

Boys & Girls Club Dinner & Auction Saturday

The Boys and Girls Club of Richland County Dinner and Auction has been set for 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 31 at the Richland County Fair Event Center located on the Richland County Fair and Rodeo grounds.

In addition to a multitude of sports memorabilia items up for auction, there are items of interest to everyone in the community. Some of those items include a Fender guitar and amplifier from Sunrise Music, a limited edition Carol Hagan framed and matted print "Blue Eared Bear", framed John Deere prints, a John Deere tool box, "Snowflake" stuffed pony from Wells Fargo, a Lorenzo gemstone pendant from Stockhill Jewelers, 2 hour birthday party rental with the bouncy castle, a shot and bottle horseshoe holder by Tyler Larson and much, much more.

This year's theme is "Tailgating" and guests arriving in their favorite team's jerseys or face paint will be entered

into a special raffle. The dinner will be catered by The Ranger Lounge, Casino & Eatery and will be buffet style, featuring Mike's famous chicken fried steak and fried chicken. Special tailgating appetizers will also be available starting at 5 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$25 each or 2 for \$45. We truly appreciate all of the support that the



Carol Hagan, limited edition, print "Orange Glow of Sunset" #12 of 30. More of Carol's work can be found at www.carolhaganstudios.com.

community has provided to help the Boys and Girls Club provide a positive place for our local young people to go and to help fulfill the mission

of the club "To inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens."



Fender guitar & amplifier from Sunrise Music valued at over \$600

Friday BrownBagger Looks At Wheat Stem Sawfly, Natural Enemies

Wheat stem sawfly has been on the rise in recent years and USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists in Sidney are looking at a variety of factors to keep the pest in check. In particular, Sidney researchers and their collaborators in Montana and North Dakota have been looking at numerous solid stem lines to determine their resistance to wheat stem sawfly but also their impact on native wasp parasitoids that attack and kill the pest. They want to know if varieties currently exist, or can be developed, that aid both efforts. They also want to know whether there are particular genotypes beneficial to the parasitoids that breeders can use when developing new varieties.

On a larger scale, Sidney ARS researchers are also looking at the impact grasslands adjacent to wheat fields have as a source of both wheat stem sawfly infestations and/or their native parasitoids. The issue is of increasing importance as more and more land is scheduled to come out of the Conservation Reserve Program in the next several years. Does removing the CRP grass cover reduce infestations, or will the anticipated increase in wheat rotation acreage compound the current problem?

These questions and more are the subject of the next two presentations in the 2012 BrownBagger series sponsored by the USDA-ARS Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory (NPRL) in Sidney. The first presentation by NPRL Entomologist and Insect Ecologist Tatyana Rand is set for this Friday, March 30th from noon to 1 pm, and is entitled "Factors influencing wheat stem sawfly infestation levels and parasitism by native biocontrol agents."

The results of her research, Rand notes, will help producers identify and balance their management strategies so that they work together to more effectively curb the wheat pest and preserve its natural enemy.

Her presentation will be followed the next Friday (April 6th) by our final BrownBagger of the year to be given by Sidney ARS Entomologist Kevin Delaney. A portion of Dr. Delaney's talk will also include research results related to wheat stem sawfly. His work is focused on how the environment and different wheat varieties, both solid and hollow-stem, affect wheat stem sawfly development and how sawfly larvae impact grain mass when feeding inside the wheat stem.

"We're looking at both how the wheat plant affects the sawfly and how the sawfly affects the wheat plant," Delaney noted.

All NPRL BrownBagger presentations are open to the public, so bring your lunch and learn more at these informative upcoming sessions. Coffee and cookies will be provided. The lab is located at 1500 N. Central in Sidney and all presentations begin at noon. For more information, contact Beth Redlin at 406-433-9427.

As noted above our last BrownBagger presentation for 2012 includes another look at wheat stem sawfly, as well as additional information on weed biocontrol research projects underway at the Sidney lab:

Apr. 6: Kevin Delaney, Entomologist, ARS-Sidney, MT
Wheat stem sawfly – wheat interactions with spring wheat, and classical biocontrol of weeds

Neighborhood Watch Meeting In Fairview On Thursday

By Jodi McPherson

With the increase of residents and a noticeable increase in crime, newcomers and long-time residents of eastern Montana and western North Dakota are concerned about what can be done to feel safer.

Fairview, East Fairview & surrounding area will be holding a Neighborhood Watch Program informational meeting beginning at 5:30, Thursday, March 29, at the Fairview High School Cafeteria. An information session will be held from 5:30-6:00 p.m. and a question and answer session will run from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

Organizers have invited local law enforcement and McKenzie County, N.D. Sheriff's Department to attend the meeting on Thursday.

A Neighborhood Watch Program (NWP) is a crime prevention program that stresses education and common sense and empowers citizens to become active in community efforts through participation in neighborhood watch groups.

A meeting was publicized and held in Sidney last fall for those interested in NWP. A community safety forum was then held in January. Meetings are now being scheduled in Sidney on neighborhood levels to get the program going and to learn the proper conduct of the program.

Bridget Tighe, DFC Project Coordinator at District II Alcohol and Drug, in Sidney has been actively involved with the NWP. Tighe has been supportive in giving those interested in the community effort information to get the program running.

"There are currently two neighborhoods in Sidney participating in launching their NWP programs," said Tighe, "This program actually takes very little time or work, it's just about getting to know your neighbors and looking out for them."

With the nice weather motivating people, participants involved with NWP in Sidney have also discussed incorporating "Block Parties" as part of the efforts.

The Neighborhood Watch Program is open to everyone. Those interested in joining or getting more information on Neighborhood Watch Program can contact Tighe at b.tighe@live.com.

Watford City Community Prevention Coalition To Host Town Hall Meeting

Watford City's Community Prevention Coalition will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting on March 29 at the Watford City Civic Center. The meeting will take place from 6:30-8 p.m., with a free catered supper starting at 6 p.m. The meeting is titled "What's Really Happening in Watford City?" Door prize drawings for those in attendance include two Kindle Fires, \$100 and \$50 in Watford City bucks. Pre-registrations are requested by Tuesday, March 27 to give a food count, but is not required for attendance.

Community members are invited to attend an evening of discussion about local issues, specifically underage drinking and alcohol abuse.

The meeting will include a panel discussion with members from the following agencies: Watford City Police Department, McKenzie County Sheriff's Department, McKenzie County Healthcare Systems, Watford City Fire Department, McKenzie County Social Services, McKenzie County District #1 Superintendent of Schools, Watford City High School Student Council, McKenzie County Ministerial Association, and a parent representative. Community members will leave with an understanding of Watford City's substance abuse prevention plan and ways to get involved in local efforts.

"It is great to see the community coming together to take action," said Slade Herfindahl, Watford City Police Chief.

According to the 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 78% of Watford City high school students reported having at least one drink of alcohol on one or more days during their life. In the past 30 days, nearly half (49%) of the Watford City high school students reported they had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days.

The Town Hall Meeting is sponsored by the McKenzie County Community Prevention Coalition.

For more information on the coalition or the Town Hall Meeting, contact Marcia Hellandsaas, NDSU Extension Agent/McKenzie County at 701-444-3451 or marcia.hellandsaas@ndsu.edu.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 31, 2012
10:00am

Water Tower Park
0 - 12 years old

Sponsored by Sidney Moose Lodge & Chapter

If inclement weather then will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2012



Sidney Tiger Sharks Swim Team Registration
 Mon. & Tues., April 2 & 3
5 - 7 p.m.
Westside Elementary School

Cost:
Individual Swimmer - \$40
Family - \$70
Shark Pups - additional \$20 per swimmer
 Bring copy of birth certificate
 (must be at least 4 years old - limited space)
Note: Late fee of \$10 for sign-ups after scheduled sign-up dates.



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April 8, 11-3

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Informational Meetings To Discuss MT 16/MT 200 Glendive To Fairview Corridor Planning Study

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is conducting two informational meetings to discuss the MT 16/MT 200 Glendive to Fairview Corridor Planning Study. The study area begins on MT 16 at approximate 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 study 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 study excludes areas within the city limits of Glendive, Sidney and Fairview. The informational meetings will be held as follows:

* Wednesday, April 4, starting at 6 p.m. at the Dawson Community College, 300 College Drive, Lecture Hall (UC 102), Glendive.

* Thursday, April 5, starting at 6 p.m. at the Sidney High School cafeteria, 1012 4th Ave. SE, Sidney.

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

The purpose of the meetings is to inform the community about the scope and purpose of the corridor study, present

information about existing and projected conditions, and request community feedback about opportunities and constraints that may influence development of improvement options.

Community participation is a very important part of the process, and the public is encouraged to attend. Comments may be submitted in writing at the meeting; by mail to Sarah Nicolai, DOWL HKM, PO Box 1009, Helena, MT 59624; by email to snicolai@dowlhkm.com; or online at

<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/mt16/comments.shtml>

Please indicate comments are for the MT 16/MT 200 Glendive to Fairview Corridor Planning Study.

MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any service, program or activity of our department. If you require reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please call Sarah Nicolai at 406-442-0370 at least two days before the meeting. For the hearing impaired, the TTY number is 406-444-7696 or 1-800-335-7592, or call Montana Relay at 711. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request.

Karst-Tjelde Wed In Bahamas



Sarah and Ted Karst

Ted Karst and Sarah Tjelde were married Nov. 11, 2011, at Sandals Emerald Bay, Bahamas.

Carrie Faulhaber, sister of the bride, was the matron of honor and Tim Karst, brother of the groom, was the best man.

Sarah is the daughter of Paul and Patti Tjelde, Sidney, and Ted is the son of Jim and Cheryl Karst and Arlene Karst, Fairview.

The couple resides in Fairview, MT.

Turner-Linder Announce Engagement & Wedding Date



Desiree Turner and Ken Linder

Stan and Sandy Turner, Sidney, wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Desiree Turner, to Ken Linder, son of Bill Linder and Tammy Linder, Sidney.

Desiree and Ken are both attending MSU Bozeman. Desiree is studying micro biology and Ken is studying land resources and environmental services.

A June 2 wedding is planned in Sidney with the reception at the Richland County Fair Event Center following the wedding.

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Bakken Investor & MT Energy Conferences Next Week

By Jodi McPherson

The increase in oil industry productions and the economic challenges have spurred North Dakota and Montana to look at the opportunities in all areas of the energy potential. Events to generate ideas and connect with businesses and leaders in the industry are being held the first week in April in Minot, N.D. and Billings, Mont.

2012 Bakken Investor Conference

The 2012 Bakken Investor Conference will be held April 2-4 at the Sleep Inn & Suites Conference Center in Minot, N.D. Investors will be able to connect with opportunities in oil and gas companies, service companies and real estate projects in the Bakken region.

The conference is being produced in partnerships by the Minot Lodging Expo and Dawa Solutions Group and will focus on timely and critical information updates in business development and marketing solutions.

Economic development in Western North Dakota is at record heights creating a great demand for real estate development largely in Williston, Minot and Dickinson. The conference will help in connecting investors with those opportunities in the Bakken with presentations on real estate investments.

Presentations will also be done by oil and gas operating and service companies. These presentations will give attendees the opportunity to hear the latest news and investment opportunities not only in real estate but also from the other companies operating in the Williston Basin.

Keynote speakers at the conference will be Terry Hildestad of MDU Resources Group and North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple. Governor Dalrymple will present "Investing in North Dakota's Future" as a large importance of infrastructure investment in Western North Dakota is critical to the continued development of the Bakken.

For more information or to pre-register go to <http://www.bakkenconference.com>.

Montana Energy 2012

Montana Energy 2012 will help lead Montana into the energy future with Montana Energy Conference and Trade show being held April 3-4, at the MetraPark Entertainment and Trade Center in Billings.

The event is being produced by Montana Contractors Association, Big Sky Economic Development, Mon-

tana Petroleum Association and Kadmas, Lee and Jackson, Engineers, Surveyors and Planners.

Montana Energy 2012 will be the largest opportunity to network in Montana's energy potential. The event will include energy industry representatives, goods and service suppliers, contractors, local government officials and economic development professionals.

Attendees of the event will have the chance to connect with professionals and discussion on the economic impacts and growth potential in Montana's energy development. The event will cover all areas of potential including the many opportunities for employment in energy industry.

The Trade show will kick off Tuesday morning with a keynote address "Making Montana an Energy Power-

house" presented by Dr. William F. Whitsitt, Executive Vice President of Public Affairs, Devon Energy Corporation.

For more information or to pre-register go to <http://www.montanaenergy.net>.

ON SHOWING

Tues. - Thurs., Mar. 27-29
 "Journey 2: The Mysterious Island"
 @ 7:30 p.m.
 "Safe House" @ 9:15 p.m.

Fri. - Thurs., Mar. 30 - Apr. 5
 "Ghost Rider 2" @ 7:30 p.m. & Sat. Matinee @ 1 p.m.

Centre Theatre
 Adults: \$7
 Students: \$5
 Matinee \$5
 Call Our Hotline for updates • 406-480-6684 (M.O.V.I.) • Sidney

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Watford City Pee Wee Wrestlers Take To The Mat

Coy Hepper, Watford City, rolls his opponent over as he looks for encouragement from his coach at the Pee Wee Wrestling Tournament in Watford City. (Photo by Kathy Taylor) Go to www.roundupweb.com for more photos.

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Sidney High School Key Club Holds Pastie Sale

The Sidney High School Key Club is conducting their second annual pastie sale. They are taking pre-orders for the pasties, which are \$5 each.

If you are not familiar with pasties, they are meat pies with hamburger, onion and potatoes in a homemade pastry shell. They assemble and pre-bake them so all you have to do is heat them up.

Orders are being taken until March 30 and delivered on or about April 2. You can email your order to stedman@sidney.k12.mt.us or call Elaine Stedman at 433-2330 or 480-5719.

Montana Gymnastics Championships

Billings, MT • March 24

Level 4

Zoe Morrill, Vault 8.85, Bars 8.0, Beam 8.35, Floor 8.975, All Around 34.175.

Hadley Garsjo, Vault 8.5, Bars 7.1, Beam 7.875, Floor 8.0, All Around 31.475.

Becca Deming, Vault 8.5, Bars 6.25, Beam 8.425, Floor 8.775, All Around 31.95.

Bethany Wells, Vault 8.9, Bars 8.775 - 6th Place, Beam 8.8 - 5th Place, Floor 9.025, All around 35.5 - 5th Place.

Codi Hasvold, Vault 9.0 - 5th Place, Bars 8.525, Beam 8.75 - 5th Place, Floor 8.725, All Around 35.0 - 6th Place.

Taylor Stewart, Vault 8.65, Bars 8.7 - 2nd Place, Beam 6.55, Floor 8.42, All Around 32.32.

Level 8

Amanda Deegan, Vault 8.45, Bars 8.65 - 4th Place, Beam 9.1 - 1st Place, Floor 8.6, All Around 34.65. Amanda will be part of the Montana State team at Regionals in Beaverton, Oregon, April 14-15.

Go to www.roundupweb.com for pictures from the meet.

Sidney Wrestling Club Results –Montana Open In Billings

There were about 1300 kids from Montana, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, Oregon and Utah. Sidney Wrestling Club had 54 wrestlers who competed.

- 6 & Under 68-Chace Waters-5th
- 6 & Under 76-Cooper McNally-2nd
- 8 & Under 42-Kobe Hambro-2nd
- 10 & Under 81-Riley Waters-6th
- 10 & Under 143-Keelan Geiser-2nd
- 12 & Under 98-Casey Christian-4th
- 15 & Under 95-Trace Jones-2nd
- 15 & Under 109-Ethan Graves-5th
- 15 & Under 158-Cody Christian-3rd
- 18 & Under 145-Brody Rooks-2nd

Go to www.roundupweb.com for pictures from the tournament.

STATISTICS

Lake Water Level Reports

	Fort Peck	Sakakawea
Current Elevation	2234.4	1838.0
Last Week's Elev.	2234.7	1838.0
One Year Ago	2235.2	1839.4
Release For Day (C.F.S.)	12,100	17,500

Watford City Weather Data

Source: North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Mar. 19	73	44	0
Mar. 20	63	28	0
Mar. 21	60	28	0
Mar. 22	67	32	0
Mar. 23	76	36	0
Mar. 24	70	28	0
Mar. 25	50	23	0

Sidney Weather Data

Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Mar.19	68	29	0.00
Mar.20	57	26	0.00
Mar.21	64	30	0.00
Mar.22	79	26	0.00
Mar.23	74	29	0.00
Mar.24	48	30	0.02
Mar.25	53	22	0.00
Average YTD Precipitation			1.11
2012 YTD Precipitation			0.36

SEA Scholarship Applications Due April 5

SEA Scholarship applications are due in the Sidney High School Guidance office by April 5.

The SEA Scholarship will be awarded to at least one high school senior entering the field of education. The SEA has also decided to open up the scholarship to at least one current college sophomore or junior who is a Sidney graduate and enrolled in the field of education.

Current seniors and college students who are interested, please contact Thom Barnhart, Sidney High School, or his website for application forms.

Sherry Arnold, 43, Sidney, MT

Funeral service for Sherry Arnold, 43, Sidney, MT, is at 2 p.m., Friday, March 30, 2012 at the Sidney High School Gymnasium with Pastor David Warner, Trinity Lutheran Church, Sidney, officiating.

Interment will be in the Sidney Cemetery under the direction of Fulkerson Funeral Home, Sidney.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or to the Sherry Arnold Scholarship Fund for her children at the Stockman Bank, Sidney. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at www.fulkersons.com.

Sherry died on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012.



EVENTS

SEND US YOUR EVENTS!

THE ROUNDUP: PO Box 1207, 111 West Main, Sidney, MT 59270
 406-433-3306, Fax: 406-433-4114
 Email: classads@esidney.com

Richland County

Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT Zone.

Wed., March 28

7 p.m. — Gambler's Anonymous, Millers' Corner back room.

Thurs., March 29

5 p.m. — TOPS, Crestwood NW entrance, Weigh-ins 5-5:30 p.m., meeting 5:30-6 p.m.

6:30 p.m. — Pinochle, Moose Lodge, 101 3rd St. SE.

8 p.m. — NA meeting, Millers' Corner banquet room.

Fri., March 30

12 p.m.—Early Out for all Sidney Schools.

12-1 p.m. — BrownBagger Series Talks-USDA, 1500 N. Central Ave.

5-7 p.m. — Knights of Columbus Fish Fry, St.

Matthew's Parish Center, 310 7th St. SE. \$9/adult

Sat., March 31

9 a.m. & 7 p.m. — AA meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg., 214 S. Lincoln.

10 a.m.-11 a.m.—Easter Egg Hunt-Water Tower Park.

1 p.m.—Easter Egg Hunt-Confluence Int. Center.

2 p.m.—Spring Carnival-High School

5-6 p.m. — Boys & Girl's Club Sports Memorabilia Auction & Dinner-Richland Co. Fair

Event Center.

9 p.m.-1 a.m. — Sammus Theory Performance,(free for 21+), OK Lanes.

Sun., April 1

11 a.m.-2 p.m. — Lambert School Spring Dinner & Bazaar

7 p.m. — AA meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg., 214 S. Lincoln.

Mon., April 2

12 p.m. — AA meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg., 214 S. Lincoln.

Tues., April 3

7 p.m. — AA meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg.

McKenzie County

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CST Zone.

Wed., March 28

8 p.m. — Al-Anon, Sanford Room, McKenzie Co. Public Library.

6:30-8 p.m. —Become a Love & Logic Parent Series, McKenzie Co. Courthouse meeting room.

Thurs., March 29

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

API President Seeks Tighter Controls Over Selection Criteria For Bakken Oil Field New Hires

In light of the events of the recent past involving the kidnapping and death of a Sidney High School teacher by two men who recently moved to the region and who possessed significant criminal histories, as well as the recognition of a steadily increasing rise in specific types of crimes that have flooded the court dockets of the Justice and City Courts in both Montana and North Dakota such as the death of a Florida man working in the oil and gas industry, the president of the MonDak chapter of the American Petroleum Institute has taken the unprecedented action of demanding that regional oil concerns and secondary businesses serving the industry step up their efforts to more closely screen potential employees. Within his recent announcement the API president encouraged all employers in the region, not just those in the oil and gas industries, to take positive steps to deny employment to those people whose criminal history or personal background represent an unreasonable risk to the safety of the community.

As outlined in a statement made by MonDak API President James Fehlauer, "safety should always be the primary concern of the petroleum industry as we seek to extract precious resources from the area. The oil field professionals who have come to this particular region have been faced with enormous challenges as they seek to unlock the area's natural resources and deliver them to market, but our responsibility for safety doesn't stop with just making sure that we do our jobs in a safe and responsible manner. It also extends to all companies operating here in adopting HR policies that assure that those we attract to the area and whom we employ to work in the industry, do not present a danger to the local community through either their actions or as a direct result of their personal habits and lifestyles which may enhance the likelihood of criminal or dangerous behavior."

MonDak API is one of the more proactive associations in the country and is comprised largely of industry professionals who have lived in the area for a long period of time, but as cited by the president, "API recognizes that economic upturns such as the one we are seeing unfold in the Bakken region can exert significant stress on a local community that exceeds its ability to cope. Pressures on infrastructure, increases in traffic density, uncontrolled population influxes, housing shortages, rising costs of living, and many other factors, combine to change the face of local communities. Add to these challenges an influx of new arrivals who may not be affiliated with the industry, but who are seeking work in the oil field or secondary businesses, some of whom may have a questionable personal background or even an extensive criminal history, and the stage is set for disaster." The API president went on to say "those of us within the association recognize that we cannot eliminate all such threats to a community, but we can call for the adop-

tion of human resources policies that limit the likelihood that someone who does not meet our criteria for safety or whose personal integrity fails to meet our standards of acceptability, is denied employment. Making sure that these elevated criteria for personal integrity are widely known throughout the nation will serve to dissuade would-be prospects who do not meet our standards, from relocating to the region. Such measures are important in reducing the number of undesirable people who come to the area. With the adoption of some simple changes in our regional hiring practices that seek to identify past criminal history, or disclose unacceptable personal habits including drug use or excessive alcohol reliance that could represent increased risk to the community, the industry and the region's businesses, could take a big step toward enhancing community security. The members and leadership of MonDak API are calling upon all our industry members, suppliers, and secondary businesses to adopt these simple measures in order to make sure that we do everything within our power to serve as good stewards of the natural resources and to assure that those we employ respect and revere the safety and dignity of the citizens who live in the community. The vast majority of people who have recently arrived in the northern plains are good people, who are simply looking for an opportunity, but we should make sure, as an industry, that we are doing everything we can to mitigate risk to the community by excluding those who don't meet our standards for personal integrity, while embracing the vast majority of new arrivals who do add to our community in a positive way."

In addition to the call for enhanced human resources screening, Fehlauer also announced the adoption of a new educational program developed by API that is specifically designed to encourage more local involvement in the oil industry. In his statement, Fehlauer disclosed that; "the MonDak API has recently initiated a professional training program that

will result in the award of a basic, intermediate and advanced certificate of training in oil field operations. This program is offered using both distance learning classes and week-long field training seminars in the region. The basic certificate program consists of 25 individual courses, along with a one-week field training session, and is designed specifically for local residents who are interested in acquiring the requisite skills associated with entry level positions within the oil industry. The intermediate and advanced certificate curricula are focused on enhancing the professional skills and knowledge of those already working within the profession. The goals of the program are centered on improving safety and in providing local citizens with a formalized path to employment within the oil and gas industry. The benefit of this program to the local community rests in a concerted effort to assure that the industry provides as many jobs as possible to people who already live in the Montana or North Dakota regions."

Fehlauer went on to say; "the adoption of this professional training program by API is a big step forward in assuring that the local community has a prescribed program of education that prepares people for careers in the oil and gas industry, and it is also a significant step in the right direction in mitigating our reliance on labor from outside the area." In cooperation with the Eastern Montana Institute and other colleges and universities participating in the venture, API will be sponsoring the new training program in oil field operations beginning this coming spring. In his closing statements, Fehlauer said, "It is our hope that the long term impact of this training program will diminish our need to hire people from outside the community and assure that local people who desire to work within the profession, have access to the training required for such careers."

In response to the announcement by the API, Sidney Mayor, Bret Smelser commented "as the city and

its residents continue the healing process, it is helpful to see that the energy industry is taking positive steps to mitigate future risks to our community and to encourage secondary businesses to follow suit. I greatly appreciate the overture by the MonDak API and I applaud the leadership of its president in taking positive action. As we all understand, there are consequences to unanticipated growth. Some of it good, and some of it heart breaking. As we continue our efforts to plan, adapt, and look to the future, it's nice to know that we have responsible members of the energy industry who are doing what they can to take positive steps that help to assure our prosperity and preserve our safety. I am specifically pleased to note the adoption of a new training program designed to make career opportunities available to local residents and mitigate the reliance on outside sources of labor. As a member of the Oil and Gas Board of the State of Montana and the MonDak Energy Alliance, I will be carrying this message forward and lobbying state legislators to enact new laws that further enhance the safety of our citizens."

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CenturyLink offers Lifeline service to customers who meet eligibility requirements. The federal Lifeline program is undergoing some changes in 2012, but customers may be eligible if they participate in certain federal or state assistance programs or have a household annual gross income at or below 135% of the federal poverty level. Lifeline is available for only one wireline or wireless telephone per household. Lifeline is not transferrable and documentation of eligibility is required to enroll. Qualifying residents of American Indian and Alaskan Native tribal lands may be eligible for additional discounts.

Lifeline eligible subscribers may also qualify for reliable home high-speed Internet service up to 1.5Mbps for \$9.95* per month for the first 12 months of service. Further details are available at centurylink.com/internetbasics.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-800-244-1111 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

*CenturyLink Internet Basics Program - Residential customers only who qualify based on meeting income level or program participation eligibility requirements, and require remaining eligible for the entire offer period. First bill will include charges for the first full month of service billed in advance, program charges for service from the date of installation to bill date, and one-time charges and fees described above. Qualifying customers may keep this program for a maximum of six months after service activation provided customer still qualifies during this time. Limited High-Speed Internet rate of \$9.95/mo. applies for the first 12 months of service (after which the rate reverts to \$14.95/mo. for the next 36 months of service), and requires a 12-month term agreement. Customer must either have a residential line from CenturyLink or an additional monthly charge to purchase a residential line from CenturyLink for a one-time charge, and a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee applies. A one-time professional installation charge (if selected by customer) and a one-time shipping and handling fee applies to customer's modem/router. **General** - Services not available everywhere. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, phone and email rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. **Terms and Conditions** - All products and services listed are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or notices and conditions posted at centurylink.com. **Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges** - Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a federal Universal Service charge, state and county surcharges, state and local fees that vary by area and certain interstate surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxed or government required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on needed monthly, not promotional, rates.





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In Concert: Alash Ensemble Saturday



The Alash Ensemble will perform Saturday, March 31 at the MonDak Heritage Center, Sidney. Originally from the Republic of Tuva, the border region between Siberia and Mongolia, the four members specialize in throat singing. Throat singers have the ability to sing up to four notes at once; in other words, they self-harmonize.

Alash was inspired by the culture's nomadic herdsman origins. According to their website, "Alash remains grounded in this tradition while expanding its musical vocabulary with new ideas from the West."

Manager and interpreter Sean Quirk said that Tuva has a history of its own. He explained that Tuvans have a rich oral tradition, and that they communicate through their music. "Each song tells a story," Quirk said.

The performance will include original songs, each sung in the Tuvan language. Singing is accompanied by a variety of traditional instruments. One featured instru-

ment is the murgu, a flute with no holes, played by Ayan Shirizhik. The songs cover a range of themes including love, nature, national politics and spirituality.

"Tuvan language culture is very different from America's," Quirk said. "But when it comes down to it we are all singing about the same things. When it comes down to it, it's just folk music. It's universal."

These performers are from a region not unlike the

MonDak, and have a deep passion for music, and a unique sound, it will be a concert no one will forget. Alash has performed for countless festivals and concerts, and has shared the stage with Bela Fleck and the Flecktones. There is no fee to attend, but donations are encouraged.

This concert is made possible by the membership of the MonDak Heritage Center.

National Public Health Week - You Can Be The Difference!

A healthier community begins with a quality local Public Health Department that provides three core functions: Assessment, Assurance, and Policy Development. Essentially the Richland County Health Department is responsible for continually assessing the health, wellness and safety needs of all Richland County residents; identifying ways to assure that needs are met; and developing policies that make certain that solutions to community issues remain in place for the long-term. The Richland County Health Department is currently applying for Public Health accreditation and one of only four departments in Montana to be in the application process. Once our department is accredited we will be recognized nationally as a fully functioning Public Health Department.

During the week of April 2nd through the 8th we will be celebrating National Public Health Week. It is a time to celebrate advancements in and accomplishments of public health. This year we are highlighting the importance of taking action in your own health and wellness to create healthier communities. Let's focus on prevention to improve the health of individuals, families and communities. We can start by taking simple steps to live longer lives. Even small preventive measures can help our communities, homes and families see the large benefits of preventive care and grow the movement.

" As an individual, make just one positive change a day to improve your health. Small things such as eating a little healthier and engaging in some physical activity can make a big difference in the long term. Making changes such as avoiding tobacco and ensuring that you receive proper vaccinations will result in significant progress toward living a healthier and longer life.

" Make changes in your community by thinking about what your community needs most - adding sidewalks and bike lanes to promote active living; promoting tobacco-free environments and events; creating work-site wellness programs - and brainstorm solutions! Tell others about your ideas and take action by joining groups that are working on issues you are concerned about.

You are the Public in Public Health and a healthier community begins with you. If you are interested in becoming a part of the solution please call the health department at 433-2207 or visit our website at www.richland.org/health. Article submitted by Judith LaPan, RCHD Administrator.

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A Little Bit Country MGEX Offers Marketing Information

By Warren Froelich
NDSU Extension Agent

Joe Victor, Minneapolis Grain Exchange (MGEX) business development specialist, recently informed me that MGEX and DTN have partnered in an effort to conduct two informative webinars that will address market outlook for spring wheat and durum along with weather forecasts for the spring wheat growing areas of the U.S. and Canada. The webinars are scheduled for March 29 and April 4.

On March 29, Victor will address both spring wheat and durum wheat markets, their similarities, protein basis spreads and correlations between their respective cash markets and the MGEX North American Hard Red Spring Wheat (HRSW) futures contract.

Joining Victor on March 29, 2:30 p.m. CDT will be Darin Newsom, DTN senior analyst. Newsom promises to break down the spring wheat market to its basic factors and discuss hedging strategies for the various market participants.

On April 4, Victor will be joined by Bryce Anderson, DTN senior ag meteorologist, who will discuss the weather outlook and the potential effects on marketing strategies throughout the growing season.

Both webinars are scheduled to last approximately 45 minutes each. There is no charge to participate but registration is required. To do this, go to a link MGEX (Joe Victor) or our web page www.ag.ndsu.edu/williamscountyextension.

Update to County Comprehensive Plan

The Williams County Commission and its staff are in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. The plan is about managing orderly growth needed for the present energy boom and protecting the values of its citizens who have lived a lifetime in Williams County and for those who want to make the community their home.

The Comprehensive Plan for Williams County is expected to be a public document that will guide local residents, developers, officials and county staff in making decisions for many years. In fact, the plan is expected to take the county to 2035.

To ensure that the Comprehensive Plan continues to reflect the interests of Williams County residents, the public needs to express its concerns, experiences, likes and dislikes. Developing the plan is expected to be completed over an eight-month period. The county staff has held its first round

of public meetings. Another is scheduled this week as follows: Tuesday, March 27, Ray High School; Wednesday, March 28, Tioga Senior Citizens; and Thursday, March 29, Williston MDU Building.

Each of the meetings is expected to convene at 7 p.m. and adjourn by 9 p.m. Judging from my daily conversations with my acquaintances, just about everyone has deep concerns about the future of this area. The concerns usually center around orderly growth or lack of roads, public facilities and services, safety, protection of the area's rural character and natural resources. Many also have deep concern about protecting the agriculture base of this region.

The quality of this Comprehensive Plan will be determined by the level of public input. This is an opportunity for all of us to help find solutions to current and future problems and prepare for the time when the energy industry takes another direction.

If you cannot attend any of the listed meetings, I encourage you to visit the following website: www.planwillco.com.



Sidney Prom

Prom was last Saturday night in Sidney and crowned were (L-R) Prince Jason Papineau, Princess Krista Steinbeisser, King Kevin Fike and Queen Tori Todd.

Yellowstone Township Tax Equalization Meeting

April 9 • 7 p.m. (MDT)
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Risinger & Schwindt RSVP Volunteers of the Year

RSVP Volunteers, Betty Risinger and Regina Schwindt, have been chosen as the 2012 RSVP Volunteers of the Year. A dinner reception will be held in their honor on Monday, April 16, at 6:00pm in St. Matthew's Multipurpose Room. The event is free and open to the public. If you plan on attending the dinner reception, please call 433-2207 by April 6, to RSVP for the dinner.



Regina Schwindt and Betty Risinger

RSVP stands for the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program and is one of three programs that make up the Senior Corps portion of the Corporation for National and

Community Service. RSVP of Richland County is sponsored locally by the Richland County Health Department. RSVP's mission is to engage

citizens age 55 and older in meaningful service to meet local community needs in Richland County.

Agri Industries Honored As Performance Plus Dealer At Valmont Irrigation 2012 National Meeting

Valmont Irrigation has announced Agri Industries, Sidney, as a Valley Performance Plus Dealer at the company's 2012 National Meeting. Agri Industries has earned this honor for excelling in the areas of Sales, Service, and Aftermarket Parts.

The Performance Plus Program, now in its ninth year, focuses on the recognition of dealers as they continue to meet the ever-increasing and ever-changing agricultural environment.

"Receiving the Performance Plus Dealer achieve-

ment represents a significant dedication to Valley products, sales, and most importantly, the commitment to Valley customers and the service they expect from our company," stated Rich Panowicz, North American Sales, Valmont Irrigation vice president.

Each Valley dealership is scored based on departmental evaluations, annual customer satisfaction surveys and the achievement of their own dealership annual growth plan. Focusing on best practices, Valley dealers

set the bar in their industry, delivering the highest standard of service and product support to their mechanized irrigation customers.

Panowicz continued, "The Performance Plus program honors Valley Dealers who met the challenges, albeit market driven or within their local environment, taking a head-on approach to surpass their business goals."

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Montana BPA 2012 State Leadership Conference: Unmask Your Future

Secondary and postsecondary students from across the state of Montana attended the 2012 State Leadership Conference for the Montana association of Business Professionals of America in Billings, Montana, March 11-13, 2012.

The 2012 Montana BPA State Leadership Conference was held at the Montana State University-Billings College of Technology, the Holiday Inn Grand Montana, and the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. Members from the Sidney High School chapter and advisors Elaine Stedman and Mary Pfau joined nearly 1300 students and local chapter advisors who gathered in a spirit of friendship and goodwill as the Montana association assisted the member to "Unmask Your Future" through participation in the areas of competitive events, leadership, community development, and professionalism.

During the three-day event, students demonstrated their knowledge in business and technological skills and abilities in 60 different competitive events from within the four core assessment areas of financial service, administrative support, information technology, and marketing/management/human resources. The top finalists in each event advance to compete at the National Leadership Conference this spring in Chicago, Illinois, April 25-29, 2012.

The state conference also included an inspiring and influential keynote from Garret Garrels, author of *Loops for Life* and co-owner of Pink Gloves Boxing in Helena, and several workshops on topics including the five traits of leadership, the importance of insurance, integrity and the business world, how to get and how to use credit wisely, Zumba, and Unified Sports® presented

by Special Olympics Montana. Additionally, local chapters donated over \$5700.00 to Special Olympics Montana as their state-wide philanthropic organization.

Community members and Montana businesses also played a tremendous role in the success of the state conference by serving as judges for the competitive events. In addition, Montana BPA has received more than \$10,000.00 in financial support and/or in-kind support Montana business and education institutions as part of the corporate sponsor and education partnership program. One significant education partner is the Montana State University-Bozeman's College of Business which awarded two \$1000.00 scholarships to Montana BPA members Catherine Cybulski from Custer High School and Ryan Frank from Skyview High School.

In non-event awards, Montana BPA awarded Silver Star Awards for Chapter Development to the Roberts, Shields Valley, and Sidney chapters; two \$500.00 scholarships to Brandi Allerdings, Plevna, and Holly Capp, Great Falls; 72 Statesman Torch Awards; and the Spirit of Professionalism Award to the Cascade High School chapter.

During the state conference 12 secondary members participated in the state officer campaign process with the following six being elected to office for the 2012-2013 school year:

- President: Nicole Moore, Sidney High School
- Vice President: Ashley Kerkaert, Shields Valley High School
- Secretary: Hannah Bloomquist, Cascade High School
- Communications Director: MaKenna Seibenaler, Glacier High School
- Public Relations Director: Miranda McNeil, Park City High School

Membership Director: Victoria Hill, Sidney High School

The 2013 Montana BPA State Leadership Conference again will be held in Billings March 10-12.

Business Professionals of America is the leading CTSO (Career Technical Student Organization) for students pursuing careers in business management, finance, office administration, information technology and other related career fields.

Sidney's members placed as follows:

- Nicole Moore, 11th Place in Advanced Spreadsheet Applications and 9th Place in Fundamental Word Processing
- Ciara Parks: 1st Place in Banking & Finance, 6th Place in Broadcast News Production Team; 4th Place in Insurance Concepts; 7th Place in Marketing/Management/Human Resources
- Tori Hill: 4th Place in Banking & Finance; 6th Place in Broadcast News Production Team

• Zach Hoffman: 9th Place in Basic Office Systems & Procedures

• Cedar Lewis: 16th Place in Basic Office Systems & Procedures; 19th Place in Medical Office Procedures

• Andrew Christensen: 20th Place in Basic Office Systems & Procedures

• Taylor Fay: 2nd Place in Desktop Publishing; 6th Place in Broadcast News Production Team; 7th Place in Visual Basic Programming

• Deserae Wirth: 8th Place in Computer Network Technology

• Joey Averett: 12th Place in Computer Network Technology; 18th Place in Computer Security

• Brant Pewonka: 14th Place in Entrepreneurship; 9th Place in Visual Basic Programming

• Alexis Dynneson: 17th Place in Fundamental Word Processing

• Briana Wilcoxon: 11th Place in Integrated Office Applications

• Mark LaPan: 4th Place in Keyboarding Production

• Karley Leland: 11th Place in Keyboarding Production

• Chelsea Strasheim: 16th Place in Keyboarding Production; 12th Place in Legal Office Procedures

• Jaycee Searer: 15th Place in Medical Office Procedures

• Brandon Moore, Zach Hoffman, Shay Steinbeisser: 10th Place in Small Business Management Team

BPA has more than 51,000 members in over 2,300 chapters in 26 states. BPA is a "co-curricular" organization that supports business and information technology educators by offering curriculum based on national standards. This year, the Montana association has 1673 members and over 90 chapters.

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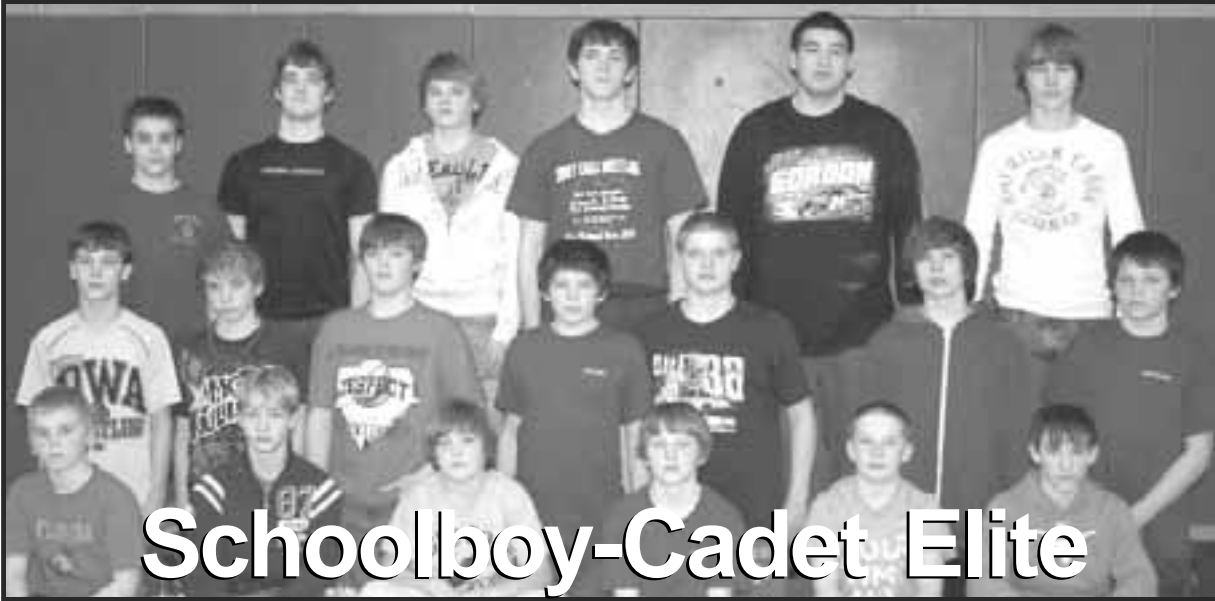
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Schoolboy-Cadet-Elite

Schoolboy, Cadet and Elite Back (L-R) Ethan Graves, Jordan Stevens, Cody Johnson, Dace Fisher, Cristian Gomez, and Cody Christian. Middle (L-R) Trace Jones, Wyatt VanBuren, Hunter Nice, Erick Serra, Christian Eggar, Tyler Hayden, and Brady Gorder. Front (L-R) Jace Johnson, Tristian Kohntopp, Casey Christian, Waylon VanBuren, Avery Gurney, and Riley Chatterton. Not pictured: Jory Stevens, Doug Rooney, Gresh Jones, Ryan Chatterton, Sawyor Thogersen, Sean Pierce, Parker Dean & Josh Aisenbrey.

Tots & Bantams Back (L-R) Wacey Hovde, Kaleb Kutzler, Nathan Carlsen, Aaron See, Zeke Grimmet, Cooper McNally, Levi Sheehan, Dillon Skoy, Mikaela Villegas, and Garrett Larson. Middle (L-R) Chance Reed, Gavin Skoy, Christian Rasmussen, Tyler Loan, Bryan Allen, Amen Powell, Jaiden Gustafson, Morgan Reid, and Rafe Sabin. Front (L-R) Beau Rindahl, Asle Everett, Brody Sabin, Dominick Klein, Ryan Unruh, Carter Grimmet, and Cooper Cundiff. Not pictured: Lance Allen, Dawson Baltrusch, Brandon Becker, Tyler Brost, Kenny Damm, Reece Graves, Cayden Hambro, Lucas Hill, Trystan Larson, Grady Quilling, Tyson Syth, Grady Nelson, Cash Quilling, Garrett Strauser, Dylan Villegas and Izaak Yockim.

Good Luck
AAU Wrestlers at the
Sidney Tournament
Sidney High School
Saturday, March 31
Over 20 teams attending



Bantams, Midget & Novice

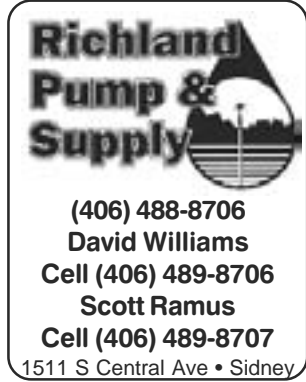
Bantams, Midget & Novice Back (L-R) Kade Rindahl, Christian Dean, Everett Jensen, Matt Hanson, Cash Cundiff, Trey Schepens, Brodey Skogen, Jace Winters, Josh Aisenbrey, Trevor Dean, Jett Jones, and Cole McLarney. Middle (L-R) Boston Peters, Kolby Hutzenbiler, Jaret Aisenbrey, Kade Graves, Kadyne LeFors, Grady Larson, Kolton Reid, Owen Lonski, Tucker Nevins, Trevin Trudell, Riley Waters, and Deegan Carranza. Front (L-R) Logan Sabin, Kevin Hutzenbiler, Nathan Romo, Ben Carlsen, Parker Syth, Brodie Gorder, Zander Dean, Kobe Hambro and Chace Waters. Not pictured: Blake Benson, Brianna Brost, Aden Graves, Zachary Mann, Clayton Olson, Jackson Thogersen, Josie Yockim, Keelen Geiser, Jace Johnson, and Ryan Wyman.



Tots and Bantams



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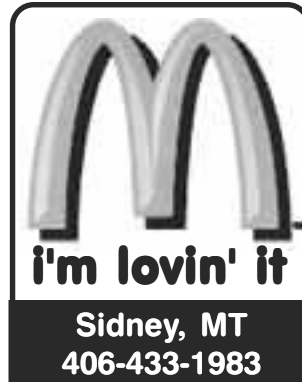
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MSU Extension To Offer Mineral Leasing Webinar April 4

Montana State University Extension will sponsor a free webinar "Mineral Leasing in Montana", on Wednesday, April 4, from 10-11 a.m.

Featuring Tim Fitzgerald, assistant professor of MSU Agricultural Economics assistant professor, the webinar will outline the importance of the leasing process, current trends in oil and gas development in Montana, structure of an oil and gas lease, and related concerns. Both mineral and surface owners will find the discussion useful, as well as owners with existing leases. Participants will also be provided a check list for oil and gas leases, sample lease

forms for oil and gas leases and a sample surface damage agreement.

Montana has recently experienced a flurry of interest in mineral leasing. Land and mineral owners interested in the leasing process will find this webinar useful to help understand and address their role in leasing and development issues, whether located in a proven area of the state, or in a lesser-known mineral-rich area.

There are two ways to participate in this no-charge webinar: Watch and participate individually online; or visit one of the locations offering classroom space (in

Broadus, at Powder River County Courthouse; in Culbertson, at the RC Complex; in Sidney, at the Richland County Extension office; and in Terry, at the Prairie County Courthouse. For details or accommodations at host classrooms, contact the county MSU Extension agent.

To run the webinar on your personal computer, participants should update their browser to ensure the software can communicate with MSU's webinar software. Detailed instructions for these updates and a connectivity test, which can be run any time before the webinar on April 4, are available at:

<http://www.montana.edu/softwaredownloads/energydownloads/usingadobeconnect.pdf/>

Join the April 4 webinar by visiting the following link: <http://www.msuetension>

connect.org/leasing/. Please log in about 10 minutes before the actual start time.

Brand Bible Update Delayed Until May 15

Folks chomping at the bit to apply for new brands might have to wait a bit longer, as the state's master brand book – the "brands bible" – won't be up-to-date until May 15.

The master brand book was originally scheduled to be up-to-date and ready for public perusal on April 2, but a recent decision to suspend application and conflict policies for ranchers who missed the rerecord deadline has pushed that date back.

"We've had a lot of folks tell us that they'd be here on April 2 to look through the brand book," said John

Grainger, MDOL's Brands Enforcement Division administrator. "We hope that they get the news and don't show up, because the book is not going to be up to date."

New brands, however, are still being issued. Walk-

in applicants can generally get a brand the same day, while applications that are mailed in are processed in the order received. Mail-in applications could take as long as 2-4 weeks to process, Grainger said.

Dushinske & Jamison Scholarship Applications Due April 2

The North Dakota Water Education Foundation's (NDWEF) deadline for applications for the Dushinske & Jamison Water Resources Scholarship is April 2. There will be two \$1,000 scholarships awarded to one female and one male applicant.

The NDWEF, family members, friends and colleagues have established an endowment within the North Dakota Community Foundation in Warren Jamison's and Russell Dushinske's memory called the Dushinske & Jamison Water Resources

Scholarship Endowment.

The endowment recognizes Dushinske's and Jamison's distinguished service, dedicated leadership and life-long devotion to water development in North Dakota. Income from the Dushinske & Jamison Water Resources Scholarship Endowment will provide scholarships to two deserving students whose families have taken an active role in North Dakota's water management.

"This endowment is a testament to the commitment

and effort both water leaders gave to virtually every water project and water organization in North Dakota," says Michael Dwyer, NDWEF's executive director.

Scholarship applications are available by calling the NDWEF office at 701-223-8332, e-mailing ndwater@btinet.net, or on the website http://ndwater.com/water_ed.htm and clicking on the scholarship link. Contributions to the endowment can be made to the NDWEF at PO Box 2254, Bismarck, ND 58502.

2 AUCTIONS ONE DAY

Saturday, Mar. 31st 11 a.m. Preview 9 a.m.
Richland County Fair Grounds Exhibit Hall, Sidney, MT

Southside Pawn & North America Indian and Western Art Gallery
New and Used Saddles, Used Tack, Western & Antique Collectibles, Tools, Indian and Western Art, Collector Knives and Daggers, Bar and Tavern Collectibles, Stringbusters Dance Poster Collection.



Over 20 new and used saddles including, Rouge Saddlery, Miles City Saddlery CO. Original Cogshall Saddle, Hereford, Billy Cook, Sante Fe, Bonaal, Devore's, Three Bars, Blue Ridge, Lone Star 22" Saddle, English Saddle, Ozzie Saddle, and other custom saddles. Used tack includes, spurs, bits, complete bridles, lathers, cinches, back flanks, complete english bridle with breast collar, breast collars, hobbles, pads, winter blankets, lunge whips, nose bands, corner trailer water buckets, boot wraps, nylon reins, leather reins plus much more.

Western Collectibles, Texas Longhorn mounts, steer horn and hide foot stools, Steer European mounts, pine-bench, western door mats, 32 x 64 100% wool Navajo rugs, 8ft x 4ft navajo rug, 4ft x 6ft navajo rug, camp-blankets, horse hair macate, leather riata, spanish ring bit, fishing equipment, collectible cats, Norman Rockwell collector mugs, wooden foreign musical instrument, box lots of tools, hand painted saws, Collector Knives and Daggers, Bar and Tavern Collectibles and Mirrors Jack Daniels, Budweiser, Coors and Others, Stringbusters Framed and Matted Dance Posters Including Bob Wills, Hank Thompson, Lonzo & Oscar, Little Jimmy Dickens and others, Union Pacific Railroad framed and matted calendars, Framed and Matted advertising signs including, Wenoa Canoe, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Union Metallic Cartridge Co, and others, plus much more.



Over 12 Bronzes After: Remington, Russell, Kuaba and Others. Over 30 Limited Addition and Open Addition Signed, Numbered Framed and Matted Prints. Special Collection Of Wayne Dowdy Montana Ducks Unlimited Artist Signed and Numbered Lithographs, Other Prints After: Remington, Doolittle, C.M. Russell & Others, John Wayne Movie Print Collection. Several pcs One of A Kind Hand Carved Iron Wood, Red Mill Handcrafted Hunter and Fish, Signed Hand Made Mexican Pottery.



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Sports Booster WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<h3 style="text-align: center;">Softball</h3> <p>Tuesday, April 3 Sidney vs Glendive at Glendive, 4 p.m. Varsity, 6 p.m., JV</p> <p>Thursday, April 5 Miles City at Sidney, 3 p.m. varsity, 5 p.m. JV</p> <p>Tuesday, April 10 Sidney at Glasgow, 4 p.m. varsity, 5:30 JV</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Track</h3> <p>Saturday, March 31 Sidney at Hardin, 9 a.m.</p> <p>Thursday, April 5 Sidney at Colstrip, 9 a.m.</p> <p>Thursday, April 12 Sidney at Dickinson, 9 a.m.</p>
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**Send us your sports schedules!!
Fax to 406-433-4114 or email to sales@esidney.com**

Support Your Favorite Team

Be Sure To Thank The Sports Booster Schedule Sponsors On This Page

 <p>Hours: 6 a.m. - 7 p.m. Mon. - Sat. 6 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sun.</p> <p>Fairview, MT 742-5200</p>	 <p>FOOD ON THE GO</p> <p>Farmers Union Oil Co. 101 S Main • Watford City 701-444-3639</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">We Support All The Area Teams!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Member FDIC</p>  <p>Main St. • Alexander • 701-828-3338 100 N Main • Watford City • 701-842-2381</p>
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LIFEGUARDS WANTED
Svarre Municipal Pool. Must be 15, hold current lifeguard & CPR cards. Send application: c/o Pool Manager, 115 2nd St. SE, Sidney, MT 59270. Closing date April 20, 2012.

HELP WANTED

Bartenders & servers. Full & part-time. Day shifts now available. Cattle-Ac, 119 Central Ave., Sidney, MT. 406-433-7174.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Richland Opportunities, Inc. has 1 full time & 6 part time positions available for direct-care staff to serve adults with developmental disabilities, in group home setting, with evening & weekend hours. FT position is Thurs.-Mon. overnights starting at 10 p.m.

through shift end, with starting wage of \$10.10, includes full benefits w/paid insurance. Part time wage is \$9.35 w/partial benefits. 6 mo. wage increase. Apply at ROI, 1100 Silurian Lane, Sidney, MT, or call Tami at 40-488-3341. Closes upon filling position.

LOAN OFFICER

Daniels-Sheridan Federal Credit Union is looking for a loan officer for our Medicine Lake office. Knowledge of financial management, budgeting, computer skills, strong organization & communication skills. Wages & benefit package will be based on qualification & experience. Position open until filled. Interested & qualified applicants can send resume to: Daniels-Sheridan Federal Credit Union, attn: Patricia Zuck, President/CEO, PO Box 1160, Scobey, MT 59263-1160.

JANITOR WANTED!

Looking for full or part-time help. Duties include sweeping, mopping, dusting, vacu-

uming, deep-cleaning & other duties as requested. Wages are negotiable. Apply at Sidney Cleaners & Laundry, 121 2nd Ave NE, Sidney, MT. 406-433-1405.

RN/LPN

The Trenton Community Clinic is seeking a full-time Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) or Registered Nurse (RN) with a current ND license (or able to obtain) and current CPR certification. Must be proficient with HIPSS guidelines and patient confidentiality, assessing patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans. Must be proficient in maintaining accurate and detailed reports and medical records. May also advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Must consult and coordinate with all other health care team members. Must have valid driver's license and be willing to travel. Hours are M-F, 8-4:30. For more information or to apply, send cover

letter and resume to Cheryl Donovan, CEO Tribal Health, PO Box 210, Trenton, ND, 58853 or email to cdonoven@nccray.net.

RECEPTIONIST/PATIENT REGISTRATION

The Trenton Community Clinic has an immediate opening for a full-time Receptionist/Patient Registration clerk. This position requires excellent computer and communication skills. Job duties include, but are not limited to, scheduling appointments for medical staff, logging mail, filing and maintaining calendar for professional staff. Hours are M-F, 8-4:30. Benefit package included. For more information or to apply, send cover letter and resume to Cheryl Donovan, CEO Tribal Health, PO Box 210, Trenton, ND, 58853 or email to cdonoven@nccray.net.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

35 hrs/week, Mon-Fri. Health and pension benefit pkg., 2 weeks vacation per year. Info contact Pastor George Karres 406-433-3350. Send or bring resume to Pella Lutheran Church, 418 W. Main St., Sidney, MT 59270 gkarres@pellachurch.net.

COOKS, BARTENDERS

Full & part time cooks & bartenders, Hi-Way Lounge, Alexander, ND. 701-828-3100.

BUILDING CENTER HELP

In-store help wanted. McKenzie Building Center, Watford City, ND. 701-444-3665.

CARRIERS WANTED

Need extra cash or want to get some exercise? We have carrier routes available in most parts of Sidney. New motor route just opened. Call Linda to apply or fill out application at The Roundup.

LAUNDRY WORKER

Sidney Cleaners is looking for a full time presser/laundry worker. Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Apply at Sidney Cleaners, 121 2nd Ave NE or call 406-433-1405.

REAL ESTATE

HOUSE FOR SALE

3 bdrm. +office, 1 1/4 baths, 2200 sq.ft. with 24x32 heated shop, barn, small corral & 2 wells. On 4 1/2 acres, Savage, MT area, \$200,000. 406-776-2036.

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Farmstead house, 3 bedroom, 2 bath w/ finished basement, garage and some out-buildings. 5+ acres. 15 miles

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Commercial property for lease! 6 acres w/room for truck parking, room for camper parking, 3 new buildings inc. shops, heated shop, offices & bathrooms. Seeking \$20,000/mo. on a 5-year lease. 406-769-7094. Located in Bainville, MT.

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Fire resistant clothing available at The Other Place, Culbertson, MT. 406-787-5211.

DRESS FOR SALE

Brand new size 22 wedding dress. White w/red detailing. Matching veil & tiara. Girls' size 6 matching flower girl dress. Bought in '07 & both have never been worn & have never touched the

ground. Purchased for over \$1,000, asking \$600 OBO for everything. 406-480-3834.

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Hobart commercial double deck convection oven, 6' commercial hood, exhaust & fire suppressant system. Call Russ at 406-489-7431.

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Entertainment center, measures 59" wide x 48" tall. Separate opening for TV that measures 33.5" wide x 31.5" tall or TV can be set on top also. Has storage compartments & glass door. Can text photo if needed. \$75. 406-488-7553, leave msg.

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Purebred Arabian mare reg. #0627399. "Psyti Slicker", good breeding. I hate to see her go to waste. Experienced horse person only, asking \$1500. I'm getting old. 701-744-5678.

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Full-sized Trampoline \$100. 406-798-3314.

FOR SALE

25 ft. tall Windmill for decorative purposes. \$1000 OBO. 406-798-3314.

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FOR SALE

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2007 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT with only 17,700 miles. Excellent condition. 406-488-1600 or 406-489-1600.


YARD SALES

LARGE MULTI-PARTY RUMMAGE SALE

309 5th St. SE. Friday, March 30 5-7 p.m. Saturday, March 31, 8 a.m.-12noon. XXL men's, women's, teen, children's clothing and shoes, desk, ladder, TVs, baskets and crafts, lots of misc.

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bring stories to 111 W. Main, Sidney
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Jenna <small>The Yielder with Protein</small>	SY605 CL <small>High Yield CLEARFIELD® Spring Wheat</small>
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Lunch Menus

Richey Schools

Wed., March 28: Super salad bar.
Thurs., March 29: Pork Fritter, mashed w/gravy, mixed veggies, oranges.

Fri., March 30: Pizza and salad bar.

Sidney Schools

Wed., March 28: Soft shell taco, potato rounds, banana, cookie.

Thurs., March 29: Individual pizza, tossed salad, carrot sticks.

Fri., March 30: Fish nuggets, potato smiles, peas.

Mon., April 2: Chicken burgers, cheesy potatoes, green beans, peaches.

Tues., April 3: Tomato soup, ham & cheese wraps, apricots.

Rau School

Wed., March 28: Taco, fresh veggies, fresh fruit.

Thurs., March 29: Cook's choice.

Fri., March 30: Pizza, chips, cookie.

Mon., April 2: Hamburgers, fries, salad, fruit.

Tues., April 3: Sweet n Sour chicken, rice, veggies, peach cobbler.

E. Fairview School

Wed., March 28: Sub sandwich, tomato soup, fresh veggies, oranges.

Thurs., March 29: Pizza sticks, rice bananas, lettuce salad.

Fri., March 30: BBQ pork on bun, buttered noodles, peas, apple sauce.

Mon., April 2: Hot ham & cheese, lettuce salad, pineapple, chips/salsa.

Tues., April 3: Pizza, lettuce salad, mixed veggies, peaches.

Fairview School

Wed., March 28: Macaroni & cheese hamburger hot dish, green beans, fruit.

Thurs., March 29: Chicken fajita, rice fruit, jello.

Fri., March 30: Taco salad, potato, fruit, garlic toast.

Culbertson School

Wed., March 28: Turkey, mashed potatoes/gravy, green bean casserole, fruit jello.

Thurs., March 29: Pizza, peas, pears.

Fri., March 30: Fish wedges, oranges, Rice Krispie bar.

Mon., April 2: Chicken rice hot dish, beans, peaches.

Tues., April 3: Taco salad, french fries, pears.

Bainville School

Wed., March 28: Pizza, fruit.

Thurs., March 29: Hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots.

Fri., March 30: Fish, potatoes, corn, fruit.

Lambert School

Wed., March 28: Lasagna, green beans, cottage cheese, garlic bread, pears.

Thurs., March 29: Nachos, fresh veggies, apples.

Froid School

Wed., March 28: Hamburger gravy/ mashed potatoes, green beans, relishes, mandarin orange salad.

Thurs., March 29: Stromboli, potato smiles, relishes, peach cups, molasses cookies.

Fri., March 30: Shrimp or Cod, rice pilaf, mixed fruit.

Savage School

Wed., March 28: Chili, cheese sticks, pineapple, caramel roll.

Thurs., March 29: Baked potato bar, broccoli, pears.

Fri., March 30: Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, peaches.

The Roundup

Spring SHOWCASE

Special Section

Sidney Couple Remodels Home

Remodeling can test the skills and patience of most people, but remodeling to also include handicapped accessibility requires even more research, skills and patience. As Doug Rau's mitochondrial myopathy, a form of muscular dystrophy, progressed, he and his wife Sharon knew they would have to make some significant changes to their home if he was to stay at home as they wished. What they accomplished, with the help of skilled craftsmen, has turned their outdated, dark kitchen into a bright, efficient, welcoming space that is also easy for Doug to navigate in his wheelchair.

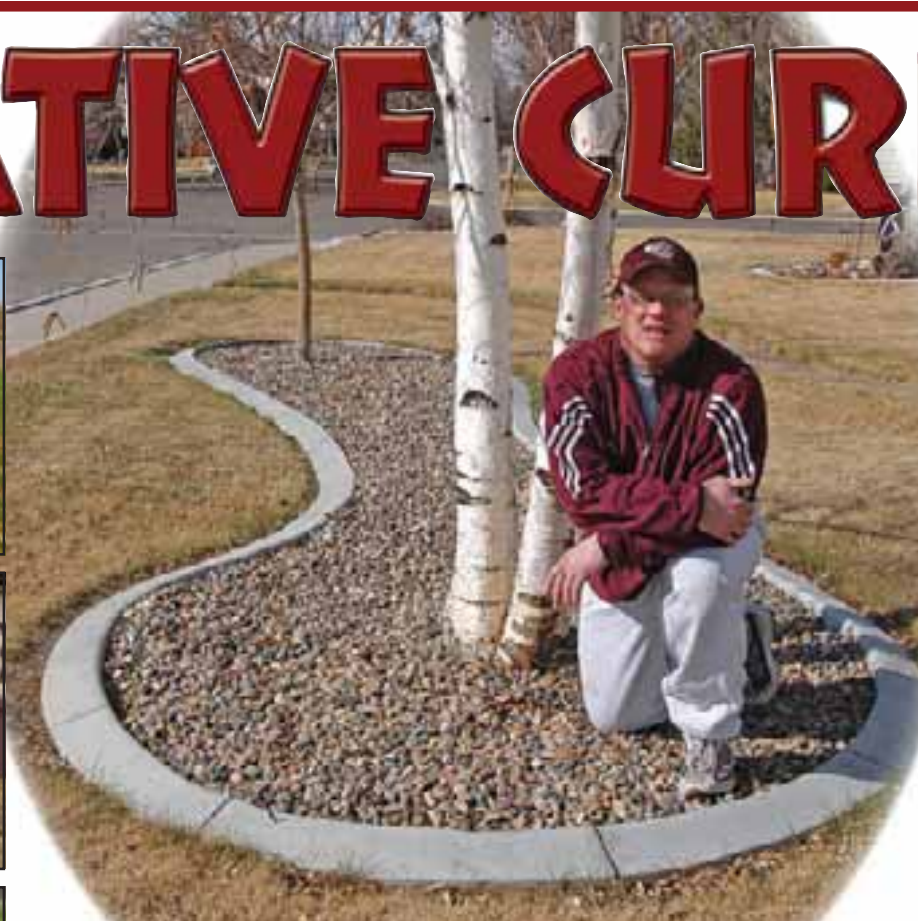
The Rau family had originally bought the farm and moved into the house in the early 1940s. Doug and Sharon moved in shortly after they were married in the late 1960s and remodeled and added on in the early '70s. The addition had settled over the years making some extra work during the remodeling. The window over the kitchen sink had to be replaced by Martini Siding and Windows and the entire kitchen floor had to be leveled before anything else could be done. Ed Deg was the mastermind of the leveling process.

A lift had been purchased some time ago so that Doug
Continued on next page.



Doug and Sharon Rau at their island table.

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The wooden valance provides a perfect spot for seasonal decorating.

Continued from previous page.

could move easily from the garage into the house. The laundry room was rearranged and a hole was cut in the wall to accommodate the lift.

Creative Solutions of Sidney designed the cabinetry, countertops and closets. Rau's new kitchen features natural hard maple cabinetry with a chocolate glaze. "This custom style kitchen was achieved using standard cabinetry! It is possible to get a custom-looking and efficient kitchen without spending an excessive amount of money. It takes a

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well-planned layout and knowledgeable designer who knows how to manipulate stock cabinets to make them appear custom," Brenda Larson of Creative Solutions stated. Special features worked into the cabinets include a supersusan, rollouts in the base cabinets and pantries, self-closing wood dovetailed drawers and pullout spice organizers. The special height wall units provide maximum storage while the custom molding provides the perfect finish. Decals on the upper glass doors, done by Rau Designs, add a special



The countertop features an undermount stainless steel sink.



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Continued from previous page.

touch. The wooden valance over the sink provides the ideal decorating space and special cabinet hardware completes the "custom" look. All the old cabinetry was put to use, either in other rooms such as Sharon's scrapbooking room, or given away to others who could use them. "Nothing was dumped," Sharon said.

The countertops are buttermilk granite laminate with a gemloc solid edge in chestnut, which helps blend the new light and older dark woods in the kitchen. The gemloc edge combines the beauty and cost-effective-

ness of laminate with the durability of solid surface edging. The countertop also features an under mount stainless steel sink. The sink is by Karran and is the "world's first stainless steel sink that can be seamlessly under mounted in laminate, solid surface and stone countertops".

A drop-down section of the island is table height, providing an ideal space for baking and bread baking. It makes the perfect dining space for Raus, with regular chairs and wheelchair accessibility. Doug has an office chair there as well, allowing him to scoot to the fridge, stove, and back to the table

with ease.

Raus did a lot of research on the flooring which was done by Chad's Furniture. Along with being beautiful, the tile they chose for the kitchen is the best type for wheelchair use, with some flexibility.

A huge pantry with custom closet organizers by Lifespan from Creative Solutions was created out of a former closet.

Raus updated their appliances as well, purchasing the built-in microwave, range, dishwasher and glass cook top with its ge profile down draft vent system all from Sidney Electric. The counter depth fridge was pur-



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chased from PATH.

Doug and Sharon also remodeled their bathroom to include a walk in shower as well as new cabinetry. Johnson Hardware provided the flooring. Creative Solutions provided the cabinetry at no cost. "When I opened my new business, Sharon was first in line to support me," Brenda Larson said. "In deep appreciation, I gave her the cabinetry for her bathroom."

Sidney merchants and contractors provided the materials and skills for Rau's remodel. Ed Deg was the skilled carpenter, Mike Potts did the plumbing, Gurney Electric provided the new light fixtures and did the electrical work, all the paint was purchased from Johnson Hardware and Rhonda Whited Rupp did the painting. The new dining room set came from Chad's Furniture, as did the tile for the kitchen and dining room. Window treatments came from both Johnson Hardware and Chad's Furniture. All the cabinets, closets and countertops came from Creative Solu-



The walk in shower makes it easy and safe for Doug and Sharon to shower.

tions. Early on in the process, the Men's bible study group from Ebenezer Congregational Church provided valuable assistance in getting the project started.

Larson had fun working with Sharon on the remodel.

"Sharon was great at picking colors and accents," she said. "It was just so much fun!" In turn, Sharon and Doug are very pleased with the project. "This design accommodated us very well," Sharon stated.



The new bathroom cabinetry is both functional and beautiful.

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Log Dream Home Becomes A Reality

By Jaimee Green

For many who have driven along US Highway 2 for years, the old weathered telegraph poles littering the landscape between the ditches and railroad tracks are nothing more than weathered reminders of the old telephone lines the railroad decided to have cut down years ago. During the years they lay on the earthen ground intertwined with weeds and prairie landscape causing the wood to crack and stress,

a rustic reminder of how unforgiving the elements can truly be in this part of the country. For most, they are nothing more than a natural part of frontier landscape blending with cattle and vast openness. But for Steve Anders, the wood lying in jumbled piles inspired his creative side and encouraged him to build a log home, one pole at the time.

Last week, his vision of a quaint, two story log home became a reality, as he and his wife, Pam, moved in the last

of their belongings. While boxes are still randomly scattered throughout and shoved in every nook and cranny, the potential for what the home will look like once the coordinating knickknacks are added and the final touches realized, is sure to be nothing less than a rustic piece of paradise.

Together they started planning and designing their home four years ago. Today, it sits on two acres just north of Culbertson located off Highway 16.

"I have always loved log homes. They offer warmth in the winter and keep cool in the summer and I think they are cozy and fun to live in," Pam said.

As a full time elementary school counselor for Poplar School, Steve worked on the home in his spare time every chance he had. The home was completed through many weekend warrior projects that culminated in the 25x35 square foot home. Initially, the Anders collected the logs after purchasing them from a Poplar man who had the rights to them and also purchased some from Keenen Engle, Culbertson.

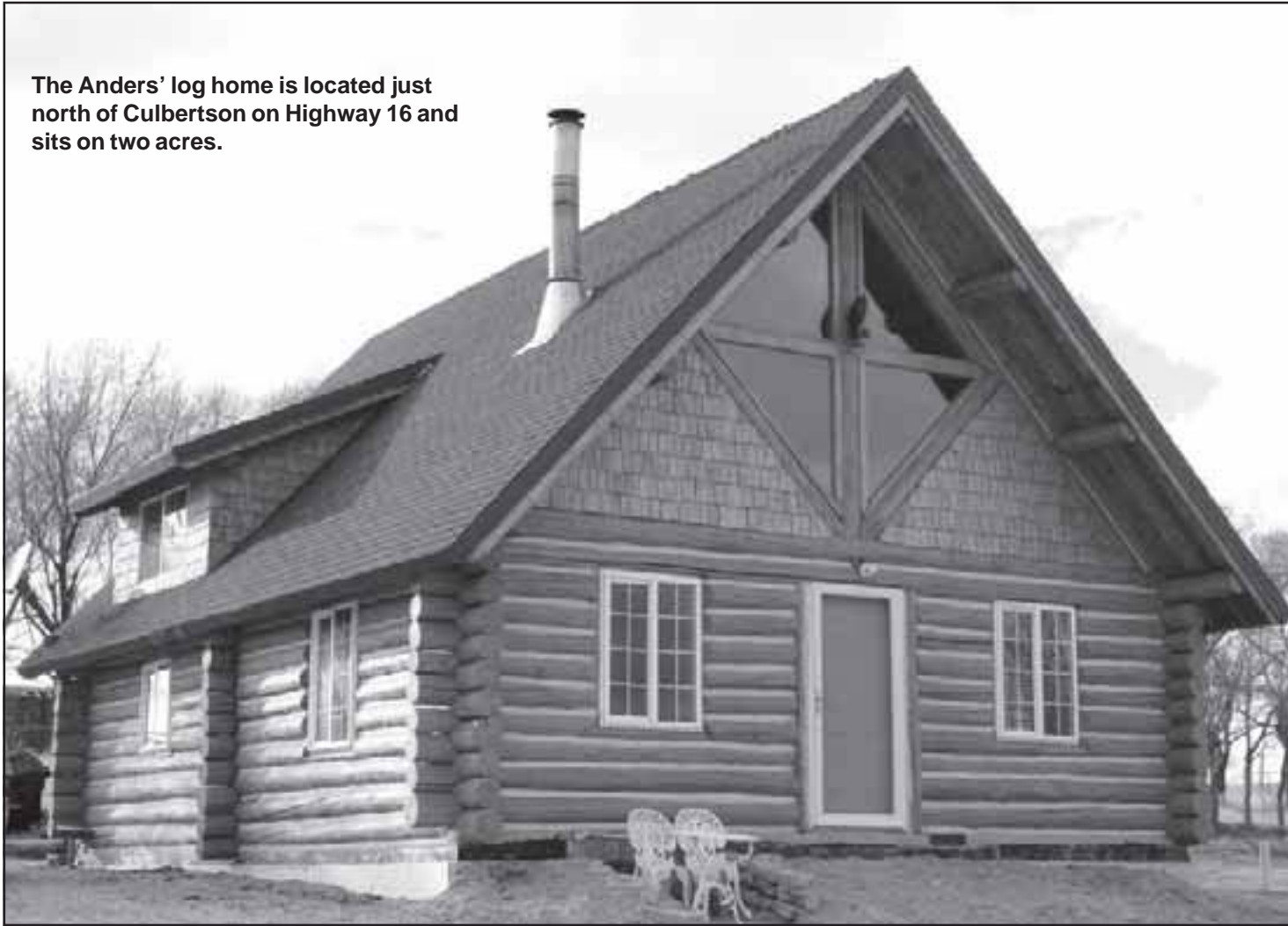
As you drive up the long earthen driveway you are greeted by their horses Tucker, Joe, Blackie and Coon and their two mules Mollie and Newt. Tug, the family's young black Labrador retriever is just around the corner in his large, accommodating kennel. His friendly, yet naughty behavior is evident with his welcoming tail wag and high pitched bark.

Upon entering their home, the high ceilings create an open floor plan that connects both the bottom and top floors.

The tiled, cream colored floors are cool but the home is warm as wood crackles in the squatty iron fireplace Steve welded together piece by piece. The mahogany leather nail head couches create a rustic feeling as you look out the great room with its large windows and triangular panes of glass reaching to the top of the 18-foot ceiling.

Up the chunky, glazed split log stairs, a stuffed raccoon is perched waiting to greet visitors entering the loft. "It's really just such a fun room. When our daughters were helping us move in, everyone was up there in sleeping bags and cots with blankets all over the

The Anders' log home is located just north of Culbertson on Highway 16 and sits on two acres.



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place. It was just so great to have everyone together in one room talking and laughing," Pam said.

Mounted nearly as high as the 12x12 pitched ceilings, a large elk's head emphasizes an atmosphere of rustic life. A mule deer head is mounted adjacent and equally high. A rounded wood table is surfaced with faux marble and counter tops blend into swirls of natural browns and sandy taupe. While it may seem you have been swept back to early frontier times similar to Little House on the Prairie, this is not like any home Charles Ingles may have constructed. Every creature comfort and amenity is available and accounted for; from the wall mounted plasma television to the tiled walk-in glass shower. A hot tub is set up out back for rest and relaxation and kitchen cabinets are inlaid with blue and cream stained glass.

The home is comprised of over 100 heavy fir logs each weighing several hundred pounds. To erect the logs Steve used a block and tackle technique that allowed him to winch them up using his pickup for leverage.

Preparing the logs so they would be ready and treated for the build was a long and tedious process. Anders peeled each log by hand with a dry knife giving each piece its own authentic consistency and markings. While some of the logs were smaller, the average length was 30 feet. Once the logs were stacked and put in place and the weight bearing wall was established down the home's center, logs were erected to support the upstairs loft and bathroom.

Because log homes don't use the traditional insulation that a stick built or modular home would, chinking was used to seal the cracks and crevices between each log to help keep the home weather proof and protected. The Anders' are still working on completing the final touches on the interior chinking.

"The aspect about log homes that makes them a continual work in progress is the fact that they have to be treated throughout the years to insure the wood doesn't rot. Our dry climate helps with keeping the moisture damage away but the sun still breaks it down over time. Staining is something that must be done every few years to keep the home looking the way you want it while preserving the woods integrity," Steve said.

This isn't the first home he built and it isn't his first experience working with natural logs. Before pursuing his career in education in Eastern Montana, Anders worked as a lumber jack and tree faller near his home in Stevensville, MT. He spent about a decade in the forests but decided to pursue education because his job was so dangerous. About 35 years ago, he built his retirement log home outside of Stevensville and today the couple rents it out.

Normally, telephone poles wouldn't be a good choice for building a log home because some contain toxic preservatives. The logs Steve used, however, contained a thin layer of zinc that was peeled off when he prepared the logs for use. All that remained once the peeling process was complete was the clean, bare wood. "These logs will not shrink, settle or twist. They are cracked and look stressed but that adds to the character of each log. These are some of the prettiest house logs I have seen after peeling and sanding them,"

Steve said.

Just north of the home is a large metal shop spanning 30x40 feet that is just near completion.

The Anders weren't in a big hurry to complete their log home because they were already living in a home in Culbertson they purchased years ago. For some, four years

would have been too long of a wait, but for them, it was worth every minute.

The Anders have been married for nearly 32 years and together have two daughters, Tracy, Billings, and Erin and son-in-law Cameron, Cheyenne, WY.



A raccoon sits at the top of the steps leading up to the loft in the Anders' newly-built log home.



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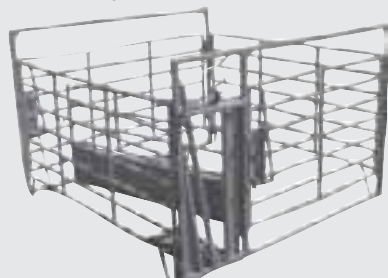
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Structure To Serve Dual Purpose



The original open space between the house and the shed.



Building the roof.

By Lois Kerr

Sometimes a person can realize two goals by building a structure that satisfies a need and a want all at the same time. We already had a one-car garage attached to the house, but we wanted a second shelter to protect our other vehicle from the weather. As well, I've always dreamed of building an upper level deck on my home, with access only through an interior upstairs door. Last summer, we began working on a project that will give us not only an enclosed space for a vehicle but that will ultimately satisfy my desire for an upper level haven.

We began by planning a carport with the idea that we would construct the roof sturdy enough to hold a sun porch and surrounding deck. We had the ideal set-up, as between the east wall of the house and a small outdoor shed we had 12 feet of open area, with the south end opening out onto the existing driveway. This allowed enough space to park a second vehicle after we built a structure to house it, and it also gave us the opportunity to consider placing a sun porch on the roof of the completed carport.

We sunk six 6'x6' treated posts in the ground at strategic locations, three on each side of the intended carport. We then set more 6'x6' timbers lengthwise on top of the uprights to attach the roof. These timbers are strong enough to support a sturdy roof as well as anything else we wanted to place on that completed roof. We then built a roof, spacing the rafters close enough together to supply strength. We also added a few inches of extra overhang at the east edge of the roof to allow for more space for the porch and deck we plan to add at a later time.

Once we completed the roof, we added the north wall and put in an east wall around the ends and over a small portion of the top of the small shed. This completed the basics of the carport and allowed us to have a spot to park a second vehicle.






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It took several week-ends of work to complete this first phase of our project, but we felt the result justified the effort. We met our goal of completing the car port before winter's arrival, and now we are in the stage two planning process.

This summer we plan to complete the second and final phase of this project. We will erect a sun porch and put up railing around the perimeter of the roof. This will give us a private enclosed sunny spot to enjoy as well as an upper level deck.



Right: After completing the roof, we closed in the north and east ends of the carport.

Below: The completed carport. Now we roll up our sleeves for the second portion of this project.



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Veeder Estates is a new centrally located subdivision in the heart of Watford City. The residential development offers 61 lots with 24 lots to be completed to date. The balance will be completed in the next six months.

The homes being built feature single family homes being built by Cascade Homes, Watford City. The homes are three or four bedrooms, two baths, two-car garages with opened up

kitchens and laundry rooms. The homes are 1600-2400 square foot and include fully landscaped yards and fences. Each home can be modified for special family needs. The homes do not have basements but provide extra storage within them. Each home carries a 10-year warranty.

Adjacent to the development the City of Watford City Parks and Recreation Board has chosen to re-

talize Jacobson Park and Playground with new state-of-the-art equipment.

John Dunlap, Cascade Homes, moved from Bozeman three years ago to Williston with his wife and three children and because his in-laws were from Watford City he became interested in the area. "This is a very welcoming community. The community is very proactive. The governing bodies, volunteers and various commit-

tees are light years ahead of most of the communities," states Dunlap. Dunlap chose the name, Veeder

Estates, in honor of his father-in-law, David Veeder. Eventually the devel-

opment will extend from 6th St NE along 7th Avenues NE to North Main Street.



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Gardeners Anxiously Await Spring Planting

By Jaimee Green

The pace of ringing telephones has quickened in recent days at the Roosevelt County Agricultural Extension Services Agency, Culbertson, as more people are getting anxious about getting in the garden. The unseasonably mild winter has many locals ready to get out and get planting.

"Everyone seems to be getting the itch to plant but at this time it is still a gamble. There is still time for Mother Nature to throw us a curve and then all of that effort would have been for nothing," said Ann Ronning, Roosevelt County Extension agent.

So what should you be doing if you are one of the many who feel you are succumbing to your own green thumb? First, you should be getting your soil tested to find out what the nutrient levels are in your soil. By doing it now, you will have time to take the appropriate actions to amend the soil so you can get as many flowers and produce out of your garden as possible. To perform a soil test the best method is to dig down six to eight inches in varying places of the area intended to be planted. Consider taking samples in a "W" shape and getting the soil from each of the "points" of the "W". Sath Analytical Lab, Williston, will do soil testing if you request a nutrient test.

For those who can't wait for the promise of guaranteed temperate weather, planting seeds and keeping them indoors is a good way to get started. Seeds of peppers, tomatoes and many other vegetation varieties can flourish before being transplanted, and you don't have to get fancy either. Small paper cups, halves of milk cartons and even egg shells and egg cartons work fabulously. What's nice about using egg shells is that once it's time to transplant them you can lay them in the ground while they are still bedded in the shell. While the plants are still indoors it's important to remember to keep them in a cool place, such as a basement because the cooler temperatures make them heartier. Heat will make them grow tall and lanky and more susceptible to temperature variations and other stresses. It equally important to ensure they are getting sunlight.

Also, seeds will keep for up to three years if stored in a cool, dry place.

Once in the garden it will be important to establish an ample supply of nutrient rich, mature compost. By mature, this means you can't determine what it once was. As a rule, 100 lbs. of compost, which is about four to six, five gallon buckets weighing about 25 lbs. each, should be used for roughly 100 square feet of garden. It should mix within the top six to eight inches of soil layer.

Cold crops can be planted around the middle of May while warm weather crops usually are planted mid-June. "The key to success is the soil temperature. Once you have the appropriate sustained temperature for your soil, gardens will take off. By keeping plants watered and in the right amount of sunlight, they'll grow quite easily," Ronning added.

Cold crops such as peas, radishes and spinach will germinate at soil temperatures of about 40° or above while beans, beets, broccoli and carrots need temperatures of 60° or higher. Corn, melons, tomatoes and peppers need soil temperatures of 70° or above to germinate. If seeds are planted at soil temperatures below what is suggested, they can rot.

If you're looking to increase your culinary expertise, consider growing your own gourmet herbs as annuals. Oregano, thyme, cilantro, tarragon, basil, sage and chives are all fairly hearty and a great addition to a less than exciting meal.

If you consider yourself to be something of a master gardener, you might want to test your skills this season by attempting to grow celery, Brussel sprouts, eggplant, garlic or watermelon. While they may be a bit fussier than most vegetation, they are easily as delectable. Watermelon is typically one of the most difficult to grow simply because of the vast amounts of water, sunlight and time it takes for them to mature.

For those of us with a small amount of space to devote to a garden, there's good news. Square footage gardening is becoming popular. So, it seems you don't have to be a farmer with acreage or even have a backyard these days to be a savvy, small space gardener. From innovative vertical garden systems to hanging pots, raised flower beds and tiny planters, homegrown produce is possible. A 3x3-foot area should provide ample space for a garden.

Raised bed planters are an optimal choice if soil is not fertile or has poor drainage. Using raised beds also minimizes the amount of stooping required for weeding and planting. Also, raised bed soil warms earlier than the surrounding ground.

For those with limited space it may be best to use shorter, bushier determi-

nant plants because they grow, set their flowers and produce fruit one time. Indeterminant plants keep growing and producing more and more foliage, requiring more space for growth.

"You don't need a lot of space to grow a garden. What you need is good soil, water and sunlight. Gardening is a very therapeutic way to spend some free time," Ronning said.

It's important to remember that you don't have to use pesticides to kill pests. If you see a bug, pluck it off and if you can't identify what type of bug it is, you should find out before taking action. Some bugs promote the health of a garden. Lady bugs can devour as many as 100 aphids a day which will help keep your leaves from being eaten by the tiny bug.

An interesting and old way of planting a garden is known as the Three Sisters. It offers a way to utilize garden space with a trio of vegetables that all work together and includes beans, corn and squash. Critters will find it harder to invade your garden by interplanting the three crops. The corn stalk serves as a pole for the bean, the beans help to add nitrogen to the soil that the corn needs and the squash provides a ground cover of shade that helps the soil retain moisture.



Ann Ronning, Roosevelt County Agricultural Extension Agent in Culbertson.

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Home Improvement Reality Show

By Lois Kerr

Most of us remember the comedy television series *Home Improvement*, starring Tim the Tool Man who blundered his way from one disaster to another as he tried new gadgets that always backfired in one way or another, invented contraptions that failed to work as he envisioned they would, and in general made us laugh at his misguided efforts aimed at improving life around the house.

Now that I've had my own dealings with home improvement projects, any humor found in the process has faded and I dread the thought of even picking up a hammer. Like Tim the Tool Man, the simplest project can go awry with the turn of a screw; what I assumed would take me five minutes to complete takes five days, and often like a stack of dominos, one project makes another unplanned and unexpected but very much needed changeover materialize without warning.

The end results may look great, but to reach these final products can cause gray hair, shortened tempers, and lead to small rifts among family members. Even what ought to be an easy task can take forever to accomplish. Painting, for example, in and of itself presents a few minor problems, but the hassle required of a person before he or she ever takes the lid off the paint can leaves me cold. Moving furniture, taping the perimeter around the designated area, washing walls, and covering the floor with some sort of protection requires as much time and effort as applying the paint. We won't even discuss the cleanup.

When it takes an entire day to install a new door or a few windows, heaven knows how long it will take for the completion of a bathroom.

We won't mention the contractors who promise faithfully to show up and six weeks later we are still waiting for them to make an appearance, the basement that ends up two inches too small, the plumber who assures us the job is finished, but when we turn on the taps, we discover he has failed to cement the joints in the pipes, or the materials we ordered two months ago that still have not arrived. Then, of course, we all know the do-it-yourselfer who decides to remodel a kitchen and three years later he still hasn't completed the job.

Then, of course, we run into missing parts and no available tools. Like Tim the Tool man, all too often we are in the midst of a project when something unexpected occurs to derail us yet again. We may discover a critical piece has disappeared, or perhaps we require a unique tool to loosen or tighten a bolt or screw that, of course, no business in town has in stock. Yes, of course, they can order this unusual tool

for us, but it takes three weeks to get here. What good is that?

I hate my house in disarray and I can't abide clutter. Home improvement jobs not only seem to take extraordinary amounts of time to complete, but they also ALWAYS require that the house gets turned topsy-turvy for as long as the project remains a work in progress, and returning everything to its proper place after completion requires a lot of time and energy as well.

End results often look fabulous and provide us with the improvement we had hoped for, but reaching that lofty end

result can drive a teetotaler to serious drink. The glitz and glimmer of a final product looks great, but then I remember the hassles and uproar it took to achieve that final product. Home improvement certainly has its place, but if you are not blessed with the patience of Job (and I certainly am not), the thought of upcoming projects can make me cringe. I have to really want something very badly these days to consider putting myself and my home through new, major home improvement projects.





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Designing Your Home Office For Maximum Comfort And Productivity

(ARA) - There's no doubt that we're a connected society - and connected like never before through email, social networks, video conference technology, instant messaging, smart phones, the list goes on. While this influx in connectivity has made it easier to do business, it has also blurred the lines between work and home life, resulting with many of us working in our homes at least a few hours each week. If your kitchen countertop has become your go-to place for paying bills, responding to emails and conducting business, it may be time to consider adding a dedicated office space in your home.

Whether you telecommute for work or just need a work space to organize personal documents and files, a well-thought home office can

help you stay productive, efficient and organized. Before beginning the design process for an office space, think through how the space will be used and ask yourself these questions:

- * What activities will take place in the space?
- * Who will be utilizing this area?
- * What are the storage needs?
- * What time of day will you be doing most of your work?
- * Where in your home will you set up the office?
- * What type of connectivity/technology will be necessary for this space?

Once you have a handle on your needs, you're ready to start the planning and design process. Here are a few important things to consider when you're setting up a home office:

Flexible and functional
A home office should be comfortable, but not too casual that it lacks structure and function at the expense of productivity. Whether you opt for a desk or a table, be sure to evaluate how much work surface is needed before you make the purchase. Consider how much space your computer and phone equipment, wires and cords, files and paperwork and office supplies will occupy. All of these things can quickly swallow space you might need to work comfortably. After you've selected the furniture, it's wise to invest in a high-quality ergonomic chair that can help promote your overall well-being.

Orderly and organized
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get-go will help minimize stress in the long run. The good news is you don't have to settle for commercial-looking metal file cabinets to store everything. Cabinets have long been used to create stylish, orderly kitchens and baths, and can do the same for a home office.

"Cabinets shouldn't be limited to the kitchen and the bath," says Sarah Reep, director of designer relations and education for QualityCabinets. "A cabinet has the ability to look and function like a high-end furniture-quality desk for the home office, at a fraction of the cost."

Light and lively

Good lighting in a home office is essential. While overhead light is helpful, your desk and work spaces should also feature a few task lights for reading, writing and computer work. Adding a decorative table lamp can help maintain a homier feel. The amount and type of lighting really depends on when you'll be doing the bulk of your work and can vary drastically throughout the day. Installing light dimmer switches and adding window treatments can keep light at optimum levels. Painting a splash of color on the walls, adding colorful textiles or artwork reflective of your personality will make the space feel lively and inspiring.



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Four Survival Tips For Your Family Vacation



(ARA) - You know the old saying that the journey is just as important as reaching your destination? It can also be applied to your family vacation. Some even believe that the journey is half the fun of getting there. While you may already have a getaway destination in mind, traveling as a family presents its share of challenges for the journey ahead.

That's why it's so important to plan ahead to make sure your trip is a memorable voyage, rather than an endless undertaking. Preparing for vacation travel is all about using your resources, staying organized and snacking smartly.

Whether you're traveling by car, plane or train, here are a few travel survival tips to ensure a smooth journey during your next vacation:

* Keep a snack stash. Hunger is the happy traveler's kryptonite, as moods can go south quickly when you're in need of a snack. The type of snacks you choose is also important, as snacks overloaded with sugar might not help you feel satisfied for long - and sugary snacks can also leave your kids with lots of energy

and nowhere to burn it off. Try stocking up on healthier snacks that are convenient for on-the-go situations like Snyder's of Hanover pretzels. They come in a wide variety of shapes and flavors, including 100-calorie packs and gluten-free varieties, offering something for everyone on board. Snyder's of Hanover Pretzel Pieces, which range in flavor from Buffalo Ranch to the new Bacon Cheddar are an especially good option for crumb- and mess-free snacking. To learn more about the available options, visit www.snydersofhanover.com.

* Take a clean-up kit. Hand sanitizer, napkins and hand wipes can help keep everyone - and the inside of your car - clean during your trip. If you have younger children, keeping a bag with a change of clothes easily accessible can help you weather any bad spills or accidents.

* Don't forget the fun. Car games can make the time fly by for children. If you're driving, games like car bingo and the license plate game are fun ways to help your child discover the scenery. To combine food and fun, use pret-

zel bits as bingo pieces or a tasty game of tic-tac-toe. Bringing pads for doodling is never a bad idea either, and washable markers are always a good option since they won't easily break like crayons or colored pencils might.

* Make it easy to get some shut-eye. If you have a longer trip planned, bringing smaller travel pillows and blankets to help your passengers rest when they get sleepy can help keep everyone happy. You may also want to consider sun-blocking screens that still allow the driver to see out the window - although a comfortable pair of sunglasses for the little ones can also help.

* Keep travel-friendly technology handy. Smartphones and tablets make great travel companions for adults, giving you access to helpful maps, restaurant reviews and tourism sites. You can also scan the Web for travel-related games for the kids. Follow Snyder's of Hanover on Facebook and Twitter for road trip snacking tips, and look for game ideas and travel tips on the brand's Pinterest board.

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'Spring' Into A Relaxing Summer With Five Easy Spring Cleaning Tips

(ARA) - Spring is here, which means one thing: it's time to get your home in tip-top shape. By completing a few easy tasks, you can spend more time soaking up the sun and less time on interior projects. Here are five ways to spruce up your home this spring to prepare for a relaxing summer - and give your home that "spring cleaning" feel without spending the entire spring, well, cleaning.

1. Let there be light
Nothing makes the house feel drab like dirty windows. Make any room feel bright and fresh by cleaning the inside glass of your windows. A quick once over with a paper towel and glass cleaner should do the trick. Look for a "streak-free" formula and the insides will be sparkling in no time.

Get the outside just as clean - without the hard work - by using a cleaner that attaches directly to your garden hose. All you have to do is point and spray to remove the dirt and grime left behind from winter. It's safe to use on plastic siding and can help you easily reach second story windows. Plus, while you're outside, quickly rinse off patio furniture, jungle gyms or your children's outdoor toys to make them look

good as new.

2. Pick up a paint brush
To freshen up any room for springtime, pull out your paint. Don't try to redo the whole house - pick the room where a fresh coat of paint will make the biggest impact. Choose a fun new color, or add some flare with a unique design like stripes or chevron. And, don't forget to touch up the trim if you have the time.

3. Wash away winter grime

You know that soft, comfy throw blanket you've been snuggling up with all winter? It's storing more than cozy memories. Since winter is prime cold and flu season, it's probably become home to lots of germs. Increase the clean factor in your home by tossing throw blankets, pillows, window treatments, even couch covers in the washing machine to get rid of germs. Then, hang them outside to dry in the sun and soak up that springtime scent.

4. Say "sayonara" to your sweaters

Scarves, hats, gloves, wool sweaters and other heavy items of clothing won't be much use to you once spring is in full swing. Save room in your closets by get-

ting them out of the way - put clothing items you won't need in warm weather in plastic storage bins. Keep them in an attic or basement, clearing space for your warmer-weather wear. As you're packing things up, pull aside anything you haven't worn all winter and donate these items to your local charity. It's an easy way to de-clutter, make your home feel more organized and give back to your community. The same methodology goes for kitchen cabinets, desk drawers and playrooms. Store away items you're not using and give what you don't need to charity - if you're not using it, someone else might.

5. Dust your digs

Spring brings more than just sunshine - it's also the bearer of seasonal allergies. Help fight the sniffles by shaking out rugs and giving rooms a good onceover with a feather duster. If wiping down the entire house seems too tedious, focus on areas that aren't in plain sight. Throughout the year, you probably wipe down surfaces that are clearly visible - tables, shelves, countertops. But, when was the last time the top of the refrigerator or the ceiling fan saw a duster? Use spring

cleaning as a chance to focus on those areas that don't often get cleaned. Your home, and your nose, will

thank you.

Follow these simple tips to make every moment count this spring. Your home will be

sparkly and clean before you know it - giving you plenty of time to relax and soak up the sun.



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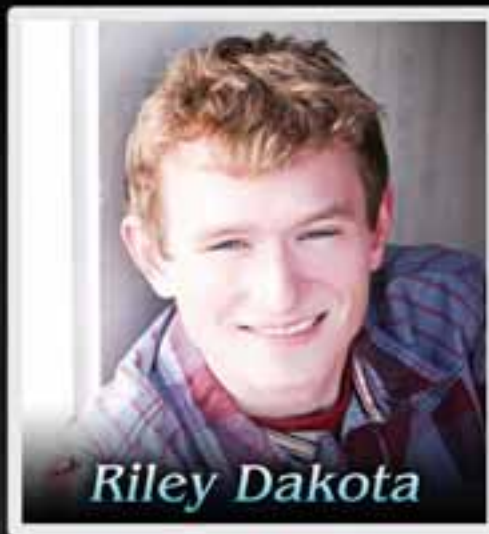
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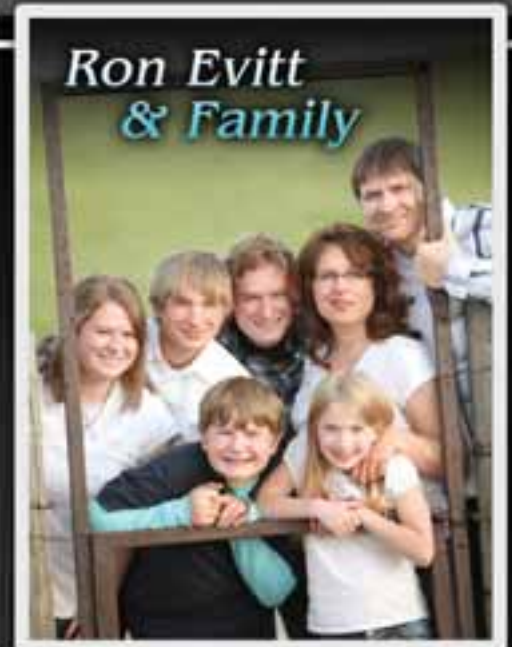
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