills for the Bakken...

but not all the schools have gained the additional revenue from the boom. For instance, schools in areas that house workers' families but have little to no oil production do not generate enough revenue to reach the 130 percent cap, said Sen. Llew Jones, R-Conrad.

His bill, Senate Bill 175, aims to help those districts as part of a comprehensive effort to revise education funding at schools around the state. An initial hearing is scheduled for this week.

Under Jones' proposal, \$8 million in oil tax revenue would funnel through school after school in the Bakken, moving onto the next when one reaches the 130 percent cap. The remaining money would then go to the state treasury.

"Prior to flowing out of the region, this money needs to flow through the circles," Jones said. "It can fill those schools that have impacts but don't have funding."

The House Education Committee held hearings last week on several other proposals to help the region's schools, including two sponsored by Rep. David Halvorson, R-Sidney. House Bill 176 would raise the 130 percent cap to 150 percent, and House Bill 177 would reduce the percentage of oil tax revenue a district must incorporate in its budget to 25 percent. Under present law, the amount of revenue districts must include in their budgets would increase to 55 percent by 2015.

House Bill 228, introduced by Rep. Lee Randall, R-Broadus, would allow schools with 5 percent enrollment increases to retain their district's oil tax revenue above the 130 percent cap for six years.

Legislators worked together during the interim to pinpoint options for the Bakken, said Rep. Austin Knudsen, R-Culbertson. Although a number of those lawmakers have combined ideas and co-sponsored legislation, several different proposals remain on the table.

"I think eventually we'll either end up with one bill coming through the process or a committee will put together a committee bill that's a hybrid of the best ideas out there," Knudsen said.

He and others sound confident when they say this Legislature will address the needs in eastern Montana. Since the previous session ended, dozens of lawmakers from across the state have visited the area and they seem to grasp what's at stake, Knudsen said.

"I'm excited because there seems to be pretty good bipartisan support for this," he said. "We really need it."

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<sup>1</sup>Based on trucking and payload, when properly equipped. Class is Full-Size Pickups (excl. 2012/2013 competition). <sup>2</sup>Percentage based on total U.S. light-duty pickups. Ford F-Series, Chevy Silverado 1500, GMC Sierra 1500, Chevy Avalanche 1500, Ford L-Series, Toyota Tundra & Nissan Titan combined new registrations 2011-2012 (FY10-May) within Construction and Environmental sectors. Livestock Production, Auto Repair Services, Electric Gas and Sanitary Services, Emergency Vehicles, Government, Heavy Construction, National Security, Transportation Services, Hazardous Materials, Road Maintenance, Oil Pipeline, Manufacturing and Farming. Percentages based on total U.S. light-duty pickups and class 2-5 Commercial Chevrolet/Cadillac combined new registrations (FY10-Nov 2011) - FY 2010 within Emergency Vehicles, Mining/Quarrying, Construction, Forestry, Wood Milling, Excavator/Logskidding & General Goods, Petroleum Refining & Related Ind. Mfgs, Electric Gas & Sanitary Services, Mining & Quarrying, Nonmetallic Minerals, Auto Parts Order & Safety, Heavy Construction (except Building), General/Lumber Products, Manufacturing, Agriculture/Farm, Sanitation/Welfare, Aircraft and Production-Livestock, Utility Services, Road/Marine Maintenance, Specialized/Heavy Hauling, Oil & Gas Extraction and General Freight operations.