

# The Roundup

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## Fairview Police Department Receives Replacement Radios Using Grant For Montana Peace Officers

By Jaymi Mozeak

The Fairview Police Department was able to purchase two radios with the help of the Mason Moore Grant on Dec. 11. Because of the grant they were able to replace 22-year-old equipment. The Fairview Police Department is a rather small department with only two officers, but the town they service is quite small as well, with a population of 898 at the last census in 2020 over .8 sq. miles. At times they have had to call the Richland County Sheriff Department or law enforcement from nearby towns. Sometimes they can be strapped for resources and communication can be a lifesaver if a situation starts to turn sour.

Lately, the Fairview Police Department was becoming a little desperate with

only two working radios and batteries that did not stay in them reliably, making communication difficult, if not impossible at times.

Police Chief Whitney Hergert recalled a time she was out on a call and needed backup assistance while making an arrest. She was unable to call out from her radio to dispatch in order request backup assistance, so she had to complete the arrest by herself and call later, on her cellphone. A very dangerous situation for a peace officer.

The police department had requested replacement radios a few times but a single police radio costs \$3,000-5,000 new and they needed two. It was a little too much for the small town to afford. Their plight did not go unheard, however. Bran-

don Roth, Richland County Disaster Services Coordinator, was able to lend them one of his radios, indefinitely. Justin Damm, Advanced Communications (Sidney,) was watching for good quality equipment they could afford but they needed more help.

Chief Hergert applied for the Mason Moore Grant, a grant created to show the Mason Moore Foundation's love and support of law enforcement agencies in Montana. Among other things it provides grants to local law enforcement agencies to provide for programs or special equipment that may not be available through the standard governmental funding process. An early grant exception and was able to get them two refurbished radios. Costing \$1,050 each,



**Pictured (L-R) Justin Damm, Advanced Communications; helped Chief Whitney Hergert, Fairview Police Department; acquire replacement radios to help with communication while out on calls. (Submitted photo)**

but with the grant, the Fairview Police Department can reliably communicate again. For more about the Mason Moore Foundation and what

they do for Montana law enforcement visit <https://masonmoorefoundation.com>.

## Spaghetti Feed & Silent Auction To Be Held As Medical Benefit For 6 Yr. Old Jan. 20

By Jaymi Mozeak

The Badlands Fraternal Order of Police will be holding a spaghetti feed and silent auction at the Carl E. Rogan Post 29, Saturday, Jan. 20, from noon-3 p.m. to help the daughter of one of their own receive lifesaving healthcare.

Katherine Beebe is only six years old and is the daughter of one of the members of the FOP as well as a deputy sheriff with the McKenzie County Sheriff's Office. In November 2023, her parents noticed that there was something wrong. They got her to a doctor and found she has a rare heart condition that is, of yet, undiagnosed. She will require multiple tests, scans, and procedures to assist in finding out her diagnosis. She has been referred to the Minnesota Children's Specialty Clinic, St. Paul, over 600 miles away. Her family needs financial help for the immediate surgery and treatment she will need, and fuel to travel back and forth between North Dakota and Minnesota.

A family friend has purchased all of the food for the spaghetti feed at Jack and Jill, Watford City. There will also be French bread and drinks. The Badlands Fraternal Order of Police is still accepting donated items for the silent auction. There will be t-shirts available for purchase the day of the event for \$15 each as well.

Watch the FOP Badlands Lodge 8 Facebook page for additional information. The Carl E. Rogan Post 29 is located at 313 12th St. SE, Watford City. 100% of the proceeds from this benefit will go to the Beebes for Katherine's medical needs and travel expenses.

## Red Cross Blood Drive Jan. 23

Submitted by Nancy Hedegaard, Sidney area Red Cross Blood Drive Coordinator

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, Jan. 23, from 12-6 p.m. at St. Matthew's Parish Center, 310 7th St. SE, Sidney. Appointments are recommended, but walk-ins are accepted. To schedule an appointment to donate blood, please call 406-868-0911 or 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Give something that means something - give blood.

## Sidney Health Center Welcomes New Pelvic Health Physical Therapist Steinbeisser, DPT

Submitted

Sidney – Sidney Health Center is excited to announce the newest addition to its Rehabilitation Therapy team. Lacey Steinbeisser, Doctor of Physical Ther-

apy (DPT) and specialist in pelvic health, recently joined the team to provide expanded services to people living in the MonDak region. As a Sidney native, Lacey is thrilled to work alongside

Bess Reid, DPT, in enhancing pelvic health services in her hometown.

Pelvic health physical therapy (PHPT) focuses on helping with concerns related to the lower back,

pelvis, and hips, especially the pelvic floor. Therapists like Lacey and Bess receive special training to address various pelvic health issues across different ages. Sidney Health Center's pelvic

health program helps people of all ages, dealing with problems like incontinence, difficulty using the bathroom, pelvic organ issues, tailbone pain, lower back discomfort, hip pain, and painful intercourse.

PHPT is a specialized type of physical therapy that concentrates on evaluating and treating conditions linked to the pelvic floor. For pregnant women, this specialized therapy can help with issues such as pelvic pain, incontinence, preparing for labor and delivery, and recovering after giving birth.

Steinbeisser, who has been helping people with pelvic health concerns for the past two years in Billings, is now back in Sidney. She got special training in treating pelvic floor issues from the Herman and Wallace Pelvic Rehabilitation Institute, Seattle, WA. Lacey's dedication to pelvic health physical therapy comes from her desire to improve the quality of life for people dealing with treatable conditions.

To learn more about pelvic health physical therapy at Sidney Health Center, visit [SidneyHealth.org](http://SidneyHealth.org) or call 406.488.2166.



**(Pictured L-R) As a Sidney native, Lacey Steinbeisser, Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) and specialist in pelvic health, is thrilled to work alongside Bess Reid, DPT, in enhancing pelvic health services in her hometown. (Photo submitted)**

## James Memorial Art Center Membership Drive Through Feb. 29

Submitted by Pam Elliott, James Memorial Preservation Society Admin

The James Memorial Art Center is holding a membership drive that began Dec. 1, and will conclude Feb. 29.

An anonymous donor has generously offered to match all membership fees

collected within this three-month period, dollar for dollar, as a donation to the James Memorial Preservation Society.

Several tiers are available, starting at an annual student or senior membership for \$25. Some of the benefits include art class discounts, monthly eNews,

monthly postcards announcing new exhibits, and being an integral piece of our mission of preserving history, promoting art, and enhancing community.

The JMAC is a non-profit art center operated by the James Memorial Preservation Society in the historic original Williston Library

building, which opened in February 1911. The James Memorial Preservation Society, in leasing the building from the city, assumed full financial responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the building and for exhibitions and activities held in it. Our mission is to share art and culture with the

community of Williston while preserving the historic building known as The James Memorial Art Center.

Please visit [thejamesmemorial.org](http://thejamesmemorial.org) for more information and to become a member.



# Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, calls, cards, flowers, and food during Donna’s illness and passing. We are blessed to live in such a caring community.

– The Donna Delp family



## Where’s Jake!?

This holiday season, Jake’s on a mission to promote **#shoplocal** and **#shopsmall**. Every Wednesday, he’ll be in a new local business location.

**Can you find him?**

Last week I was at  
Saloon 27!

-Jake

Want Jake to visit your business?  
Send Michele a Facebook message!



**State Farm**  
309 2nd St NW • Sidney, MT  
406-488-2400

**Michele Herres**, State Farm Agent

# SIDNEY EAGLE

## WRESTLER OF THE WEEK



**BRENNER MULLIN 126#**

He placed at Sidney, Glasgow and Miles City Tournaments.

**Congratulations, Brenner.**

**You are the Sidney Eagle Wrestler of the week!**

This week sponsored by **TRUGREEN** - Lico Sifuentes

# Lunch Menus!

**Sidney School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Hot dogs, mac & cheese, carrot sticks, pineapple.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Chicken alfredo over pasta, steamed broccoli, peaches.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Chicken fried steaks, potatoes & gravy, mandarin oranges, dinner rolls.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Lasagna roll-ups, tossed salad, garlic breadsticks, applesauce.

**Savage School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Nachos.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Chicken alfredo.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Finger steaks.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Pizza.

**Rau School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Chicken quesadillas, rice, Mexican corn, pineapple.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Corn dogs, french fries, carrots, mandarin oranges.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Chicken & dumplings, peas, carrots, apples.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Pizza grilled cheese, sweet potato fries, strawberries.

**Froid School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Fish sticks, buttered noodles, veggies, fruit, salad bar.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Teriyaki chicken, rice, egg rolls, fruit, salad bar.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Hamburgers on buns, baked beans, macaroni salad, fruit, salad bar.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, buns, veggies, dessert, salad bar.

**Bainville School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Chili, corn, peaches, salad bar.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** Ravioli, green beans, mandarin oranges, salad bar.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, mixed fruit, salad bar.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Super nachos, corn, mangos, salad bar.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Tortellini pasta, chicken caesar salad, applesauce, salad bar.

**Richey School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Sloppy joes, chips, veggie sticks, cookies, fruit, salad bar.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Goulash, veggies, fruit, salad bar.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Hamburger gravy over mashed potatoes, veggies, fruit, salad bar.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Spaghetti, corn, french bread, cookies, fruit, salad bar.

**Culbertson School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Riblet sandwiches, baked beans,

mixed fruit.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Corn dogs, french fries, mandarin oranges.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** White chicken chili, cinnamon rolls, peaches.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Tater tot casserole, mixed veggies.

**Lambert School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Pizza hot dish, corn, fruit.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** Sloppy joes, chips, fruit.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Popcorn chicken, fries, fruit.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** American hotdish, corn, fruit.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Pizza, chips, fruit.

**Fairview School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Chicken noodle soup, peanut butter & jelly or turkey & swiss sammies, veggie, fruit, fresh garden bar.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Meatball subs, cheesy hash brown casserole, veggie, fruit, fresh garden bar.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Soft or crunchy tacos, refried beans, veggie, fruit, fresh garden bar.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Burger bar, fries, veggie, fruit, fresh garden bar.

**East Fairview School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Egg rolls, rice.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Sub sandwiches, chips.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Quesadillas, rice.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Beef barley soup.

**Alexander School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Spaghetti or alfredo, garlic toast, fruit & vegetable bar.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** No School.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Hot beef or hot pork on bread, mashed potatoes & gravy, fruit & vegetable bar.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Baked chicken breast or fish, rice pilaf, cheesy broccoli, fruit & vegetable bar.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Build your own burgers, curly fries, fruit & vegetable bar.

**Watford City School**

**Thurs., Jan. 18:** Tomato soup, grilled cheese, crackers, fruit, veggies, salad bar.

**Fri., Jan. 19:** Beef burritos, Spanish rice, fruit, veggies, salad bar.

**Mon., Jan. 22:** Chicken tender mac & cheese bowl, white cheddar mac & cheese, fruit, veggies, salad bar.

**Tues., Jan. 23:** BBQ pulled pork sliders, baked beans, chips, fruit, veggies, salad bar.

**Wed., Jan. 24:** Chili, cinnamon rolls, crackers, fruit, veggies, salad bar.

# OBITUARIES

## Webster K Thackeray, 97 Sidney, MT

Celebration of Life Services for Webster K. Thackeray, 97, Sidney, MT, will be Monday Jan. 22, 2024 at 2 p.m. at the Fulkerson Stevenson Memorial Chapel, Sidney, MT, with Pastor Tim Sharp officiating. There will be a gathering at the funeral home after the service for desserts and coffee.

Webster and Charlotte will be laid to rest at Highland Cemetery, Havre, MT, at a later date. Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT, is assisting the family. Remembrances, condolences, and pictures may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

Webster K Thackeray, 97 passed away peacefully on Saturday Jan. 6, 2024 at the Sidney Health Center Extended Care Facility, Sidney, MT, with family by his side.

## Joseph P Fink, 87 Fairview, MT

Memorial Mass for Joseph “Joe” Fink, 87, Fairview, MT, was Friday, Jan. 12, 2024, at 10 a.m. at St. Catherine’s Catholic Church, Fairview, MT, with Father Jim O’Neil presiding. Wake services were at 6 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, at St. Catherine’s Catholic Church, Fairview, MT. Joe was laid to rest in the Fairview Cemetery, Fairview, ND. A luncheon followed the service for a time of fellowship and sharing. Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT, assisted the family. In lieu of flowers, donations and memorials were made in Joe’s name to Emmaus House, 316 9th St SE, Sidney, MT, 59270 or online at <https://www.emmaushouse.co> Remembrances, condolences, and pictures were shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).



Joseph P Fink

Joseph Peter Fink passed away peacefully at home on Jan. 4, 2024. He was born Sept. 8, 1936, in Sidney, MT, the 11th child to Roy and Isabella (Meyer) Fink. Joe’s education started at the Bradley School, a small country school a few miles from the family farm located outside of Lambert, MT. After attending school in town for a few years, he moved to Sidney, MT, where he graduated from high school.

After his graduation, he worked on the Joe Prevost farm until joining the Army in 1956. He served for two years as an auto mechanic, including a year spent in Korea. In 1958, he was discharged from the Army and served in the reserves for two years. During his time in the service, he was awarded the Korea Defense Service Medal and medals for Rifle & Pistol Sharpshooter and Good Conduct.

On July 1, 1961, he married Virginia Baxter, also of Lambert, at St. Philomena’s Church, Sidney. Their ceremony was performed by Father Ned Shinnick, which was one of the first weddings he performed after moving to Sidney.

Joe and Virginia lived in Lambert until 1970, when they moved to Fairview. During this time, he worked for the Peavey Company Grain Elevator & Feedlot and Montana-Dakota Utilities.

After his retirement in 1998, they enjoyed taking yearly trips including five cruises, a bus tour through Italy, and three trips to Hawaii. They also loved to make frequent trips to visit their children and grandchildren all over the United States.

Joe’s favorite pastimes were watching sports and assembling jigsaw and 3D puzzles. He remembered fondly a trip to Seattle to watch the Mariners play when they were giving out bobble heads of Ichiro Suzuki.

He is survived by his children Gene (Marlene) Fink, Fairview, MT; Kent (Jody) Fink, Aztec, NM; Doug Fink, Fairview, MT; Kandyse (Mark) Whitney, Beaverton, OR; Scott Fink, Beaverton, OR; Lisha (Steve) Lutke, Park City, MT; and Kurt (Michelle) Fink, Russellville, AL; his grandchildren Travis (Jamie) Fink, Billings, MT; Dustin Fink, Glendive, MT; Megan (Devyn) Lutke, Laurel, MT; Jace (Rani) Lutke, Billings, MT; John (Karen) Unruh, Glendive, MT; and Jacob (Lois) Unruh, Fairview, MT; his great-grandchildren Cole and Parker Fink, Billings, MT; Emily, Kaitlyn, Rylee, and Wyatt Unruh, Glendive, MT; Jacob Jr., Cameron, and Taylor Unruh, Fairview, MT; and his sister Dorothy Fink, Sidney, MT.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Isabella (Meyer) Fink; his wife, Virginia (Baxter); brothers Harold, John, Paul, William, Robert, and James; and sisters Muriel, Christine, Margaret, and Mary.

# Feeding Fertility: Understanding The Relationship Between Nutrition & Reproduction, Jan. 30

By Marley Voll,  
MSU Richland County Extension Agent

Many experienced the widespread issues with breed back this fall. Hannah Speer, Northern Ag Research Center Animal Science assistant professor, Havre, MT, will be in Sidney on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at 5:30 p.m. upstairs at the Meadowlark Public House to discuss Feeding Fertility: Understanding the Relationship Between Nutrition and Reproduction.

Speer will be discussing body conditioning scoring (BCS) and how it relates to postpartum interval, pregnancy rates, and important times to think about evaluating BCS throughout the year and when/how to add condition to cows/heifers. She will also discuss nutritional factors that can affect reproduction and feeding strategies to help producers set their herd up for reproductive success.

Dr. Speer is a native of western Kansas and recently graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with her PhD in ruminant nutrition. Her research focus there was on cow/calf nutrition and management within systems limited in perennial forage grazing. She evaluated alternative management strategies for systems where perennial forage grazing was limited or not feasible, and also focused heavily on the vitamin A needs of gestating beef cows fed stored forages for extended periods of time. She began her new role as Animal Science assistant professor at the Northern Ag Research Center, Havre, at the beginning of January, and looks forward to conducting research that is important to the producers of Montana.

Please plan to join us on Jan. 30 upstairs at the Meadowlark.

# EVENTS

SEND US YOUR EVENTS!

THE ROUNDUP: PO Box 1207 • 111 West Main • Sidney, MT  
406-433-3306 • Fax: 406-433-4114 • Email: [classads@esidney.com](mailto:classads@esidney.com)

## RICHLAND COUNTY

Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT.

**Now Through Jan. 31**

**Sidney High School Leadership Class Shoe Drive** - Four members of the Leadership Class are collecting shoes for those in need. If you would like to donate a pair of shoes there is a drop box at the main entry of the Sidney High School. For more info or to schedule a pickup for shoes call 406-599-5143.

**Wed., Jan. 17**

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. - **Communities West V Exhibit** - through Feb. 2 - **Thriving In The MonDak Chill Exhibit** - through Feb. 3 - MonDak Heritage Center, 120 3rd Ave. SE. Reg. Hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. For more info call 406-433-3500, or visit <https://mondakheritagecenter.org/>.

**Wed., Jan. 17, 24, 31**

10 a.m. - **Storytime** - Ages 4-5, but all ages welcome. Focuses on kindergarten readiness and includes songs, finger plays, stories & a craft. Sidney-Richland County Library, 121 3rd Ave NW.

**Thurs., Jan. 18**

6 p.m. - **Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce & Richland Economic Development Meeting & Cocktail Reception** - New Business Showcase Pre-Social 6 p.m., Annual Meeting 6:30 p.m. Hosting Gov. Greg Gianforte. Fun presentations showcasing businesses & awardees. Performance by Sidney High School Band. Sidney Yellowstone Mercantile, 102 Central Ave.

**Fri., Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23**

7:30 p.m. - **Volleyball Sports Night** - Come bring your family & have a great time, 1215 5th St. SE. For more info call 701-317-2309.

**Sat., Jan. 20**

1 p.m. - **Pastel Landscapes** - All skill levels welcome to create beautiful landscapes with pastel paints with guest instructor Belinda O'Dell. MonDak Heritage Center, 120 3rd Ave. SE. Members \$25; Not Yet Members \$35. Call 406-433-3500 or email [mdhc@richland.org](mailto:mdhc@richland.org) to reserve your spot.

1-4 p.m. - **Rosemaling & Lefsa Making Demonstration** - Sidney Sons of Norway Lodge #489 invites everyone to enjoy demonstrations of rosemaling and lefsa making. Sidney Elks Lodge 123 3rd St SW.

**Sat., Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24**

7 p.m. - **Basketball Sports Night** - Come bring your family & have a great time, 1215 5th St. SE. For more info call 701-317-2309.

**Sun., Jan., 21, 28**

1 p.m. - **Bingo** - Open to the public. 1 sheet is 2 cards. 10 games & 11 game winner take all! Sidney Moose Lodge, 101 3rd St SE.

**Mon., Jan. 22 & 29**

4 p.m. - **Lego Club** - Children in grade Kindergarten-5 can stop by for this drop-in activity. Sidney-Richland County Library, 121 3rd Ave NW.

**Tues., Jan. 23**

12-6 p.m. - **Red Cross Blood Drive** - St. Matthew's Parish Center, 310 7th St. SE. Appointments are recommended, walk-ins are accepted. To schedule an appointment call 406-868-0911 or 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

## MCKENZIE COUNTY

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT.

**Wed., Jan. 17**

7 p.m. - **WCHC FFA Donkey Basketball** - Watch games of 'Donkey Basketball' between school staff, first responders, & FFA members. Win cash in the Rocket-A-Donkey contest. Free donkey rides during intermission for children 12 & under. Watford City High School, 2313 Wolves Den Parkway.

**Sat., Jan. 20**

12-3 p.m. - **Katherine Beebe Spaghetti Feed & Silent Auction Benefit** - Carl E. Rogan Post 29, 313 12th St. SE. 100% of proceeds will go to Katherine Beebe for her surgery, treatment, & fuel for travel.

2-3 p.m. - **Clay Coffee Mug Class** - Make your very own mug, no experience necessary, all supplies are included. Your mugs will be fired & ready for you to glaze during Paint Your Own Pottery Open Studio on Feb. 3. Come in anytime between 10 a.m.–5 p.m. to glaze your piece. It will then be ready to pick up in one week's time! Long X Arts Foundation Gallery 100 2nd Ave SW.

**Fri., Jan. 26**

5 p.m. - **McKenzie County Soil Conservation District 11th Annual Cowgirls 'n Conservation** - The Quilting Bee. 5 p.m. Social, 6 p.m. Dinner. McKenzie County Ag Expo, 12880 25th St. NW. For more info or to register go to [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

**Sat., Jan 27**

11 a.m.-4 p.m. - **Hygge Open House & Free Printmaking Class** - Hygge, enjoy treats, browse the Charles Beck art exhibition, shop unique ND products & learn the art of printmaking. Free for all ages. Pre-register or pop in. Long X Art Gallery, Visitor Center & Pioneer Gifts & Books, 100 2nd Ave SW.

## WILLIAMS COUNTY

Events in Williston unless otherwise listed. CT.

**Fri., Jan. 26**

5:30 p.m. - **Williston Area Chamber of Commerce Presents “Stars of Williston”** - Awards, appreciation & auction. The Grand Williston Hotel & Conference Center, 3601 2nd Ave. W. For tickets visit [willistonchamber.com/annual-awards](http://willistonchamber.com/annual-awards).

**Sat., Jan. 27, Fri., March 8 & Sat., April 27**

9 a.m.-1 p.m. - **Community CPR & First Aid** - WPRD is offering a CPR & First Aid Certification to the public through the Red Cross for ages 16+. Students will attend hands on training at the ARC in AED, First Aid & CPR from a certified instructors. Register at [willistonparks.com](http://willistonparks.com). For more info email [Shaleena@wprd.us](mailto:Shaleena@wprd.us).

**Sat., Jan. 27**

7 p.m.-midnight - **Game Night** - Free & open to the public. Bring your favorite games & snacks. (2nd & 4th Sat. of each month) James Memorial Art Center, 621 1st Ave. W.

**Sat., Feb. 3**

11 a.m. - **Mommy & Me Valentine’s Day Craft** - Join the Olive Motherhood Foundation for some fun mommy & me crafting! Make flower bouquets & love birds! Free event, register at [olivemotherhoodfoundation.com](http://olivemotherhoodfoundation.com). Hansens Unlimited, 2017 2nd Ave. West.

**Sat., Feb. 10**

7 p.m. - **Newlywed Game** - Newly married, dating, or married for decades, join us at the James for cocktails, food, & lots of laughs! \$50 per couple, 21+ event. Purchase tickets early [jamesmemorial.org](http://jamesmemorial.org), limited space. James Memorial Art Center 621 1st Ave. W.

## DAWSON COUNTY

Events in Glendive unless otherwise listed. MT.

**Thurs., Jan. 18**

6 p.m. - **Glendive Friends of the Library Brains & Brew Trivia** - 4 people per team, per table, entry fee \$10 or go it alone for \$3 per player. Cross Country Brewing, 320 E Allard St.

**Fri., Feb. 9**

1-4 p.m. - **It’s Puppy Love Craft** - Bring your child to make a towel puppy for their Valentine. Free to the public. Reynolds Market 1014 W. Bell St.



Reynolds Market Harvest of Hope Donations



Reynolds Market digital marketing director Sara Berndt, center, awards the Richland County Chronic Disease and Nutrition Coalition, from left, Stephanie Reynolds, Rita Jacobson, Penni Case and Amira El-Dinary with a \$2,000 donation to provide nutritional food to those in need. Reynolds Market, Sidney, and our community helped raise \$3,000 through the Harvest of Hope donation drive Nov 1-14. Up to 5¢ per unit sold on specially marked products, as well as additional money collected through icon sales at the registers, are donated to help provide food to those in the community in need. Watch for the Feeding the Hungry promotion starting Jan. 17 at Reynolds Market stores to continue raising funds for local food banks. (Photo submitted by Libby Berndt)



Reynolds Market gives Harvest of Hope donations to Richland County Food Bank Volunteers, from left, Duane Pust and Candy Markwald accept a donation of \$1,000 from Reynolds Market assistant store manager Tony Couture. (Photo submitted by Libby Berndt)

Governor Gianforte Welcomes Brixtel Defense To Montana



Gov. Gianforte cutting the ribbon at the Brixtel Defense facility in Glendive. (Submitted Photo)

Submitted by Kaitlin Price, Office of the Governor

Glendive – Governor Greg Gianforte, on Jan. 10, welcomed Brixtel Defense to Montana, celebrating the global defense company’s \$125 million investment in Dawson County. “Montana is proudly home to over 150 innovative firearms and ammunitions businesses, the highest per capita in the country,” Gov. Gianforte said. “We’re thrilled to welcome Brixtel Defense to Big Sky Country, and appreciate the ammunition leader’s investment in our state and people.” Brixtel Defense manufactures munitions and propellants for the U.S. Armed Forces and its allies. Through its new ammunition manufacturing facility

in Glendive, the company is projected to create over 350 good-paying Montana jobs by 2028. “In an era where outsourcing is commonplace, we choose to invest in the heart of our nation. We are proud to announce \$125 million investment in Montana,” said Andy Mansoor, Brixtel Defense CEO. He continued, “This expansion is a testament to our belief in the American workforce, the American dream, and the fundamental values upon which this great country was built. As we embark on this journey in Glendive, we are reminded of our purpose. Together, we build more than ammunition; we forge the future of freedom.” To integrate local expertise into its operations and foster relationships

within the state, Mansoor announced that Brixtel Defense is partnering with Alpha Loading Systems, an ammunitions manufacturer that recently expanded in Stevensville. To support Montana’s firearms and ammunitions businesses, Gov. Gianforte this spring protected Montanans’ retirement security from Environmental, Social, and Governance investing and Montana’s firearms industry from discrimination. In his first year in office, the governor made Montana a constitutional carry state and prohibited the enforcement of any federal law, executive order, rule, or regulation that infringes upon ownership, possession, transfer, or use of any firearm, magazine, or firearm accessory in Montana.

OPEN HOUSE

Sat, Jan 27 | 1-3pm

1212 9th Ave SW • Sidney, MT

\$350,000

Shane Gibson  
Broker - Owner

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# FAIRVIEW HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

## Fairview Bridge Booklet Details 110 Years Of History

Fans of the iconic Fairview Lift Bridge, or history in general, will delight in the new “Fairview Lift Bridge, 110 Years of History” which is now available for just \$15 at Merchants Bank, 216 S. Ellery and Page Turners, 214 S. Central, Fairview; Books on Broadway, 121/2 W. Broadway, Williston, and The Roundup, 111 W. Main, Sidney.

Dozens of great photos, which were submitted by many different people, showcase the varying stages of the Fairview Lift Bridge. From stories of the actual construction of the bridge and tunnel, to tales of riding the Galloping Goose, or driving

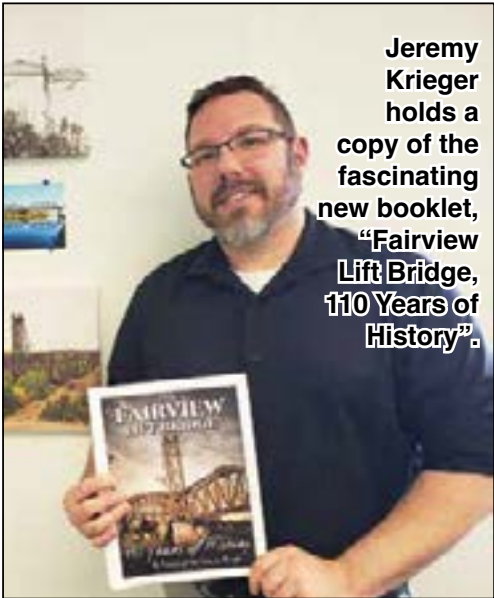
across the bridge when it was still used for vehicular traffic as well as train. The booklet provides a glimpse into more than the history of the bridge, but also the community. The Fairview Bridge was important to the entire area, including two states. Dozens of articles from multiple newspapers, including the Bismarck Tribune and local papers that no longer exist, detail the fascinating evolution from a busy railroad to the peaceful walking bridge it is today.

The booklet has been a labor of love for Fairview native Jeremy Krieger who worked on it for over a year, in cooperation

with the Friends of the Fairview Bridge. His goal was to try and get some of the stories preserved before they were lost. “The cool thing about doing the booklet was learning stuff about the bridge that I didn’t know about,” Krieger explained. His earliest memory of the bridge is a walk across with his family when he was about seven years old. Included in the group was a visiting aunt who went along with the joke when he pretended to tie her to the tracks! That story isn’t in the booklet but many other personal stories are. That first trip kindled Krieger’s love of the Fairview Bridge and

bridges everywhere. His favorite thing to do is to take pictures of the bridge! “I love the history of Fairview including the bridge and tunnel. I hope you all enjoy reading through this as much as I have,” Krieger said.

Krieger is hopeful that this first booklet will spark even more interest in the bridge and that a second edition could be published in the future. Contact him at Merchants Bank, 406-742-5203, if you have any stories or pictures that you would like to share.



Jeremy Krieger holds a copy of the fascinating new booklet, “Fairview Lift Bridge, 110 Years of History”.

### CONGRATS TO THE FAIRVIEW HIGHLIGHTS!

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# FAIRVIEW HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

## Fairview Warriors 2023 8-Player State Champions



Fairview seniors accept the 1st place State Champion trophy. (Photo by Keri McPherson Photography)

**Submitted**  
The Fairview Warriors are the 2023 Class C 8-Player State Champions. The championship game was played at Belt on a beautiful Saturday afternoon pitting the top two teams against each other. Fairview struck first on a one-yard run by Jeff Tjelde. The Warrior defense was tough in the first quarter causing two Belt turnovers, a fumble forced by Gavin Serafini and recovered by Tjelde and a Tjelde interception in the end zone. The Belt offense got rolling in the second quarter, scoring twice to take a 14-7 lead with only 49 seconds left before halftime. Brock Schlothauer broke off a quick 11-yard burst, Tjelde hit Tyler Loan for 22 yards, Jaxon Vitt for 9 yards, and Serafini for 12 yards setting up the Warriors at the 9-yard line with 12 seconds left. Tjelde dropped back to pass one last time, instead finding a seam up the middle and

bulling his way over two defenders for a tying touchdown going into halftime.  
Fairview received the second half kick and got a great return from Loan giving them excellent field position. Unfortunately, Belt made a good play and intercepted Tjelde's pass. Belt used the momentum to finish that drive with a score making the score 22-14. The Warriors answered quickly with a 63-yard scamper by Loan but they missed the conversion bringing the score to 22-20. After a Wyatt McPherson interception, the Warrior's high-octane offense responded with a 59-yard run by Schlothauer putting them ahead 26-22 going into the fourth quarter. Loan ran a quarterback keeper into the end zone from 6-yards out to make the score 33-22. Belt struck back quickly closing the gap to 33-28 with five minutes left. Once again, Schlothauer proved to be

too much for the Huskies as he burst through a huge hole created by a workhorse offensive line from 43-yards out pushing the lead up to 40-28. The Warrior defense held strong while the offense was able to run out the clock making the Fairview Warriors the state champions. Offensively, the Warrior run game churned out 332 yards on 37 carries behind the blocking of Rowan Bushnell, Landen Thompson, and Brody Bushnell. Schlothauer was the biggest beneficiary rushing 19 times for 200 yards and two touchdowns. Loan had 6 carries for 79 yards and two touchdowns and Tjelde ran 4 times for 19 yards and 2 touchdowns. McPherson added 8 carries for 34 yards. The players were welcomed back to Fairview Saturday night with a fire truck-led parade through town. Congratulations to the Fairview Warriors on their perfect season!

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# The Oasis

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## Waterhole #3 Has New Owner

**By Dianne Swanson**  
Judd Burman fulfilled his childhood dream of owning a bar when he purchased the Waterhole #3 and Oasis Casino in Fairview on April 20, 2023.  
"I've always wanted to own a bar, ever since I was a little kid," Burman said. "I didn't want to be a lawyer or a doctor, I just wanted to own a bar."  
The Fairview native is very proud of the bar he purchased and encourages everyone to stop in. "It's a beautiful bar. Anyone who hasn't been in for a while really needs to come and

see it."  
Although Burman is now a full-time bar owner, he still relies on his great manager Kim Falkenhagen to run the day-to-day operations. Falkenhagen, along with the staff of 24 other individuals do their utmost to make everyone's experience the best it can be whether in the Waterhole #3 or the Oasis Casino. "Kim runs the show," Burman said. "I'm really happy with the current staff. I believe in the team concept and everyone is really buying into that."  
Both businesses are open 7 days a week from 11-2 a.m. Stop in for a tasty home cooked lunch featuring comfort food in these cold months. Service starts at 11 a.m. and ends when they run out, sometimes pretty early! Regional craft beers are among the 16 beers on tap, with those switched out often to provide customers with a great variety.  
Burman has tried to have live music at least once a month. During their grand re-opening, "El Wencho" was the featured attraction

and the hope is to have them back again soon. Always looking for fun, new ideas, Burman decided to have a New Years Eve party where party goers had a blast with chicken poop roulette and minnow races. Coming up on Feb. 3, the Waterhole #3 will have the honor of hosting Kyle Welnel's solo debut.  
There's always something going on at the Waterhole #3. Monday nights feature dart league while Tuesdays are pool league nights. Trivia buffs can win \$75 on Wednesday nights. Once pool is done, a short season of corn hole play will fill out March and April.  
The Oasis Casino Anniversary is coming up on Jan. 17, with \$1600 being given out throughout the day.  
Burman expressed his deep gratitude to all those who have patronized his business in the past several months. "Thank you to all the regular clientele for sticking with us and all the new people who discovered the Waterhole #3 and Oasis Casino in the last 9 months," he said.



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New owner Judd Burman welcomes everyone into the Waterhole #3 and Oasis Casino in Fairview. (Submitted photo)

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# FAIRVIEW HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

## Reinke Recognizes Mon-Kota With Dealer Award

Deshler, NE - Reinke Manufacturing, a global leader in irrigation systems and precision irrigation technology, has recognized Mon-Kota in Fairview with a Reinke Diamond Pride award for their performance in the last year.

"Reinke is honored to work with Mon-Kota to help them serve the growers in their areas," said Chris Roth, Reinke president. "We're proud to award their efforts and we appreciate their dedication as we continue to develop and implement

precision irrigation equipment and technology to help growers increase yields and profitability."

Reinke dealerships from across the United States and Canada come together annually for the company's sales convention to recognize select Reinke dealers for their hard work and commitment to serve growers. The Reinke Pride awards are determined as part of an incentive program that distinguishes superior achievement levels according to an evaluation based

on a dealership's exterior and interior housekeeping and maintenance, indoor and outdoor displays, safety, retail environment, merchandising, professionalism, promotions, event participation and market share.

With hundreds of dealers in more than 40 countries, Reinke Manufacturing is the world's largest privately held manufacturer of center pivot and lateral move irrigation systems. Family owned since 1954 and headquartered in Deshler, NE, Reinke develops

products and technology designed to increase agriculture production while providing labor savings and environmental efficiencies. Reinke is a continued leader in industry advancements as the first to incorporate GPS, satellite-based communications, and touchscreen panel capabilities into mechanized irrigation system management. For more information on Reinke or to locate a dealership, visit [Reinke.com](http://Reinke.com).



Pictured (L-R) Chris Roth, Reinke president; Lyle Roberts, Mon-Kota; and Vern Hinnenkamp, Reinke Territory Manager.



### Sunshine Latte Ribbon Cutting

The Fairview Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting at Sunshine Latte, Fairview, Tuesday, May 9. Pictured (L-R) are Ray Trumpower, Fairview Chamber president; baristas Olivia Mueller and Dylan Mead; Bridgette Washington, owner; Shnia Kelly, helper; Jayden Williams, baristo; and Jeremy Krieger, chamber member. Not pictured are Anessa Cayko, barista; and Bridgette's husband Jovock. (Photo by Dianne Swanson)

## RTC Networks Holds Informational Meeting in Fairview

RTC Networks held an informational meeting for Fairview residents on March 27 at the Fairview Senior Center. The company is expanding to provide unserved and underserved communities.

RTC will break ground on a new data center by the Powder Keg this spring. They anticipate all lines will be installed and testing to be completed by the end of 2023. The entire town of Fairview will now have the choice to switch to RTC because the new service area surrounds the entire city.

RTC Networks provides

services such as phone, hybrid cable TV, broadband internet, business services and capture camera systems. The company has been awarded grants to expand service to rural Richland County and all of Wibaux County. "We have been authorized by our board of directors to make the investment into the city of Fairview," said RTC general manager Shane Hart. "We are very excited about that."

Residents that missed the meeting can pick up a form from Fairview City Hall or print a form at [myRTC-Networks.com/Fairview](http://myRTC-Networks.com/Fairview) and



RTC Networks general manager Shane Hart speaks to Fairview residents on March 27.

return the form to RTC Networks, 701 14th St SW, Watford City, ND 58854.

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# Anglers, Skaters, Others Encouraged To Practice Safety On Ice

**Submitted by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks**

Helena – It took a while to get here, but winter finally hit Montana. That means winter enthusiasts will be heading out to recreate. Whether ice fishing, ice skating, hunting, snowmobiling, or just taking a walk, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks staff reminds recreationists that safety should be the number one concern during a day out on (or near) the ice.

Here are some safety tips:

- Anglers and other recreationists should be familiar with the water body they plan to fish or recreate on. Pay close attention to the changing conditions of the ice.

- If you have even the slightest doubt about the safety of the ice, stay off of it. Nothing is ever worth a fall into frigid water.

- Blue or “clear” ice is usually hard. Watch out for opaque, gray, dark, or porous spots in the ice that could be weak, soft areas. Ice also tends to thin more quickly at the shorelines or near structures protruding though the ice such as rocks, stumps and trees.

- Note areas on the ice that look “different”. They usually are. Many times, thinner areas of ice (caused by springs, gas pockets, sunken islands, points, etc.) have a different color or

look to them. Use extreme caution or stay away from these areas.

- The following are recommended minimum ice thickness guidelines (for good, clear ice\*):
  1. Under 4”: STAY OFF
  2. 4”: individual angler ice fishing or other activities on foot
  3. 7”: snowmobile or ATV
  4. 10” small car\*\*
  5. 12”: truck or SUV\*\*

\*for white ice or “snow ice,” double the above minimums  
\*\*not recommended, but if you must, proceed at

your own risk

- Watch for pressure ridges. These are areas of weak or unstable ice where the ice has cracked and heaved due to expansion from freezing.

- Test the ice ahead of you with an ice spud bar or an auger.

- Don’t leave children unsupervised on the ice.

- Water bodies do not freeze at the same thickness everywhere. For example, some ponds have windmills to aerate water for fish survival, and ice may be thin near these areas.

- Moving water (rivers,

streams, and springs) weaken ice by wearing it away from underneath. Avoid going on ice on rivers and streams, or where a river or stream enters a lake, pond, or reservoir.

- The least safe ice usually occurs early and late in the season, when the weather is warmer and less predictable.

- Remember, NO ICE is 100% safe.

- Snowmobiling and ATV use on the ice will reduce steering ability.

- Groups should avoid crossing ice in a single-file group. If the first person

breaks through, the rest of the group may not be able to stop or maneuver in time to avoid it.

- Some other common ice-safety reminders to keep in mind include:

1. Consider changes in the weather (and ice conditions) during the prior 24 hours. Wind, rain, and sun can drastically decay ice in a short time.

2. It’s a good idea to wear a life jacket (PFD) or carry a throwable flotation device or rope while out on the ice. Safe ice anglers and recreationists do it all the time.

3. Dress warm but practical. Many styles of ice fishing jackets and bibs provide extra buoyancy to help keep you afloat if you do fall through.

4. Before you leave the house, tell someone where you plan to go and when you plan to return.

5. Carry a pair of ice picks (long spikes on a heavy string around your neck). If you break through the ice, you can use the spikes to grip the ice and pull yourself out of the water.

FWP wishes all anglers and recreationists a safe and adventurous winter.

## Montana Braces For Sub-Zero Shift: Vigilance Urged Amidst Potential Ice Jam Flooding

**Submitted by Cassie Wandersee, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Communications Director**

Helena – Despite the initial warmth experienced earlier this winter, Montana is now grappling with a prolonged period of sub-zero temperatures and Arctic cold fronts. This abrupt shift serves as a timely reminder that weather patterns can change unexpectedly, necessitating vigilance and awareness of potential ice jam flooding.

Ice jam flooding, a phenomenon prevalent along Montana’s rivers and streams, occurs when

sub-zero temperatures precede sudden warm-ups, typically from now until March. Additionally, spring breakup can trigger ice jams as temperatures rise.

Traci Sears, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Montana National Flood Insurance Program coordinator, emphasizes the importance of remaining observant to rapidly changing conditions throughout the winter season. “We urge residents to always be prepared for the possibility of flooding,” says Sears.

A sequence of sub-zero temperatures followed by a rapid warm-up can lead to the formation of ice jams,

also known as ice dams; clusters of ice obstructing river or stream flow. As melting ice starts to move, it can become lodged at bridges, bends, or narrower reaches, sometimes causing flash floods during sudden break-ups downstream.

“The result can cause dangerous conditions for those living adjacent to ice jams when the water has nowhere to go causing rapid flooding with little or no warning,” said Sears.

In addition to threatening homes and private property, rising waters can impact fishing access sites, roads, and hiking trails, prompting closures. Sears advises residents living near rivers

or streams to develop a flood evacuation plan and consider the following precautions:

- Purchase flood insurance, as it typically needs to be acquired 30 days before a flood event.

- Ensure an adequate supply of drinking water, as flooding may compromise local water systems.

- Clear snow from homes and structures to prevent potential issues.

- Be prepared to transport or elevate valuables where practical.

- Never venture onto a frozen river or ice jam, as thermal currents in rivers are unpredictable and ice stability can change rapidly, leading to injury or drowning.

- Keep a vigilant eye on children and pets when near rivers and streams during winter recreation.

To learn more about the National Flood Insurance Program, visit <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>. Additional flood insurance information is available from the Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance Office Flood Insurance at <https://csimt.gov/your-insurance/flood/>.

For up-to-date information on stream flows and potential flood conditions, visit the Montana All-Hazards Weather Monitor website at [https://www.weather.gov/byz/montana\\_statewide\\_information](https://www.weather.gov/byz/montana_statewide_information).



## Welcome To 2024, Winter Safety Tips For Seniors

**Submitted by Becky Bradley, LPN, MHA, Richland County Safety & Wellness Director**

During the winter months, ice, snow, and cold temperatures can make life challenging for anyone. Slippery sidewalks and cold weather can cause a wide range of injuries and illnesses.

Dress for the Weather - Wear loose layers of clothing. The air between the layers helps to keep you warm. Put on a hat and scarf. You lose a lot of body heat when your head and neck are uncovered. Wear a waterproof coat or jacket if it's snowy.

Change your clothes right away if they get damp or wet. In very cold temperatures make sure to cover all exposed skin and use a scarf to cover your mouth and nose.

Stay Hydrated - A variety of winter factors can cause moisture to leave our bodies quickly, leading to dehydration. Older adults are already at risk of dehydration because they naturally have less water in their bodies. They're also more likely to have health conditions or take medicines that increase their risk of dehydration, like blood pressure medications. Stay hydrated by drinking water throughout the

day, especially if you are or have recently been ill with a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea.

Protect Your Skin – As we age ours becomes thinner, drier, and more fragile. Winter weather can take a toll on aging skin, causing cracking and bleeding, leading to infection. In addition to staying hydrated, older adults need to use moisturizing cream regularly. It is especially effective after bathing when the skin is most absorbent.

Keep Warm Inside - Set your heat to at least 68–70°F. To save on heating bills, close off rooms you are not using. Close the vents and shut the doors in these rooms, and keep the basement door closed. Place a rolled towel in front of all doors to keep out drafts. Make sure your house isn't losing heat through windows. Keep your blinds and curtains closed. If you have gaps around the windows, try using weather stripping or caulk to keep the cold air out. Also be smart about space heaters. Inspect the power cord of your space heater for fraying and get rid of any damaged devices. Always keep space heaters away from flammable materials, such as cloth and paper. Another handy device that can

keep us warm during the winter months are electric blankets, but they must be used with caution to avoid burns, electric shocks, and even fires. Any electric blankets that are more than a few years old may need to be replaced. The coils inside the fabric can get damaged over time, increasing the risk of accident or injury. If you are shopping for a new electric blanket, look for versions with an automatic shutoff feature. Also, be sure to use and store electric blankets responsibly. Individuals with poor circulation or nerve damage should exercise caution using

heated blankets to avoid thermal burns.

Avoid Slips and Falls - Icy, snowy roads and sidewalks make it easy to slip and fall. Often these falls cause major injuries such as hip and wrist fractures, head trauma, and major lacerations. Make sure steps and walkways are clear before you walk. Be especially careful if you see wet pavements that could be iced over. Clear away snow and salt your walkways at home, or hire someone to do it. Wear boots with non-skid soles – this will prevent you from slipping. If you use a cane, replace the rubber tip before it

is worn smooth. Upon returning home, remove your shoes immediately because snow and ice often attach to your shoes' soles, this can lead to slippery conditions inside.


Keep the car tuned up - “Winterize” your car before the bad weather hits! This means having the antifreeze, tires, and windshield wipers checked and changed if necessary. Remember your cell phone when you drive in bad weather, and always let someone know where you are going and when you should be expected back. Avoid driving on icy roads, and be especially careful driving

on overpasses or bridges. Consider alternate routes, even if it means driving a longer distance, if the more direct route is less safe. Often, bigger roads are cleared of snow better than smaller roads. Stock your car with basic emergency supplies such as: First aid kit, blankets, extra warm clothes, booster cables, windshield scraper, a shovel, and bag of sand or cat litter (in case your wheels get stuck). Also, water, dried food, and a flashlight would be beneficial.

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# WATFORD CITY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

## McKenzie Co. Expo Center Hosts Wide Range Of Events Throughout 2023

**By Katelyn Sponheim**

Since its grand opening during the McKenzie County Fair in Watford City, the new McKenzie County Ag Expo Center has hosted a wide range of events, from the NDRA Finals in September to Western Wonderland in December. The facility boasts a 53,000 square foot livestock indoor arena, three exhibit halls between 4000 and 7000 square feet, an outdoor arena with grandstands, parking lot with RV spots, kitchen, bar, and concessions.

Director Chris Kubal, along with assistant director Kylee Roff, and event coordinators Riley Faller and Chelsea Peterson-Labaron, keep the Expo Center booked and running smoothly. On June 15, they hosted their grand opening and ribbon cutting after the first section of the Bulls and Broncs event of the fair. In its first year, the new venue attracted double the normal crowd to the McKenzie County Fair.

Annually they average 6000, but around 12,000 attend this past summer. The 4-H competitors were able to house and show all of their animals inside, in air conditioning, the entire week. This made their events far more enjoyable for the crowd, including elderly or individuals who heat would negatively affect. After the fair, they hosted the Bakken Classic Open Livestock Show and made further use of the set-up for the fair.

The Saturday morning before the NDRA Finals Sept. 22-23, they hosted Flapjacks & Flannels, a free will benefit event for the McKenzie County Food Pantry where attendees could meet the contestants. They also hosted the Long X Western Art Show and Cowboy Poetry Gathering the same weekend, and had a mechanical bull, general store display, and dummy roping competition. Before the first bronc bucked on Saturday, the rodeo sold out.

October saw Ag in the Classroom's Petting Zoo event, which all McKenzie County students were invited to enjoy. Nearly 700 children attended, and were able to visit 12 booths that educated them on bees, sunflowers, meat production, and other local parts of the agricultural chain. Weekends in October the Expo transformed into Pumpkin Pickin' Palooza, complete with a hay bale maze, photo booth, pumpkin patch, kids crafts, cookie decorating, pumpkin painting, wagon rides, bouncy houses, and even laser tag! The Western Wonderland Dec. 2 was similar, but with Christmas trees as the backdrop for vendor booths, a Grinch matinee, photos with a cowboy Santa, and obstacle course as well.

An event close to the hearts of many of the Watford City area rodeo and ranch families, the Coy Hopper Memorial Livestock Auction found itself at the Expo Nov. 25, and witnessed top PRCA cowboys and cowgirls, alongside High School and Junior High School rodeo standout athletes, compete together in bareback, saddle bronc, bull riding, and barrel racing. New Years Eve's event, Leather & Lace, showcased bull riding, women's bronc riding, bull fighting, and live music by "32 Below", and limited attendance, with only 1000 tickets available.

Kubal, Roff, Faller, and Peterson-Labaron are charging into 2024 with a full schedule for the Expo Center, despite having three weekends worth of Christmas parties to host yet. Cowgirls & Conservation will have their annual event Jan. 26, followed by a farm and ranch show Feb. 7-8. State 4-H Livestock Judging will descend on the center



NDRA Finals (Submitted Photo)

March 2, followed by its first gun show March 8-9. Stan Headings will bring his Extreme Bronc Riding March 23. April 6-7 the expo will host a recreational vendor show. They are booking for weddings, meetings, banquets, and livestock events year-round! With so many irons in the fire, they are looking to add to their team and hire a special assistant for maintenance and machinery-related tasks. Contact them through their website, [www.mcagexpo.com](http://www.mcagexpo.com) for your event, or interest in the position.

## McKenzie County's 2023 Economic Projects Mean A Promising Start To 2024

**By Jaymi Mozeak**

2023 was a potentially profitable year for McKenzie County, North Dakota. Several things happened that might serve to benefit the county's economy over the following years.

February KUMV The North Dakota Department of Transportation has approved a contract to begin construction work to expand Highway 85. They started work to create a four-lane highway between Watford City and the Long X Bridge in March according to a Roundup article and, "The expansion of the highway will safely accommodate more industrial, agricultural, and passenger traffic, promoting economic development." The two-year long project is expected to be finished near the end of 2024. In December the expressway was awarded \$55 million for the next phase of construction.

In a March press release from the office of the governor NDSU researchers, Dean Bangsund and Nancy Hodur, presented their study of the economic contribution of oil and gas exploration, extraction, transportation, processing and capital investments to the state in 2021. They showed the industry directly employed 14,200 people, while economic activity from the indirect and induced effects of the industry supported an additional 35,185 jobs, for a total of 49,385 jobs attributed to the industry. Employment compensation was estimated at \$3.9 billion. Similar studies are conducted every two years. Daniel Stenberg, McKenzie County Economic Development director expects studies to show a lot more for 2023. He said, "Oil prices were high all of 2023. There was an increase of activity, and 2023 saw 750 more workers in McKenzie County than in 2022. Oil and gas leads the economy."

According to a March press release at [www.areo.nd.gov](http://www.areo.nd.gov), Watford City Municipal Airport was recognized as North Dakota's "2022 General Aviation Airport of the Year." They received it for excellence in community outreach because of their fly/drive-ins, support of weather modification and crop spraying to aid farmers, and hosting of air crash training and boy scout merit badges. For facility management, because of the reconstruction they did on their runway, new lighting system that allows for most large business jets, and beautification projects, and participation and hosting of special events. Continuation of their work will continue to greatly aid in the economy.

The JDA Home Builder Construction Loan Participation Program was launched in June 2023 for the construction of single-family dwellings in McKenzie County to address the current housing shortage. It was approved with \$4.5 million in revolving loan funds provided by the McKenzie County Commission. The first applications for four single-family homes were approved in December.

ND Petroleum Council created plan to welcome 25 Ukrainians to the Bakken by July 2023. By October they placed 50 Ukrainians in the program throughout western North Dakota. Seven of them have been placed with McKenzie County employers.

The Bakken Area Skills Center, the program for increasing the availability of career and technical education for high school students and incumbent workers throughout the Bakken region, held a beam-raising event in June. Classes are set to start Jan 15.

To help with all this activity a second campus for McKenzie County and Watford City's Wolf Pup Daycare is being built south of the Rough Rider Center and Fox Hills Elementary. The daycare facility that Alexander and McKenzie County are working to bring to Alexander is only in the designing stages, at the moment.

McKenzie County in 2024 has a lot going for it economy-wise. The projects that have not been completed yet are well on their way to being done. They may cause a little inconvenience here and there but only make living in McKenzie County better in the end.

## Veteran's Memorial Park Ribbon Cutting



George Hayden, the oldest living McKenzie County Veteran of WWII, has the honors of cutting the ribbon during the dedication of the Veteran's Memorial Park, Watford City, over the Homefest weekend. (Photo by Kathy Taylor)

# Congratulations To The Watford City Highlights of 2023!

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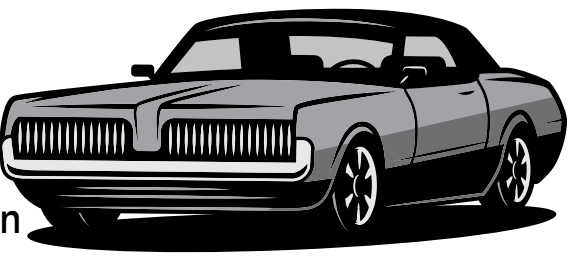
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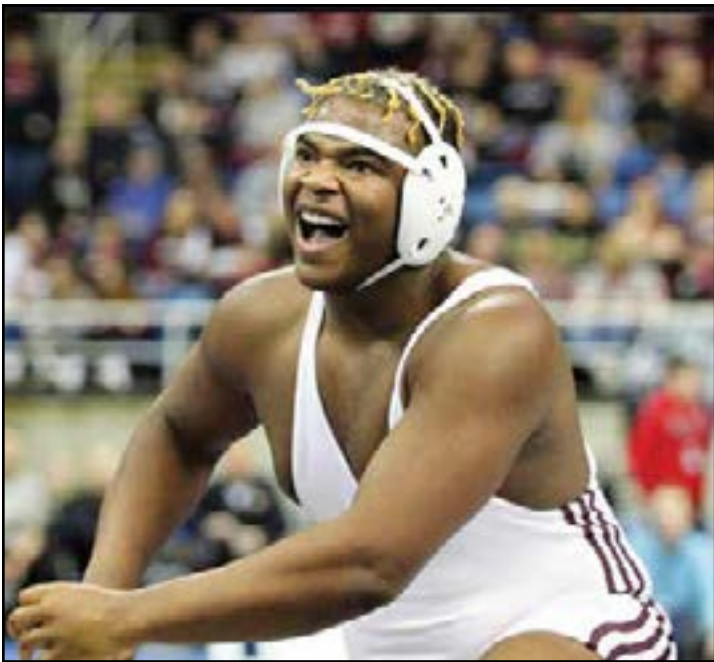
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# WATFORD CITY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

## Hayes 2-Time State Champion



Watford City's Nivon Hayes has captured his second consecutive North Dakota Class A wrestling state title last weekend in Fargo at 285 lbs. Also placing for Watford City were Ethan Dennis, 145 lbs - 2nd; Brier Arnegard, 138 lbs - 5th, and San Inman, 285 lbs - 8th. (Photo submitted)

## McKenzie Co. Heritage Park & Oil Museum Welcomes New Director



Ferin Moore is the McKenzie County Heritage Park & North Dakota Oil Museum's new director. (Photo submitted by Ferin Moore)

## "End Of The Rope" Red Carpet Premier



The Red Carpet Premiere of the North Dakota western thriller, "End Of The Rope" in Watford City was a big hit. All four premiere showings were sold out. Those attending the premiere showings also were treated to a question-and-answer session with the cast and crew, "End of the Rope" merchandise and a behind-the-scenes looks at the making of the North Dakota film. Pictured is Charles Griak, director and one of the producers of the film. (Photo by Kathy Taylor)



## Good Shepherd Home Groundbreaking

Groundbreaking for the \$1.3 million expansion and upgrade to the Good Shepherd Home Chapel, Courtyard, and Greenhouse in Watford City was held on Tuesday. Pictured (L-R) Shirley Norby, Mike Ulman, Christian Pederson, Jan Dodge, John Rolfsrud, Marcia Hovet, Myron Hovet, Jim Renbarger, Carole Berwald, and Jennifer Levang were all donors. There were 191 donors toward the project total which is expected to reach completion in June 2024. (Photo by Kathy Taylor)

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# WATFORD CITY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

## Watford City Finally Gets A Lumberyard

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
In late August/early September the owners of Elite Cabinets and Building Supply in Killdeer were able to fulfill a longtime request of their loyal customers. They opened Elite Cabinets and Building Supply in Watford City.

Josh and Becki Andersen had been supplying the people of Killdeer and the surrounding region with high quality building materials since 2018. They also do construction and were often frustrated with the fact that there was no lumberyard in Watford City and the Andersens were not the only ones frustrated. Clients, fellow tradesmen, business owners, and even staff of the local banks expressed their frustration of not having a good lumberyard in Watford City. After their business in Killdeer was established, they decided to look into opening a lumberyard in Watford City. They attended a few city meetings to find out what was needed, asked around and did their research, and everyone was very supportive and responsive. Josh said, "It's kind of nice with us living between Watford and Killdeer" and "It's pretty amazing how supportive everyone is in the Watford City area."

The Andersens do their best to bring good quality lumber and other building products to Watford City. Josh said, "About 90% of the building materials come from vendors from North Dakota." The Watford City store is located at 1504 4th Ave NE, and open Mondays-Fridays from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturdays from 7 a.m.- 4 p.m. They have free delivery within 50 miles. Call them at 701-842-3575.

The owners and staff of Elite Cabinets and Building Supply look forward to helping the people of Watford City with their lumber and building supply needs.



## Watford City Oilers 12 & Under Girls Win ND State Championship



The Watford City Oilers 12 & under girls team won the North Dakota State Championship after a 22-9 record season. (Watford City Oilers Facebook page)

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
The Watford City Oiler's Girls 12 & Under team won the North Dakota state hockey tournament March 9-11 in Devils Lake.

The 13 Watford City girls that make up the team have been playing hockey at their best since Nov. 11, 2022. Months of travel, playing on the weekends, and after school from the Rough Rider Center to rinks as far as Devils Lake came to a culmination in February. They did not have to win any certain number of games as every team in the league qualifies for the state championships. They did, however, go on an 11-

game winning streak from Jan. 21-Feb. 12, outscoring their opponents 47-12 in 11 different games. Ending the season with a 22-9 record. Their first game was against Williston Thursday, March 9, 1 p., which they won 2-0. They played Hazen Friday morning, winning 8-0. Friday at 7 p.m. they played Devils Lake and won 4-2. The final game was against Williston again. They played at 1:15 p.m. Saturday and won 4-1 making them the North Dakota State Champions.

The Watford City Oilers' Girls 12 & Under team is one of 12 teams that are part of the McKenzie County Hockey Club. According to

their website, www.wcoilers.com, Watford City Oiler Hockey was started in 1985 by Dave Hansen and Arden Berg. The first team had only 12 players and ranged in age from 5-14 years of age. They joined the US Amateur Hockey Association during the 1989-90 season, making them eligible for tournaments and player insurance. The hockey season runs from November-February of the following year and registration starts July 1. For more information on the Watford City Oilers visit the McKenzie County Hockey Club on Facebook.

## ND Sen Patten Recognized By North Dakota Petroleum Council

The North Dakota Petroleum Council recognized ND Senator Dale Patten Watford City for his service to the state and it's oil and gas industry at their annual meeting on Sept. 20, in Watford City. Patten was awarded NDPC's Outstanding Public Service Award for his career going above and beyond the "normal call of duty to make our state a better place to live and work". The award is designated to shine a spotlight on and thank elected officials, legislators, and public servants for "excellence in public service and their efforts to improve the business climate in the state while ensuring that all parties are treated fairly, and rules and policies are followed," according to NDPC Communications Director Reva Kautz.



(Pictured L-R) Ron Ness, NDPC President, presents the award to Senator Dale Patten, NDPC Outstanding Public Service Award winner. (Submitted photo)

## Winter Named North Dakota Stockmen's Association Top Hand



Keith Winter. (Photo submitted)

The North Dakota Stockmen's Association (NDSA) awarded McKenzie County cattleman Keith Winter, a 49-year NDSA member, with the organization's most prestigious award, the Top Hand Award, at the banquet during its annual convention in Watford City. The Top Hand Award recognizes Winter's unselfish concern for the land, the country and the cattle industry. Winter joined the exclusive class

of 26 ranchers who have received this elite award over the NDSA's 94-year history when he accepted his bronze statue.

The lifelong rancher and longtime grazing association officer is a leading expert on federal lands issues and grazing and has been looked to by ranchers and state and federal lawmakers alike for his perspective and expertise in this area.

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# Great Northern Development Corporation & Small Business Development Center Present 3rd Minnow Tank Business Plan Competition

**Submitted by Quincy Walter, Small Business Development Center regional director**  
Northeastern Montana - Great Northern Development Corporation (GNDC) and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) are excited to announce the commencement of the 3rd Minnow Tank Business Plan Competition. This transformative initiative is set to unfold across the seven-county region of Northeastern Montana, including Valley, Garfield, McCone, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan and Daniels.

**Fostering Economic Development:**

The Minnow Tank Competition aims to unite communities with a common goal of economic development by attracting new entrepreneurs and supporting existing businesses. Through the generous sponsorships of local businesses and chambers of commerce, GNDC will award two prize packages of \$5,000 each, one to a startup and one to an existing business.

**Showcasing Entrepreneurial Potential:**

This competition provides a unique platform for startups and expanding businesses to showcase their potential, with the opportunity to win one of two \$5,000 cash awards. The vision is to strengthen and support the existing businesses that form the backbone of local communities.

**Educational Initiatives:**

To empower entrepreneurs, SBDC Director Quincy Walter has organized free business plan development classes in each of the seven counties. These classes cover crucial topics such as Business Plan Basics, Marketing, and Small Business Financials. Entrepreneurs planning to compete in the Minnow Tank Business Plan competition are strongly encouraged to attend these classes.

**Key Dates and Events:**  
Business Plan Submission Deadline: March 13, 5 p.m.

**Minnow Tank Finale:**  
May 3

**Business Plan Development Class Schedule:**

Glasgow, Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., TBD

Wolf Point, Feb. 7, 2-4 p.m., GNDC 233 Cascade Street

Sidney, Feb. 8, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Sidney Chamber of Commerce

Jordan, Feb. 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Garfield County Bank Conference Room

Circle, Feb. 9, 2-4 p.m., Fairgrounds

Plentywood, Feb. 13, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Jubilee Room 224 S Main Street

Scobey, Feb. 13, 2-4 p.m., Nemont Friendship Room 2 Railroad Ave

**Application Guidelines and Procedures:**

Business plan submissions for Minnow Tank are due to GNDC by 5 p.m. on March 13. Visit [www.gndc.org](http://www.gndc.org) for official application guidelines and procedures.

**Minnow Tank Finale:**

The culminating event will be held on May 3, where 14 finalists will present their business plans live to a panel of judges, and the audience, who will also be able to vote as well. Support your favorite entrepreneur by attending the Minnow Tank Finale; tickets will be available by calling GNDC.

**Join the Minnow Tank Competition:**

New or existing businesses interested in applying for Minnow Tank or those with questions about

the events are encouraged to contact Quincy Walter at (406)-653-2590 ext. 203 or visit <https://gndc.org/minnow-tank/>

About Great Northern Development Corporation (GNDC):

GNDC is the economic development leader in Northeastern Montana, committed to fostering entrepreneurship and supporting businesses in Northeastern Montana.

**2024 Minnow Tank Guidelines**

Guidelines and Application Procedures to Enter Minnow Tank Promotion: This is a two-phase contest.

**Phase I – Business Plan Submission** (March 13, 2024)

In the first phase, all applicants are asked to provide a business plan using LivePlan (for access to LivePlan contact Quincy Walter at [sbdc@gndc.org](mailto:sbdc@gndc.org) or (406-653-2590 ext. 203)).

Your business plan must be no longer than 20 pages consisting of:

- Executive Summary
  - Company Summary
  - Products/Services Summary
  - Market Analysis Summary
  - Strategies and Implementation Summary
  - Management Summary
  - Financial Plan (including three years of projections as well as cash flow)
  - A community impact summary stating:
    - How your business will enhance Northeastern Montana
    - Why your business stands out
- Phase II – Minnow Tank Live Pitch**
- Finalists will be notified by Wednesday, March 27, 2024, by 5 p.m. Finalists will be asked to present their concept and plan in front of a panel of judges in a live presentation format with a question and answer period lasting at the most 10 minutes. Visual aids such as products and digital presentations will be allowed. Finalists **MUST**

make arrangements before the competition to use these items. The Live event will occur on May 3, starting at 5 p.m. Winners will be announced that evening following the live pitch. In the event of a tie, winners will split the prize.

**Eligibility:**

- This promotion is

open to all legal U.S. residents 18 or older at the time of entry.

2. Proposed businesses can be independent operations or franchised.

3. The applicant must be an existing business or is going to start a business in Garfield, Valley, McCone, Richland, Roosevelt, Sher-

idan, or Daniels counties.

**How to Enter:**

- All business concept submissions must be emailed, delivered, or postmarked to the Great Northern Development Corporation by 5 p.m. on March 13, 2024. Send to [sbdc@gndc.org](mailto:sbdc@gndc.org) or 233 Cascade Street, Wolf Point MT 59201.



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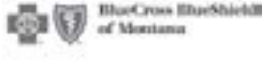
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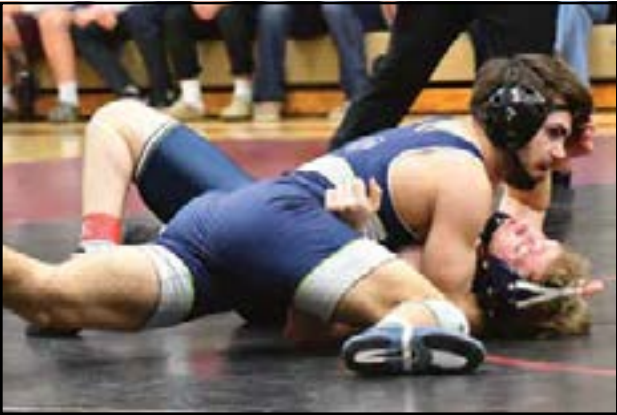
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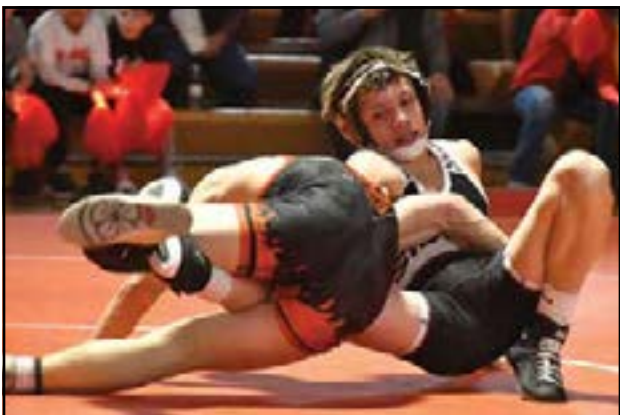


### Graves Returns For College Dual at SHS



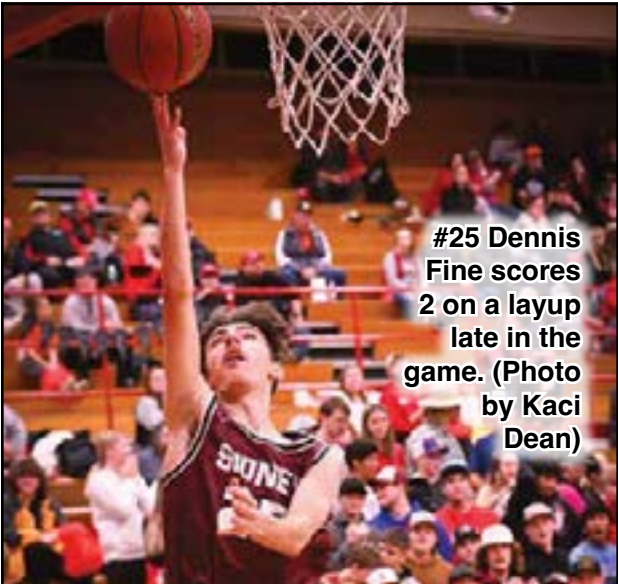
Sidney wrestling standout and University of Providence (Great Falls) 141 pounder Aden Graves returned to his home town for a dual against Dickinson State University on Jan. 9. Pictured is Graves pinning DSU's Calvin Carroll. UP beat DSU 47-3. The high school dual results were Sidney 28 - Williston 41, Williston 58 - Glasgow 16 and Sidney 42 - Glasgow 24.

### SHS Athletes Win Brawl Of The East



SHS 126 pounder Brenner Mullin gets a reversal on Glendive's Tristan Swanson. Mullin won 6-2.

Sidney High School wrestling, girls and boys basketball, cheerleading, and pep band traveled to Glendive for the Brawl of the East. Sidney took home the title after winning 2 out of 3 events. Girls basketball beat the Lady Red Devils with a score of 46-41. The wrestling team was also victorious. Boys basketball lost to Glendive with a score of 39-53.



#25 Dennis Fine scores 2 on a layup late in the game. (Photo by Kaci Dean)

### Sidney/Fairview Wrestlers Compete at Miles City Cowboy Invitational



In the quarterfinal round Thor Fulgham (Sidney) won by fall over Adoniah Kirchdoerfer (East Helena) in 1:00. Fulgham finished the tournament in 2nd place.

<b>65th Annual Cowboy Invitational Results For Sidney Jan. 12-13</b>	Cowboy JV Day 2 Results for Sidney; Jan. 13
103: Tyson Syth placed 5th	Cowboy JV 103A: Eli Lonski placed 3rd
126: Brenner Mullin placed 5th	Cowboy JV 138A: Kayden Bousquet placed 3rd
132: Aaron Schmitz placed 5th	Cowboy JV 145: Cody Crooks placed 2nd
145: Reece Graves placed 2nd	Cowboy JV 152A: Jason Sorteberg placed 1st
160: Ty Schepens placed 5th	Cowboy JV 160: Brandon Peterson placed 1st
205: Thor Fulgham placed 2nd	Cowboy JV 160: Trayden Mckee placed 4th
285: Caleb Kleinke placed 4th	Cowboy JV 182: Shane Goergen placed 3rd
<b>2024 Cowboy JV Tournament Results For Sidney</b>	Cowboy JV 205: Cooper Fulgham placed 3rd
Cowboy JV 103B: Eli Lonski placed 2nd	Cowboy JV 285: Stetson Armes placed 2nd
Cowboy JV 138B: Kayden Bousquet placed 1st	
Cowboy JV 145: Cody Crooks placed 5th	
Cowboy JV 152B: Jason Sorteberg placed 1st	
Cowboy JV 160: Brandon Peterson placed 1st	
Cowboy JV 160: Trayden Mckee placed 4th	
Cowboy JV 182: Shane Goergen placed 3rd	
Cowboy JV 205: Cooper Fulgham placed 2nd	
Cowboy JV 285: Stetson Armes placed 2nd	

### Rau School Student Of The Quarter



**Cami Johnson (Submitted Photo)**  
**Submitted**  
Rau School would like to announce Cami Johnson, daughter of Adam and April Johnson, as their student of the quarter for the second quarter. Cami is a helpful and fun loving student. She is always there to lend a hand to anyone who may need it. She has a great sense of humor and loves to share it with anyone she can. Cami has a lot of common sense and a great work ethic that will benefit her in and out of the classroom. She is a determined student and doesn't stop until a job is finished to the very best of her abilities. Cami enjoys anime, singing, helping on the farm, and spending time with her family and friends.

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This program, which is the result of a collaboration between Bismarck State College, McKenzie County School District / BASC, EDC, and McKenzie Health, offers classes that are a combination of online/remote learning, hands-on clinical laboratory work, and on-the-job training.

For those who are accepted/hired, tuition, books, and materials are 100% paid for in exchange for a minimal length of time working (debt is forgiven over 24-36 months depending on the circumstances).

In addition, McKenzie Health employees enjoy above average wages. Continuing education is encouraged and paid for or reimbursed by the employer, and student loan repayment assistance is available. Applicants must be 18 years of age prior to the course start date.

**THE NEXT CMA III CLASS STARTS IN FEBRUARY. DEADLINE TO APPLY IS JANUARY 26TH.**

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# Richland Rangers Bantams Hockey Team Go Undeclared At Bismarck Capitals Cup

**By Brenda Filler**  
The Richland Ranger Bantams traveled to Bismarck, ND this past week-end for the Capitals Cup. After five games the Bantams returned home undefeated with the championship!  
Friday night, the Rang-

ers faced Bismarck Red and defeated them 6-0.  
Saturday would bring the Bantams two games. The first game would bring them a win against the Midale/Lampman Mustangs out of Estevan, Sask., with a score of 4-2. The sec-

ond game would match the Rangers against Mandan Mayhem where they secured another win and ended with a score of 6-0.  
On Sunday, the Bantams had another two games and another two wins. The first game the Rangers were

against Bismarck White 7-0. The Rangers second game on Sunday was for the championship. The Bantams found themselves face to face once again with Mandan Mayhem. The Rangers came out on top defeating Mandan once again with a score of 3-2 and winning the

championship!  
The 2023-2024 Rangers Bantam team is a force to be reckoned with! The Bantams ended the week-end with a total of 26 goals and 21 assists. Goalie, Paxton Berry, faced 152 shots and an incredible 148 saves!  
Next up for the Bantams

are two home games. At 2 pm on Jan. 20 they will face off against Watford City Oilers B1 Bantam team and then at 9:30 am on Jan.21 they will play Jamestown. Please come out and support the Rangers.



Capitals Cup Champions (Photo by Brenda Filler)



Chloe Harmon vs. Bismarck White (Photo by Brenda Filler)

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Fairview Sweeps Harlem

Fairview Warriors basketball teams played the Harlem Wildcats at home on Jan. 12. Girls' varsity, Fairview 53-Harlem 41. Boys' varsity, Fairview 73-Harlem 45. Pictured: Fairview's Tyler Loan gets up and makes two. (Photo by Keri McPherson Photography)

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Emily Johnson works to get open and makes two points for Fairview. (Photo by Keri McPherson Photography)

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