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Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Volume 46 • Number 44

CHRISTMAS WISH BOOK

See pages 7-9

Gubler Pleads Guilty in District Court

Mark Andrew Gubler changed his plea to guilty on four counts in District Court on Nov. 23. The felony counts that he made a guilty plea to included two counts of criminal possession with intent to distribute, criminal possession of dangerous drugs, meth, and use or possession of property subject to criminal forfeiture.

A pre-sentence investigation will be ordered. A sentencing hearing has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Jan. 4, 2021.

According to court documents, a traffic stop took place on June 19, 2020, at about 10:06 p.m. The Sidney Police officer could smell the strong odor of fresh marijuana coming from the vehicle. When the officer shined the beam of his flashlight into the back seat, he saw several large luggage bags.

During enforcement action in the patrol vehicle, the officer asked Gubler how much marijuana was in the vehicle.

He answered, "Enough to get me in trouble." He was also transporting a motorcycle in the bed of his pickup. After being questioned more about the marijuana, Gubler ultimately denied consent to search the vehicle. He was released from the scene with a warning for a headlamp violation.

The vehicle and motorcycle were seized and secured at the Sidney Police Department's car barn.

Items found included a duffel bag containing 20 vacuum sealed plastic bags of marijuana with each bag weighing roughly one pound; one clear zip-lock plastic bag containing a glass mason jar of suspected hashish oil and a screw; a duffel bag containing 12 vacuum sealed plastic bags of marijuana with each bag weighing about one pound; a clear glass methamphetamine pipe containing methamphetamine residue; and one clear zip-lock plastic bag containing methamphetamine.



The pot and pickup seized in the Gubler case. (Photo submitted)

Gifts From The Heart Dec. 12 In Sidney

Submitted by Jakkie Waller

Gifts From the Heart season has blown in just like winter did, very quickly! Our selected date this year is Saturday, Dec. 12. We will continue to provide this free "store" at the Masonic Temple, W. Main, Sidney, across from the courthouse. This is a one-day only event! In past years the "open" hours were from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Due to COVID-19, we are extending those hours this year. We will start at 7 a.m.



and will close at 3 p.m.

There are a few more changes to follow the government mandates placed upon Montana. We strictly adhere to these temporary guidelines, with no exceptions, nor negotiations. A mask is REQUIRED to enter the building. Whatever your beliefs and/or feelings are on this issue, they have been taken into consideration. But in order to keep both shoppers and volunteers healthy for the holidays, we are mandating masks to enter the Masonic Temple on Saturday, Dec. 12. If you choose to come without a mask, one will be provided. If you refuse, we will unfortunately be unable to serve you. Hand sanitizer will be available as well. If you have symptoms of illness, we ask that you please stay home out of consideration for others.

Another change, no one will have to stand in line in the cold morning weather. We will be issuing a number on a first come first serve basis, serving in consecutive order, allowing us to serve maximum three people in the building at a time. Normally it takes approximately 20-30 minutes per family. Due to our responsibilities to adhere to the state mandates, we are requesting only one parent/guardian per household to shop, allowing us to assist each shopper in a 15-minute maximum experience. Please do not bring any children to this event – we want them to be surprised when they receive their gifts!

In past years this store has provided hundreds of local families a way to provide Christmas for their children and food on the table. Our motto "From the community, For the

community, Back into the community" has enabled this non-profit organization to do just that! We have two stipulations to participate in Gifts From the Heart; the child(ren) must be 0-18 and reside with you in Richland County.

As many of you know, COVID-19 has hindered many things, and donations are among these. Due to this we are in extra need of donations including monetary contributions new toys, games, books, coats and clothing. Extra volunteers are always welcome, but especially this year with the added requirements that are being put in place. If you or your business would like to donate and/or volunteer this year, please contact Jakkie Waller, 406-480-9117.

We truly appreciate the community's generous donations, whether they are monetary, gifts and/or time! You are the reason Gifts From the Heart can continue to help those in need. Thank you for making this a success every year. May you have a blessed year and holiday season!

Annual MonDak Christmas Celebration At The MonDak Heritage Center

Submitted by Joe Bradley, MonDak Heritage Center Board President

This year at the MonDak Heritage Center, Sidney, Christmas will be celebrated a bit differently than in prior years. Instead of a single day of celebration, we invite you to join Christmas and us as often as you can between now.

Stop down any day Tuesday-Saturday and look for the pair of ice skates hidden somewhere within the facility. If you find them, stop at the front desk and tell us where you found them to receive a coupon for a small bag of popcorn at Party Central. You can choose from all the flavors that they have available. You can win once per week, so visit often.

We invite you to purchase a special numbered holiday ornament from our large tree for \$10. Your number is then added to the drawing for a chance to win a large gift tub of family fun valued at over \$150 including a one year family membership to the MonDak Heritage Center, games, a puzzle, gingerbread house kit, hot chocolate, candy, mugs, a holiday movie, a blanket and more.

Wander through the museum and art galleries; view our current exhibits: the 30th Annual Miniature Art Show, "When the West Was Won" by Gordon McConnell and "Life Through the Lens" Photography Show by Ruth Kendig or take home an Art-To-Go project from our Art Studio. Spend some time on the lower level immersing yourself in the past (remembering to keep your eyes open at all time looking for those skates).

Before you leave, remember to check out the great selection of Christmas gift items that are available in our gift shop including books and work by local artists.

MonDak Christmas events are sponsored by H&R Block and Missouri River Realty.

The MonDak Heritage Center is located at 120 3rd Ave SE, Sidney, and MonDak Heritage Center hours during December are Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.- 4 pm, Sat., 1-4 p.m. Open Studio Saturday is scheduled for Dec. 5 and 19 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. by appointment. Please call to schedule your studio time.

The MonDak Heritage Center will be closing at noon on Dec. 24 and will reopen on Tuesday Jan. 5, 2021.

Admission to the MonDak Heritage Center is free. For more information call 406-433-3500 or e-mail mdhc@richland.org.

Art In Business In Watford City Through Dec. 24

Submitted by Jessie Veeder

The Long X Arts Foundation is combining the arts with small business this holiday season as it hosts its first ever Art in Business event.

The foundation has partnered with area Watford City Main Street Businesses as well as local artists to make shopping local, unique gifts and art easy and fun.

Through Dec. 24, eight local artists will have their work on display and for sale in five different retail locations in Watford City.

"With the pandemic taking away so many opportunities for our local artists, we thought this would be a great way to get local artists in bricks-and-mortar stores without the rush a big art show would bring," said Jessie Veeder Scofield, Long X Arts Foundation director. "The local businesses have been so gracious to host these artists and the hope is that it will help bring more traffic through their stores as well. Shopping local is more important than ever this year."

Some of those busi-

nesses are also hosting special events based around the artist's visit.

The Long X Visitor Center and Pioneer Museum will be hosting a "Meet the Artist" open house with renowned western painter Trish Stevenson on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The museum will be providing refreshments; a special gift and Trish will also be doing a live painting throughout the day.

Stevenson will be showing her work at the Pioneer Museum along with Sidney area sketch artist Rhonda Whited.

"We've had success in hosting Trish and other artists here in the past and we're looking forward to showcasing these talented women," said Jan Dodge, Pioneer Museum. "We also hope people will take time to browse our gift shop for North Dakota made gifts and treats."

Other participating artists and businesses include Afton Ray-Rossol Art and Cheyanne Thompson's Leather work, Hang it on the Line at Meyer's Department Store. Kortney Beth

and Chad Ziemendorf Photography will be at Door 204. Shipping Crate Pottery, Arnegard, will be for sale at Rhianna's Boutique and Maria Borkowski's work, We 3Bs Photography will be at Hometown Homemade.

To help keep people

creative during these uncertain times, the Long X Arts Foundation is also offering take home art kits for children as well as adults.

Find out more at longxarts.com or contact them at longxart@gmail.com or 701-770-8659.



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Our Williston and Watford City stores remain open with hours of operation unchanged, however our Sidney store is temporarily closed.

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AREA RECOVERY GROUPS

MONDAYS:
 12 p.m. — AA Monday Noon Group, Matthew House Office, 416 2nd St. NW, Sidney, MT.
 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. — Grief Recovery Support group, First Lutheran Church music room, Watford City.
 6 p.m. — Al-Anon Family Group Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave., Sidney, MT.
 8 p.m. — AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

TUESDAYS:
 7 p.m. — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.
 7 p.m. — 24-hour Women's AA group meeting, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

THURSDAYS:
 7:30 p.m. — Al-Anon Meeting, Presbyterian Church, 316 4th Ave. NE, Watford City, ND.
 8 p.m. — AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

FRIDAYS:
 6:30 - p.m. - 5 Stones - Faith Based Recovery meeting, Sidney First Church of the Nazarene, 606 9th St. SW, Back door is open.
 7 p.m. — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.

SATURDAYS:
 7 p.m. — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.
 7 p.m. — AA 24 group meeting, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

SUNDAYS:
 7 p.m. — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.

STATISTICS

LAKE WATER LEVEL REPORT
 Sakakawea

Current Elevation	1838.8
Last Week's Elev.	1839.0
One Year Ago	1839.1
Release For Day (C.F.S.)	16,000

SIDNEY WEATHER DATA

Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low
November 30	46	20
December 1	40	22
December 2	40	16
December 3	50	19
December 4	52	24
December 5	52	23
December 6	48	18
Total 2020 YTD Precipitation	6.543	

OBITUARIES

Elaine Marie Asbeck, 79 Fairview, MT

Mass of the Christian burial for Elaine Asbeck, 79, Fairview, MT will be held 10 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020 at St. Matthew's Catholic Church with Father Jim O'Neil as presider.

Interment will be in Sidney Cemetery, Sidney, MT under the care of Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT. Visitation was held 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020, at Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT. Remembrances, condolences and pictures may be shared with the family at www.fulkersons.com.

Elaine passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020, at Wibaux County Nursing Home, Wibaux, MT.

Kaye Noreen Braun, 74 Savage, MT

Funeral services for Kaye Noreen Braun, 74, Savage, MT will be held 2 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020 at First Lutheran Church, Savage, MT with Pastor Tim Sharp officiating.

Interment will be in Riverview Cemetery, Savage, MT under the care of Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT.

Visitation was held 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020, at Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT. Remembrances, condolences and pictures may be shared with the family at www.fulkersons.com.

Kaye passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, Kalispell, MT.

Dan Brown Benefit, Watford City, Dec. 12

Dan and LeeAnn Brown have been a part of the Watford City community since 2011. The Browns have been giving back to this amazing community by helping people move, finding shelter for families due to the tornado, holding family activity events and helping home businesses stay afloat.

As 2020 has not been hard enough, Dan was diagnosed with stage 3 prostate cancer on Sept. 1. Since then the cancer has been so aggressive that it has passed from the lymph nodes and now attaching to other organs.

Dan's current treatment has definitely not been easy. He is currently taking heavy doses of radiation treatment five days a week and was prescribed chemo treatment in the pill form, which he has to take seven days a week. The cost of Dan's treatment is \$3,000 a day. After insurance Dan and LeeAnn are left with the patient responsibility of \$850 and were told this would be their new normal for the next two years.

Dan and LeeAnn have been doing everything they can. With Dan's radiation treatment in Bismarck Monday-Friday he is forced to commute a 100 miles one way to Dickinson so he can try and continue working knowing he has to drive the same 100 miles back to Bismarck that same day for the next day of treatment. LeeAnn manages the Long X Liquor Store during the week and has been able to spend time with Dan when he is able to come home to Watford City, from Bismarck on the weekend.

The Watford City community has always helped one another in dire times of need and now it is time to come together to help Dan & LeeAnn as they have for others in the past.

The Brown benefit will be held 5-8 p.m., Sat., Dec. 12 at Watford City Eagles Club and will include great food, music and a silent auction. The benefit goal is to raise \$10,000. This will help eliminate the burden of Dan's treatments and the financial strain of Dan's driving back and forth on the weekends just to be able to see his wife, his best friend, for 32 hours before having to return to Bismarck.

Thank you, Watford City, for everything, anything helps & God Bless.

Montana Charities Donation

Submitted by Allen Lloyd

As we approach the end of 2020 you may be thinking about donating to one of Montana's charities. Your donation helps these organizations provide critical services and this year many need your help.

In addition to helping charities, your donation can earn a tax deduction. It is critical that you have the correct documents with the correct language for your donation to qualify. IRS rules require that the correct documentation be obtained before the earlier of:

- a. The date you file your return for the year you make the contribution; or
- b. The due date, including extensions, for filing the return.

The impact of this is incorrect documentation cannot be obtained after you file the return. For donations of \$250 or more you are required to have acknowledgement that includes:

1. Your name and address
2. Charity name and address
3. Amount and date of each donation
4. Statement that donor either did or did not receive any goods and services as a result of the contribution

If you need assistance on this or any other tax issue, please contact a CPA. To find a CPA in your area please visit www.mscca.org.

Signup For The Roundup

The Roundup offers free weekly mail delivery in Sidney. If you have a Sidney mailing address and currently do not receive The Roundup newspaper at home (and would like to) sign up today! Stop by 111 West Main, call 406-433-3306 or send your name and address to us at either classesads@esidney.com or PO Box 1207, Sidney, MT 59270.

EVENTS
 SEND US YOUR EVENTS!
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RICHLAND COUNTY

Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT Zone. Wed., Dec. 9

10 a.m.-4 p.m. - Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project Exhibit - Ruth Kendig Photography Show, - Gordon McConnell: When The West Was Won - 30th Annual Miniature Art Show - showing through Jan. 16. - Opening Jan. 5 Jodi Lightner: Straight There and Back - MonDak Heritage Center, Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. For more information call 406-433-3500, e-mail mdhc@richland.org or visit <https://mondakheritagecenter.org/>. Christmas at the Mondak Heritage Center now through noon Dec. 24. - Visit and look for a pair of ice skates hidden somewhere within the facility, find them and receive a coupon for a small bag of popcorn. Purchase a numbered holiday ornament from the tree for \$10, and be added to a drawing for a chance to win a gift tub valued over \$150. (MonDak Heritage Center will close noon, Dec. 24 and reopen Jan. 5, 2021)

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. - WOTM Soups - Open to the public. Knoephla soup. Sidney Moose Lodge.
 Sat., Dec. 12

7 a.m.-3 p.m. - Gifts From The Heart Free Store - Masonic Temple, W Main Street across from courthouse. Masks are required no exceptions. One parent/guardian per household to shop, no children, 15 minutes minimum, only 3 people in building at one time. Gifts must be for children 0-18 and reside in Richland County. If you or your business wishes to donate or volunteer contact Jakkie Waller, 406-480-9117.

10 a.m. - Santa Fun 5 K - 11 a.m. - Santa Fun 1 Mile - 5th Annual Santa Fun Run, 414 N Central Ave, \$25. Gather outside Reynolds to promote social distancing. Run as Santa himself, one of his many elves or maybe in a ugly sweater. Santa will be there to kick off the run but no pictures after the run. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the local Christmas Coalition. For more information or to sign up visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/MT/Sidney/SantaFunRun2016>.

Sun., Dec. 13
 5:30 p.m. - Sidney Moose Lodge Christmas Dinner - All members and family invited. Bring an item for the Richland County Food Bank. Santa Claus at 6:30 p.m. Lodge provides entrée meal, members bring salad or dessert.
 Mon., Dec. 14

7 p.m. - Snacks & Chats - Anxiety & depression support group for teens ages 13-19. Board games, foosball, ping pong and treats. Meetings on 2nd and 4th Mondays each month, Pella Church, not church related.

Mon., Dec. 14, Jan. 4, 18, Feb. 1, 15, March 1, 15 6:30-8 p.m. - Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Meetings - Open to all Moms with school aged children and younger, including Moms who are expecting. Appetizers, desserts, guest speakers, videos, discussions and crafts. Sidney Lutheran Brethren Church, 1101 Madison Lane. No childcare provided. For more information call Stacy Abar, 406-672-1463.

Tues., Dec. 15
 12 p.m. - Job Service Employers Committee Meeting (JSEC) - Open to everyone. Reynolds Market conference room. Meetings every third Tues. of the month. For more information call Margie 406-433-1204 ext. 204.

Wed., Dec. 16
 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. - WOTM Soups - Open to the public. Taco soup. Sidney Moose Lodge.
 Sat., Dec. 19

10 a.m.-4 p.m. - Open Studio Saturdays - Participants must make an appointment, 406-433-3500, mdhc@richland.org. Adults 18+ years old only, masks required. Take home an Art to go Kit for your little ones. MonDak Heritage Center. Make an appointment with Jessica, 406-433-3500 is you're unable to make regular hours.

Sun., Dec. 20
 9 a.m.-noon - Breakfast - Open to the public. Sidney Moose Lodge.
 1 p.m. - Bingo - Open to the public. Sidney Moose Lodge.

Fri., Dec. 25
 11 a.m.-2 p.m. - Sidney Knights of Columbus #3002 Annual Community Christmas Dinner - Free will offering, everyone invited, volunteers welcome. Masks required. St. Matthew's Parish Ned Shinnick Hall, 310 7th St. SE. Call 433-2510 for delivery.

McKENZIE COUNTY

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT Zone Wed., Dec. 9-Fri., Jan. 1, 2021

2nd Annual Candy Cane Lane Drive Thur Event - Displays will be set up at the McKenzie County Fairgrounds. All proceeds will be given to North Dakota Make A Wish Foundation.
 Thurs., Dec. 10, 17, 31

2-4 p.m. - Food Giveaway with New Winter Hours - First Presbyterian Church, 316 4th Ave. NE.
 Sat., Dec. 12

5-8 p.m. - Dan Brown Benefit - Enjoy great food, music and a silent auction. Watford City Eagles Club, 1904 Main St. All money raised will help Dan and LeeAnn Brown with medical and travel expenses.
 Tues., Dec. 15

2-5 p.m. - Food Pantry Handouts With Time Change - First Lutheran Church, 212 2nd St. NW. For more information call McKenzie County Extension Office, 701-444-3451 or visit McKenzie County Food Pantry Facebook page for dates, times and updates.

WILLIAMS COUNTY

Events in Williston unless otherwise listed. CT Zone. Wed., Dec. 9 - Sat., Dec. 12

Holiday Stroll Downtown Williston - Dec. 11, 4-6 p.m. - Say Hello to Santa: The head elf will be strolling around downtown Williston handing out his favorite peppermint treats. - Dec. 11, 2-6 p.m. - Ice Carving Demonstration - The ice sculptors from Minnesota Ice will be back in town creating holiday themed are in the downtown area. - Dec. 9-12 - Find the Christmas Pickle - Find the hidden pickle ornament and take it to the business listed on it for a prize and keep the ornament. - Dec. 9-14 - 12 Nights of Winemas Raffle - Buy raffle tickets at Castle Framing, Style Uncorked or Cooks on Main for the Winemas basket raffle, \$5 each. Baskets will be displayed in the window next to Castle Framing. - Dec. 9-14: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. - Art of the Nativity - Visit the former Hallmark location, 311 Main St to see a wide variety of nativity scenes. - All month: Take pictures with the new photo opportunities, Santa and his elves at City Hall Courtyard, family of snowmen on Hedderich's lot, Mr. Penguin at Renaissance Station Park and festive photo spot at Castle Framing. Tag #WDASTroll2020 on Facebook to show off your holiday pictures. - All month - Donate an ornament - Help decorate the Christmas trees at Hedderich's. For more information on the Holiday Stroll visit Downtowners Association Facebook page.

Wed., Dec. 9 - Thurs., Dec. 31
 5:30-9:30 p.m. - 2020 Spring Lake Park Holiday Lights Drive - The park will be filled with lighted displays. \$5 per car. Gate passes will be available, get a book of 10 for \$40. For more information contact the CVB at 701-774-9041 or stop at Visitors Center, 212 Airport Road to purchase your book of passes.

Thurs., Dec. 17
 7 p.m. - Confluence History Book Club - Join history buffs in discussing this month's book, "Jefferson's Secrets: Death and Desire at Monticello," by Andrew Burstein. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. For more information call Debbie Crossland or Joe Garcia, 701-572-9034.

Fri., Dec. 18 & Sat., Dec. 19
 9 a.m.-4 p.m. - Confluence Sewing and Quilting - All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Bring your own lunch. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. For more information call Debbie Crossland or Joe Garcia, 701-572-9034.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12th

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10am - Noon

Snowblower Giveaway
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VFW Post 4099 Sidney Old Retired Flags Deposit Box

This drop off box for old retired flags is setting by the VFW Post 4099 building in Sidney. The VFW Post 4099 will dispose of the flags through a proper ceremony. The VFW wished to thank Kirby Feldman, Sidney Body Shop, for donating the painting on the box and Ryan Anderson, Signs of Sidney, for donating the lettering and flag work on the front of the box. (Photo by Everett Crum, VFW Post 4099 Quartermaster)

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Tues, Dec 8th - Tues, Dec 15th

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Front (L-R): Wade George and Jeremy D. Krieger.

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Williston Downtowners Association Holiday Stroll, Dec. 9-12

This year the Holiday Stroll will run from Wednesday, Dec. 9-Saturday, Dec. 12. Some of the great activities planned are listed below.

Dec. 11: Say hello to Santa, 4-6 p.m. - Unfortunately there will be no traditional pictures with Santa this year, but keep your eyes peeled, as the head elf will be strolling around downtown handing out his favorite peppermint treats.

Dec. 11: Ice Carving Demonstration, 2-6 p.m. - The ice sculptures from Minnesota Ice will be back in town creating holiday themed art in the downtown area.

Dec. 9-12: Find The Christmas Pickle: - While there are many myths to this Christmas tradition, one thing is that 2020 has been a bit like a pickle - some sweet, some sour! Shoppers are invited to come downtown and find the Christmas Pickle. Several pickle ornaments will be hiding

downtown. When a shopper finds one of the "pickles" they take it into the business listed for a prize, and they get to keep the ornament as well!

Dec. 9-14: 12 Nights of Winemas Raffle - The Williston Downtowners Association is sponsoring a Basket Raffle, featuring 12 baskets with a bottle of wine, glasses, an ornament and other goodies. The baskets will be displayed in the window next to Castle Framing (former Hallmark Building). Shoppers can purchase raffle tickets for \$5 at Castle Framing, Style Uncorked, and Cooks on Main. Drawing will be held, Monday, Dec. 14 and announced via social media.

Dec. 11-12: Art of the Nativity, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. - Visit the former Hallmark location at 311 Main St. (next to Castle Framing) to see a wide variety of nativity scenes from traditional to modern.

Picture Time All Month - Take a picture with some of the new outdoor photo opportunities downtown, courtesy of the Williston Convention & Visitors Bureau! Santa and his Elves are hanging out at the City Hall Courtyard; a family of snowmen is on the Hedderich's lot, and a cool Mr. Penguin is at the Renaissance Station Park. There is also a festive photo spot at Castle Framing. Tag #WDASTroll2020 on Facebook to show off your holiday pictures.

Donate an Ornament All Month: There will be Christmas Trees set up on the Hedderich's lot. Help decorate them by placing a store bought or handmade ornament on the tree!

Watch our Facebook page for more information and details on the festivities!

Upcoming Programs Presented At Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center

Williston - The public is invited to these upcoming events at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center near Williston. All events are free and open to the public. All times are Central times. Masks are required and visitors are asked to follow state and local mandates and the CDC's recommendations on social distancing and personal hygiene.

Dec. 17: Confluence History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join history buffs in discussing this month's book, «Jefferson's Secrets: Death and Desire at Monticello,» by Andrew Burstein. Free refreshments.

Dec. 18-19: Confluence Sewing and Quilting, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Bring your own lunch.

For more information, contact Debbie Crossland or Joe Garcia at 701-572-9034. The Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center is part of Fort Buford State Historic Site managed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The Interpretive Center is open for appointments by calling 701-572-9034. Fort Buford is closed.

For more information about additional upcoming programs of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, go to history.nd.gov/events.

2020 Spring Lake Park Holiday Lights Drive Through Dec. 31

The Spring Lake Park Holiday Lights Drive is from 5:30-9:30 p.m., \$5 per car and will continue through Dec. 31.

The Holiday Lights Drive is still happening despite the current pandemic restrictions. The park will be filled with lighted displays for a wonderful interactive drive through the holiday lights. The activities our lights drive is known for will be handled differently this year, but the lights will be brighter than ever and will bring holiday cheer as it has been doing for the past 18 years.

Gate passes will be available again this year! A book of 10 can be purchased for \$40 (\$10 savings per book) and give them out to friends, co-workers, in Christmas cards and to the people who help you out all year long like your delivery person, mailman, hair stylist and others. Contact the CVB for details at 701-774-9041 or stop out at the Visitors Center at 212 Airport Road to purchase your book of passes!

Dec. 10 & 12 - Ice Carving Demonstrations: Holiday craft items will be available

at the gate house for children in the vehicle while supplies last, then cruise by the keel boat to see what the ice sculptor is making.

Dec. 14 - Bumble Night: Watch for the Abominable Snowman? This night comes with a take home craft for children in the vehicle while supplies last.

Dec. 15 - Dinosaur Night: Each child in the vehicle gets to take home a special dino themed activity while supplies last! Watch for the dinosaur light display.

Dec. 17 - Grinch Gives Back Night: This year the Grinch is collecting personal care items for the Family Crisis Shelter and would love to have your help. See the Spring Lake Park Holiday Light Drive Facebook page for a list of items the shelter could use.

Dec. 18 - Pajama Night: The first 50 cars to visit in their pajamas will receive a special holiday movie and popcorn surprise.

Dec. 19 - Free Book Night: Christmas books for all ages. Stop at the ice-house in the keel boat parking lot for your free book.

Dec. 21 & 22 - Reindeer

Nights: Find the reindeer in the display by the keel boat parking lot. Take home crafts will be distributed from the gate house for kids in the car while supplies last.

Dec. 26 - Great Elf Send Off: Try and find all 15-miniature elves partying around the park. This is the last night to complete the Elf on the Shelf bingo card.

Dec. 30 - New Year's Eve Party: Party swag bags available for children in the vehicle at the gate house while supplies last. Come early to watch the ten-minute fireworks show starting at 8 p.m.

Other activities weather permitting

Wednesday Night Hayrides with Ironhide: Up to 10 people or 2 families per ride. Check with the driver in the keel boat parking lot to verify availability. First come, first serve, 6-8 p.m.

Luminary Sundays: Hundreds of luminaries will be lit up along the road. Techno Luminary Sunday, Dec. 27.

Elf on the Shelf Bingo: Every night through Dec. 26, the life size Elf on the Shelf will be moved. Find him and

mark off the corresponding square with the date on your bingo card! Cards available at the Lights Drive gate. Complete a row and return your winning card to the Williston Convention & Visitors Bureau for a prize.

Self-Guided Photo Opportunities: Refer to the map from the gate house for specific locations corresponding to these numbers:

6. The Lighted Bridge, east side of park

9. Christmas Tree Bench, east side of park, Sleigh and Polar Bear, Lions Amphitheater

28. Grinch (attached to wall inside pavilion shelter) Lighted Frame, pavilion shelter

76. Lighted Tunnel and Santa's Mailbox, south side of park

Letters to Santa: Leave your letter to Santa in the mailbox on the south edge of the park near the playground (#76 on the map). These are picked up daily and replied to, if a return address is provided! You can use the blank letter form you receive at the Lights Drive gate.

Winter Classes Open For Registration

For details and to register, visit handyandynursery.com or our Facebook page

December 15 Dried Centerpiece
 December 19 Christmas Centerpiece
 January 23 Aqua Tanks 101
 February 6 Mini Garden



*Dried Centerpiece
December 15*

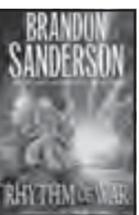
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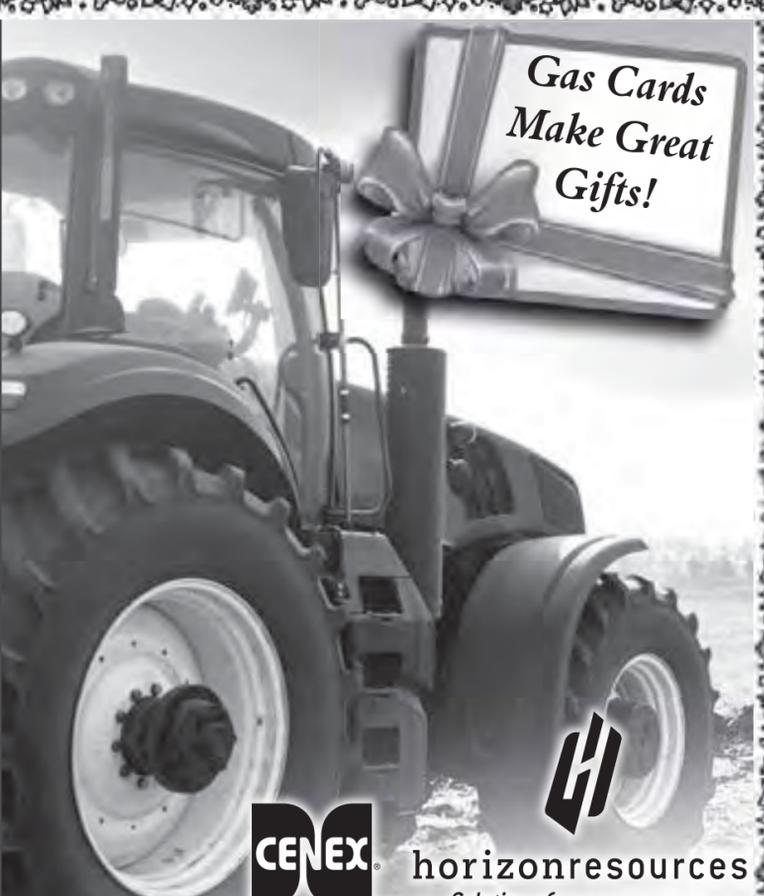
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Pirtle Agrees To Plea Agreement

Facing seven felony charges, Direll Donta Pirtle has agreed to a plea agreement. A hearing and a pre-sentence investigation haven't been scheduled yet in Richland Co. District Court.

As part of the agreement, Pirtle made Nolo Contendere (no contest) pleas to the felony offenses of criminal possession of dangerous drugs, heroin, with intent to distribute; criminal possession of dangerous drugs, cocaine, with intent to distribute; criminal possession of dangerous drugs, meth, with intent to distribute; criminal possession of dangerous drugs, marijuana, with intent to distribute; criminal possession of dangerous drugs, oxycodone, with intent to distribute; use or possession of property subject to criminal forfeiture; and use or possession of property subject to criminal forfeiture.

The plea agreement calls for Pirtle to serve 20 years, all suspended, for

each of the first four counts. Pirtle will be sentenced to the Montana Department of Corrections for five years for criminal possession of dangerous drugs, oxycodone, with intent to distribute. He will receive 10-year suspended sentences for the two use or possession of property subject to criminal forfeiture counts.

The sentences for the first four counts will run concurrent to each other and consecutive to the oxycodone charge. The last two counts will run concurrent to each other and consecutive to the first four counts. Overall, Pirtle is scheduled to be sentenced to the Montana State Prison for five years followed by 30 years suspended.

According to court documents, a Sidney police officer noticed a vehicle with a defective headlight on July 17, 2020, at about 1 a.m. When he drove to get a better look at the headlight, he saw that the vehicle had a California license plate and

that the vehicle following displayed Arizona license plates. The officer followed both vehicles as they went north through Central Ave. With the vehicles going 34 miles per hour, the officer activated his overhead emergency lights to initiate a traffic stop of the Arizona plated vehicle for speeding. The officer radioed another officer regarding the California-plated vehicle.

Pirtle was driving the Arizona-plated vehicle. According to charging documents, Pirtle's hands were shaking and he was speaking very fast. He had a torch style lighter on his lap. The officer informed Direll that he was going to give him a warning and had Direll join him in the patrol vehicle for enforcement action.

After a conversation in the patrol vehicle, the officer asked Direll if he could search Direll's vehicle. Direll pointed his hands toward his vehicle and told the officer to go ahead. When the officer searched the trunk, he

found a large bag containing numerous packages. One of the packages had a bag containing a clear crystalline substance believed to be meth.

The vehicle was then towed to the Richland County Law and Justice Center pending the application for a search warrant. At about 7:30 a.m., a search warrant was granted. Items seized included three medium sized zip-lock bags containing a white powdery substance, seven various size bags of narcotics, a plastic baggie with white residue, five tape wrapped bags of narcotics weighing roughly one pound each, a black hi-standard brand handgun with a suspected suppressor, two large bags of raw marijuana, jewelry bag with white residue, a bag containing numerous tablets of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and two marijuana roaches.

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and reliable automobile. Short distance travel may be necessary. Required testing for: spelling & grammar (basic), reading comprehension & Microsoft Word 2010 at Job Service. Call 433-1204 for testing. To apply, contact Sidney Job Service for a generic application.

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Attorneys for Co-Personal Representative
Email: rjlaw@midrivers.com
MONTANA SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, RICHLAND COUNTY
PROBATE NO. DP-20-98 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM E. DUNN, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed Co-Personal Representatives of the above-named estate.

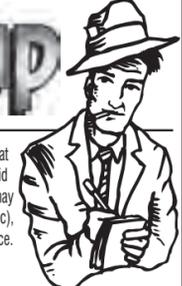
All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
Claims must either be mailed to PENNY LYNN DUNN or VICKI RAE DUNBAR, the Co-Personal Representatives, return receipt requested at The Savage Law Firm, PO Box 1105, Sidney, Montana 59270 or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. DATED this 23rd day of November, 2020.
PENNY LYNN DUNN, Co-Personal Representative
VICKI RAE DUNBAR, Co-Personal Representative
(Publish November 25, December 2, and 9, 2020.)

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Interested persons may send a letter of interest, a District Application and 2-3 letters of reference to Superintendent Martha Potter at PO Box 110, Savage, MT 59262 or marthap@savagepublicschool.com. A background check will be required for employment.
Please call the school for a District Application at 776-2317.
A job description will be available at the school office.

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Freelance position for reporter to take photos & write stories at a weekly regional publication. Must have computer skills, valid driver's license & reliable automobile. Short distance travel may be necessary. Required testing for: spelling & grammar (basic), reading comprehension & Microsoft Word 2010 at Job Service.
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Lunch Menus!

Sidney School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Chili, cinnamon rolls, pineapple tidbits.
Fri., Dec. 11: No school.
Mon., Dec. 14: Cheeseburgers, oven wedges, grapes.
Tues., Dec. 15: Chicken taco salad, strawberry banana sauce, cookies.
Wed., Dec. 16: Biscuits and gravy, hash browns, orange juice.

Savage School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Potato dumpling soup, club sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, apricots.
Fri., Dec. 11: No school.
Mon., Dec. 14: Chicken a la king, biscuits, peas, pears.
Tues., Dec. 15: Christmas dinner, ham.
Wed., Dec. 16: Taco salad bowls, lettuce, black olives, sour cream, tomatoes, apricots.

Rau School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Cheeseburger soup, breadsticks, mandarin oranges.
Fri., Dec. 11: No school.
Mon., Dec. 14: Beef or pork patty, potatoes, gravy, banana.
Tues., Dec. 15: Cheeseburgers, baked beans, peaches.
Wed., Dec. 16: Chicken parmesan, green beans, tropical fruit, dinner rolls.

Froid School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Hamburger gravy over mashed potatoes, buns, veggies, fruit.
Fri., Dec. 11: Breakfast burritos, hash browns, gogurts, fruit.
Mon., Dec. 14: Pizza pasta, lettuce mix, fruit.
Tues., Dec. 15: Shepherds pie, buns, veggies, fruit.
Wed., Dec. 16: Ham, twice baked potatoes, green beans, buns, dessert.

Bainville School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Cheesy breadsticks, marinara sauce, celery sticks with peanut butter, pineapple.
Fri., Dec. 11: Sloppy joes, french fries, carrot sticks, bananas.
Mon., Dec. 14: Cheese soup, dinner rolls, carrot sticks, applesauce.
Tues., Dec. 15: Breakfast for lunch, waffles, ham, hash brown patty, strawberry fluff.
Wed., Dec. 16: BBQ pulled pork sandwiches, tater tots, coleslaw, peaches.

Richey School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Cheeseburgers, carrots, fruit.
Fri., Dec. 11: No school.
Mon., Dec. 14: Meatball subs, green beans, fruit.
Tues., Dec. 15: Christmas dinner.
Wed., Dec. 16: Baked potato bar.

Culbertson School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Breakfast for lunch, pancakes, bacon, hash browns, mandarin oranges.
Fri., Dec. 11: Chicken nuggets, puzzle fries, carrots, celery.
Mon., Dec. 14: Lasagna, garlic bread, green beans.
Tues., Dec. 15: Hot ham and cheese sandwiches, vegetable soup, pineapple.
Wed., Dec. 16: Turkey dinner, mashed potatoes, gravy, homemade rolls, corn.

Lambert School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Buffalo chicken bake, peas, fruit.
Fri., Dec. 11: Fish sandwiches, tots, fruit.
Mon., Dec. 14: Sweet and sour chicken, stir fry veggies, pineapple.
Tues., Dec. 15: Chalupas, fresh veggies, fruit.
Wed., Dec. 16: Christmas dinner, ham.

FAIRVIEW SCHOOL
Thurs., Dec. 10: Chalupas, refried beans, fruit.
Fri., Dec. 11: No school.
Mon., Dec. 14: Hamburgers, fries, veggies, fruit.
Tues., Dec. 15: Cheese french bread pizza, veggies, fruit.
Wed., Dec. 16: Meatball subs, baked beans, fruit.

Alexander School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Philly steak sandwiches, crisscuts.
Fri., Dec. 11: Breakfast for lunch.
Mon., Dec. 14: Baked chicken or cod, rice pilaf, broccoli.
Tues., Dec. 15: Spaghetti or alfredo, green beans, garlic toast.
Wed., Dec. 16: Taco in a bag.

Watford City School
Thurs., Dec. 10: Ham wrap with wedges.
Fri., Dec. 11: French bread pizza, treat.
Mon., Dec. 14: Chicken teriyaki with fried rice, fortune cookie.
Tues., Dec. 15: Beef and bean burritos, fritos.
Wed., Dec. 16: Chicken dumpling soup, crackers.

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Please call the school at 776-2317 for a District Application.

POSITION AVAILABLE
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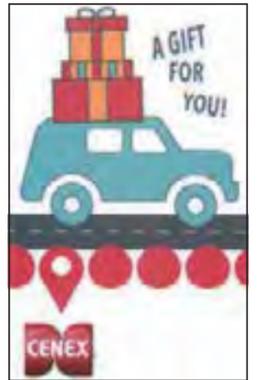
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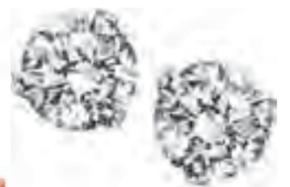


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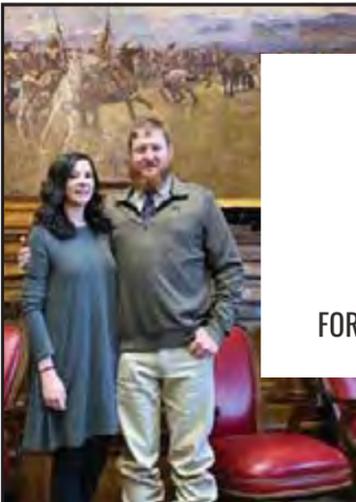


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MONTANA

CMS Extends Montana's Medicaid Expansion Waiver During Pandemic

The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) announced that Montana's Medicaid expansion program, which provides health coverage to 90,000 Montanans, has been approved for continuation by the federal government.

This news is a result of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) extending the state's current Medicaid expansion demonstration waiver for another year.

This allows the thousands of Montanans enrolled in the program to keep their health coverage in 2021, and will give CMS additional time to work through the approval of the program application based on legislation passed in 2019.

Health care providers praised the news.

"During this time of uncertainty, all Montanans can feel secure in knowing that Medicaid coverage will be there for them if they need it," said Dr. David Mark, MD, and CEO of Bighorn Valley Health Center. "As we all grapple with the economic strain of the pandemic, Medicaid expansion ensures that Montanans who've lost their jobs have health coverage, which is more important now than ever."

While the state sub-

mitted the waiver request in 2019 as required by the legislation, the COVID-19 public health emergency has placed considerable unforeseen workload on federal regulators, who have been working with all 50 states on an unprecedented array of temporary regulatory flexibilities to equip the American health care system to deal with the pandemic.

"Medicaid expansion has kept our doors open and kept us able to serve everyone in our community," said CEO Cherie Taylor, Northern Rockies Medical Center, Cut Bank. "It has been critical to the financial viability of critical access hospitals like ours, and I can't say enough how crucial it has been to helping us through this pandemic. If we hadn't had Medicaid expansion in place before the pandemic started, our hospital might not be here now."

State leaders point to the foresight of Montana's legislature, whose actions ensured that Medicaid expansion would continue even if the state didn't receive immediate CMS approval for every change made to the program in 2019.

In addition to ensuring Medicaid will continue while federal regulators work through approving Medicaid

expansion in Montana for a longer demonstration period, the state has already implemented the changes the legislature made to the program that don't require federal waiver approval, including updates to copayments, the eligibility process, and the program's funding. Federal waivers are required for the state to implement certain program variations or flexibilities, including aspects of Montana's Medicaid expansion program.

In addition, Montana has the only workforce development program in the US that has been proven to increase labor market participation among Montanans with Medicaid coverage by 6%. Medicaid expansion has helped make Montana an even better place to live, work and do business while better positioning the state for economic growth. Every year, Medicaid expansion adds \$600 million in economic output to Montana's economy.

It has fueled 9,715 new jobs, \$793 million in associated wages and \$30.5 million in new state tax revenue. Additionally, Medicaid expansion is expected to generate \$1.6 billion in personal income and \$2.1 billion in economic output or new sales during its first five years.

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Annual Reach Higher Montana Scholarship Launches Participating students can win a \$1,000 scholarship.

Helena - Do you know a student who could use \$1,000 to help pay for their education? The Reach Higher Montana Scholarship program opened on Dec. 1, 2020, at www.ReachHigherMontana.org. This year, the Montana-based nonprofit organization will award 81 scholarships – 30 awards for Class of 2021 graduating high school seniors, and 50 awards for students currently attending a Montana college or university for use in the 2021-2022 academic

year.

In addition, one \$1,000 scholarship is earmarked for a current college student who has, or is currently, serving in the military. "The Carl Valvoda Military Scholarship is awarded in memory of Carl Valvoda, the son and husband of two former co-workers, who passed away due to a brain tumor," said Rhonda Safford, Reach Higher Montana Programs Manager.

The deadline to apply is Jan. 15, 2021.

To be eligible for the scholarship, all applicants must have at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA, be attending or have graduated from a Montana high school, and completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2021-2022. Scholarships may only be used at Montana postsecondary education institutions, including private and tribal colleges, and two-year, four-year, and univer-

sity campuses. Scholarship funds are awarded directly to the colleges, and can be applied towards any elements of the recipient's cost of attendance as calculated by the financial aid office.

"This is a popular scholarship, and every year we receive between 800-900 applications," said Tessa Michelotti, Reach Higher Montana Programs coordinator. "If you need help with your scholarship application,

or just want to make sure your application stands out, check out our website for videos and helpful tips."

Michelotti cautions students interested in applying for the Reach Higher Montana scholarship to watch carefully which application they are completing. High school students need to complete the high school application; current college students need to complete the current college student

application.

The Reach Higher Montana website provides access to hundreds of scholarships, and the organization posts new scholarship opportunities on its Facebook and Instagram pages every Thursday.

For more information, please visit Reach Higher Montana's website, www.ReachHigherMontana.org, or follow us on Facebook.

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Energy Roundup



2021 Predictions for Oil & Mineral Based Industries According to Massive Minerals Management

SAN ANTONIO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Heading into 2021, Massive Minerals Management announces six predictions that energy sector participants as well as mineral and royalty owners in particular, should consider as they prepare for potential outcomes and ramifications of the Covid-19 pandemic extending well into 2021. In sum, we will likely see artificially depressed energy demand, stagnating prices, depressed drilling activity, less production and cash flow leading to diminishing returns to investors, ultimately leading to the acceleration of capital flight and consolidation among industry participants.

"To be certain, Covid-19 has not single-handedly destroyed oil and gas prices. For a number of reasons, commodity prices were facing headwinds throughout 2019 and into 2020. The emergence of the coronavirus and its knock-on effects, however, converted these headwinds into a collective hurricane," says attorney, Ben Holliday, Massive Minerals

Management founder.

Six predictions for energy industry participants – particularly mineral and royalty owners – to consider if the pandemic extends through 2021 and economic recovery materializes later than expected:

1. Demand remains artificially depressed. While the coronavirus has not materially impacted the supply side or curtailed our ability to produce oil and gas, we have witnessed a catastrophic demand destruction; simply put, we are not using anywhere close to the number of hydrocarbons that we were one year ago. People have refrained from travel and moving about all together due to short-term government restrictions and/or health driven choices in direct relation to the virus. While the temporary alteration of consumer patterns may accelerate some portions of renewable energy, the underlying demand fundamentals for hydrocarbons are there, they are just artificially depressed/constrained.

2. Depressed demand

leads to a stagnating price.

Until the world returns to pre-Covid consumption patterns and people are back on airplanes, in offices, and returning to stadiums, etc. oil prices should remain correspondingly depressed.

3. A stagnated price will lead to more depressed drilling activity. 2021 is presently trending heavily towards operators moving into what has been referred to as 'maintenance mode,' meaning that capex is geared primarily towards generating free cash flow from existing assets. A prolonged pandemic through 2021 and into 2022 should deepen this commitment to maintaining the status quo over production growth.

4. Less wells = less production = less cash flow. The ability to immediately reduce drilling provides operators short-term relief in terms of cost-savings; less money is going out the door. However, due to the short-cycle nature of unconventional oil and gas development, where the vast

majority of production occurs in the first 6-18 months, a dramatic drop in drilling and well completions will in short order lead to a correspondingly dramatic drop in production and therefore cash flow. This then exacerbates a separate headwind to additional drilling – the market's demand for returns. Should the pandemic depress demand and thus price through 2021, the corresponding decline in production will lead to a commensurate decline in cash flow available to operators, both to service debt and return to investors.

5. Decrease in cash flow destroys returns to investors, which leads to the acceleration of capital flight and eventually consolidation. As oil and gas companies find themselves increasingly cut-off from traditional sources of funding, the status quo has dramatically changed. The industry as a whole has shifted from growth-focus to survival, and here survival depends on the financial means to weather the downturn. H2 2020 has

seen well, or at least relatively well, capitalized majors begin the acquisition cycle in earnest, with major acquisitions by Chevron (acquiring Noble Energy), Pioneer (acquiring Parsley Energy), and Conoco (acquiring Concho Resources). Should the pandemic continue on through 2021, resulting in a continued low-price environment which leads to correspondingly low returns, the number of vulnerable companies faced with insolvency or acquisition will increase exponentially. Consolidation will occur en masse in all facets of the upstream oil and gas industry, including service providers.

6. What is the most likely outcome? Consolidation and Concentration. Should the pandemic continue relatively unabated through 2021, the most likely outcome for the domestic oil and gas industry is Consolidation and Concentration. Simply put, there will be fewer companies in all areas of the industry – E&P, services, mid-stream – focused on a smaller, tighter geographic footprint in select areas: the Permian Basin, as well as the Bakken, Eagle Ford, and Haynesville Shales.

Additionally, if these predictions ensue, the potential beneficiaries will be those companies well positioned to acquire low-cost operators and core acreage positions. Ideally, these are stock deals for less than 10% premiums. For mineral and royalty owners, now is the perfect time to prepare for

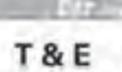
an upswing. A good start would be to focus on the three most common issues that could be missed or glossed over during periods of highly active oil and gas development: the operator's ability to hold acreage, confirming payment in full on all production from their minerals, and ensuring that any concerns about surface operations are properly addressed.

In a time of exponential change in both the global economy and the oil and gas industry, it is imperative that mineral owners have a complete understanding of their mineral asset portfolio and its full value profile both today and tomorrow. Therefore, for this audience specifically, Massive Minerals Management wrote an insider's guide entitled "Top 12 questions mineral owners should ask" which can be found online here.

"If the Covid-19 pandemic continues through 2021, the oil industry and mineral owners should note that: drilling may slow, operator turnover will be high, royalty cash flow may decrease, and mineral acquisition offers may increase," adds Holliday. "It's paramount that mineral owners remain vigilant in these times and continue to monitor and compare production volumes, production payments, and lease compliance to ensure that any discrepancies are timely caught and addressed."

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Dec. 11 Deadline Approaching For USDA Program For Farmers/Ranchers Impacted By COVID-19

FSA Staff Standing By To Help

Washington - The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds farmers and ranchers to apply for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2) by Dec. 11. This program provides direct relief to producers facing market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19.

"With over 300 eligible commodities, from livestock and row crops to specialty crops and aquaculture, most farmers and ranchers are potentially eligible for CFAP 2," said Richard Fordyce, Farm Service Agency administrator. "FSA offers several options for farmers and ranchers to apply. Don't

wait to check out our on-line resources and connect with our employees who are ready to answer your questions and help you get started on your application."

Producers have several options for applying for the CFAP 2 program by the Dec. 11 deadline. Producers can find eligible commodities, payment rates, calculations and options to apply on farmers.gov/cfap.

Customers seeking one-on-one support with the CFAP 2 application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer general assistance. This is a recommended first step before a producer engages

the team at the FSA county office. The call center can also provide service to non-English speaking customers. Customers will select 1 for English and 2 to speak with a Spanish speaking employee. For other languages, customers select 1 and indicate their language to the call center staff.

Additionally, farmers.gov offers a number of resources for producers interested in applying for CFAP 2, including:

- Eligible Commodities Finder
- Videos, including "How to Apply for CFAP 2"
- Blogs, including "Myth Debunked: Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2"

A correction to the CFAP 2 rule is pending. In case a producer is affected by this correction, FSA will provide additional time to apply or edit their application.

CFAP 2 is a separate program from the first iteration of CFAP, now referred to as CFAP 1. Participating in CFAP 1 is not a prerequisite for participating in CFAP 2. Additionally, producers who applied for CFAP 1 will not be automatically enrolled in CFAP 2 and must complete a new application to be eligible for assistance.

Both CFAP 1 and CFAP 2 are self-certification programs, which means the applicant certifies the information submitted is cor-

rect. As part of the internal controls portion of CFAP 1, FSA is conducting spot checks of applications, asking producers to provide supporting documentation to verify the information on them. Producers are being selected using a statistically sound methodology. These CFAP 1 applicants will be contacted by FSA staff and asked to provide supporting documentation to verify the information certified by the producer on their CFAP 1 application.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments. All Service Center visitors wishing to

conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors are also required to wear a face covering during their appointment. Our program delivery staff will continue to work with our producers by phone, email and using on-line tools. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Montana Pollinator Education Project – Pollinator Education For Students & Adults

Submitted by Rebecca Colnar, Ag NewsWire

Manhattan, MT - Montana Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (MAITCF) and Gallatin County Conservation District are pleased to announce the updated version of the Montana Pollinator Education Project. This project focuses on vital information regarding pollinator species and their crucial role in Montana's conservation and agriculture sectors.

This project showcases species and families of pollinators that make Montana their home. Each species has its own unique biodiversity and role in pollination. Factors such as housing, plant relationships, and unique characteristics are

highlighted for each species. Seed packets are included in each kit to assist in creating a habitat for pollinators.

Lesson plans for K-8 teachers are ready for teachers to implement. Several graphic images of pollinators are also available on the website for a deeper understanding of pollinator markings and anatomy. Montana wildflower graphics are also available for teachers to use in the classroom to make connections between pollinators and conservation.

Pollinator enthusiasts, along with gardeners, conservationists, and student groups will find this project very helpful when seeking information on the role pollinator's play in our lives and the health of their pollinator

habitat. Several publications are included for additional information on lending a hand for pollinator conservation.

The Montana Pollinator Education Project is a combined effort by Montana Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation, Gallatin County Conservation District, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Natural Resources Conservation Services, and Montana State University.

Cost: Pollinator education kits are free, postage and handling rates may apply.

Where to request a copy: email.montanaaitc@gmail.com

Showcase events are planned for 2021, pending travel restrictions.

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Hometown Homemade
We3B's Photography

Door 204
Kortney Beth Art & Chad Ziemendorf Photography

Long X Visitor Center/
Museum
Trish Stevenson Fine Art & Rhonda Whited Art

Meyer's Dept Store
Afton Ray-Rossol Art & Hang It On The Line



Now Through December 24th

longxarts.com | 701-770-8659 | longxart@gmail.com