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Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Volume 47 • Number 3

SALUTE TO THE SUGAR INDUSTRY

see pages 13-20



US Representative Matt Rosendale Visits Sidney

By Jody Wells and Jessica Lyons

Recently elected US House Representative Matt Rosendale visited the Sidney area last week. Rosendale was in town from Feb. 15-17 and visited with area Republicans, toured local businesses and held a Q & A session at the Richland County Commissioners office.

Rosendale's Q & A session was with community leaders and local citizens. He began the meeting with an overview of his first 45 days since taking office. Rosendale described the stark differences between the atmosphere in Washington compared to Helena when he was in the Montana legislature. "We all work together here, both Republicans and Democrats back here. We are used to trying to get things sorted out for the state," he said. "That's not how Washington is folks. We went in there on the very first day. I was disappointed that Speaker Pelosi gave a very mean spirited, divisive speech. Day one, wow!" he continued.

Rosendale then spoke about certifying the electoral college votes for the 2020 presidential election. He wanted to clear up any confusion about what took place about the electoral college certification. "Congress was not sent there as a ceremonial process just to wave all format and say, 'we accept it' and its over and done with. It is very clearly stated between the Constitution and the Electoral Act of 1887 that we are there to accept or reject those electors," he said. "I do not want to see the federal government taking over the election process. The states need to do that. But what we had to do that day was to basically certify the integrity of those elections. That's what it was about. It wasn't about Donald Trump. It wasn't about anybody's campaign or any candidate. It was about certifying the integrity of those electors. And when we had thousands of sworn affidavits. Numerous credible allegations of fraud and irregularities from several states."

Rosendale felt that several states had problems that need to be exposed. "Those are the electors that I rejected. Now I'm not trying to overturn the election. What I'm trying to do is say, the process that they had there did not pass the smell test," he stated. Rosendale challenged the certification of the electors of Pennsylvania and Arizona.

These were only states that both a senator and a house member objected.

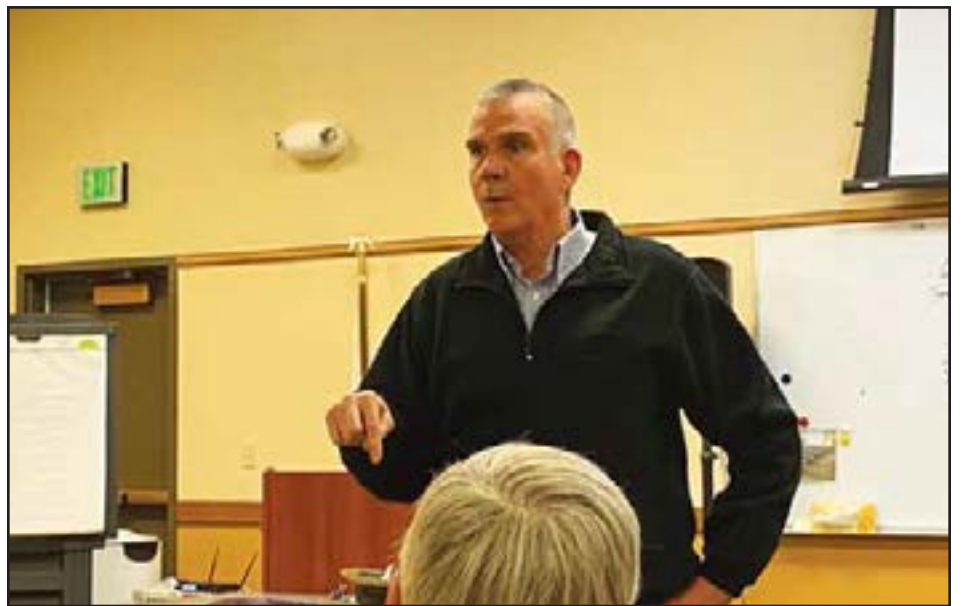
Editor's note: The affidavits presented in numerous court challenges by the Trump campaign did not provide the evidence to convince judges to change enough votes to overturn the results of any of the state elections.

After the process took place and all the votes were cast Joe Biden was elected president. Rosendale accepted the results and attended the inauguration. "That is what we do. I support these institutions. The institutions that our constitution has set up are very important to me," he said.

Rosendale then moved on to describe the impeachment. He didn't feel there was due process for former President Trump because there was no committee hearing and no witnesses. "They brought the impeachment resolution up, they had a bunch of debate on one day on the floor. No testimony, no sworn testimony," he said. "Then they took a vote and obviously the majority, the Democrats do have a majority, and they sent it over to the Senate."

Rosendale also took issue with Senate pro tempore Patrick Leahy presiding over the Senate hearing. "If you don't consider anything else about that impeachment process consider this, the constitution clearly states that it is to be presided over by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. John Roberts said no thanks I'm not participating in this," he said. "That was an unconstitutional process."

Rosendale is thrilled to be serving on the natural



Rep. Matt Rosendale visits with Richland County Republicans at the Eastern Ag Research Center on Feb.15. (Photo submitted)

resources and veteran's affairs committees. "Those are both really big, important committees here for the state." The natural resources committee deals with all the natural resources and federal public lands. He feels that his previous experience on the Montana Land Board will be a good contribution to the committee. "Dealing with the state's school trust lands and the management of the resources and timber sales and pipeline easements and protecting environmentally sensitive areas and expanding access so the public can use it as well. That is going to dovetail nicely into the natural resource committee," he said.

Rosendale also feels his previous experience will serve him well in the health subcommittee in the veteran's affairs committee. "The last four years all the work that I have done in the auditor's office on driving down the cost

Continued on page 3A.

Davidson Medical Benefit March 27

On Jan. 4, Dick was enjoying a pleasant day of ice fishing when a gust of wind knocked him down and he landed hard on his neck and back. The fall caused compression on his spinal column and Dick had no feeling in his legs or arms. He was rushed to the Bismarck hospital where they discovered a lot of calcium deposits and bone spurs on his spinal column with the fall causing compression on the nerves. They did surgery removing some of the bone and inserting a rod and screws in his neck to relieve the compression on the nerves. When he had recovered from surgery enough, he was moved to the PAM Rehabilitation Clinic, Fargo, where he underwent intensive rehabilitation for three weeks.

He is home now doing outpatient rehabilitation therapy and improving daily. He has recovered some movements in his arms and legs and can stand and walk up to 30 feet with the help of a walker. Every day he sees



improvement. He thanks all his family and friends for their support.

On Saturday, March 27 there will be a Medical Benefit held for Dick which will include silent auction, 5-7 p.m.; freewill donation meatball supper, 6 p.m.; live auction, 7 p.m. and a cash bar. All this will take place at Richland County Event Center. All proceeds from this event will be used for medical expenses and supplies to aid in Dick's

recovery.

For more information on this event contact Travis Morrill, 406-480-9514. If you would like to make a donation to the live or silent auction contact Sheila Marker, 406-480-3442. If you are unable to attend this benefit but would still like to donate an account is set up at Stockman Bank under "Dick Davidson Benefit."

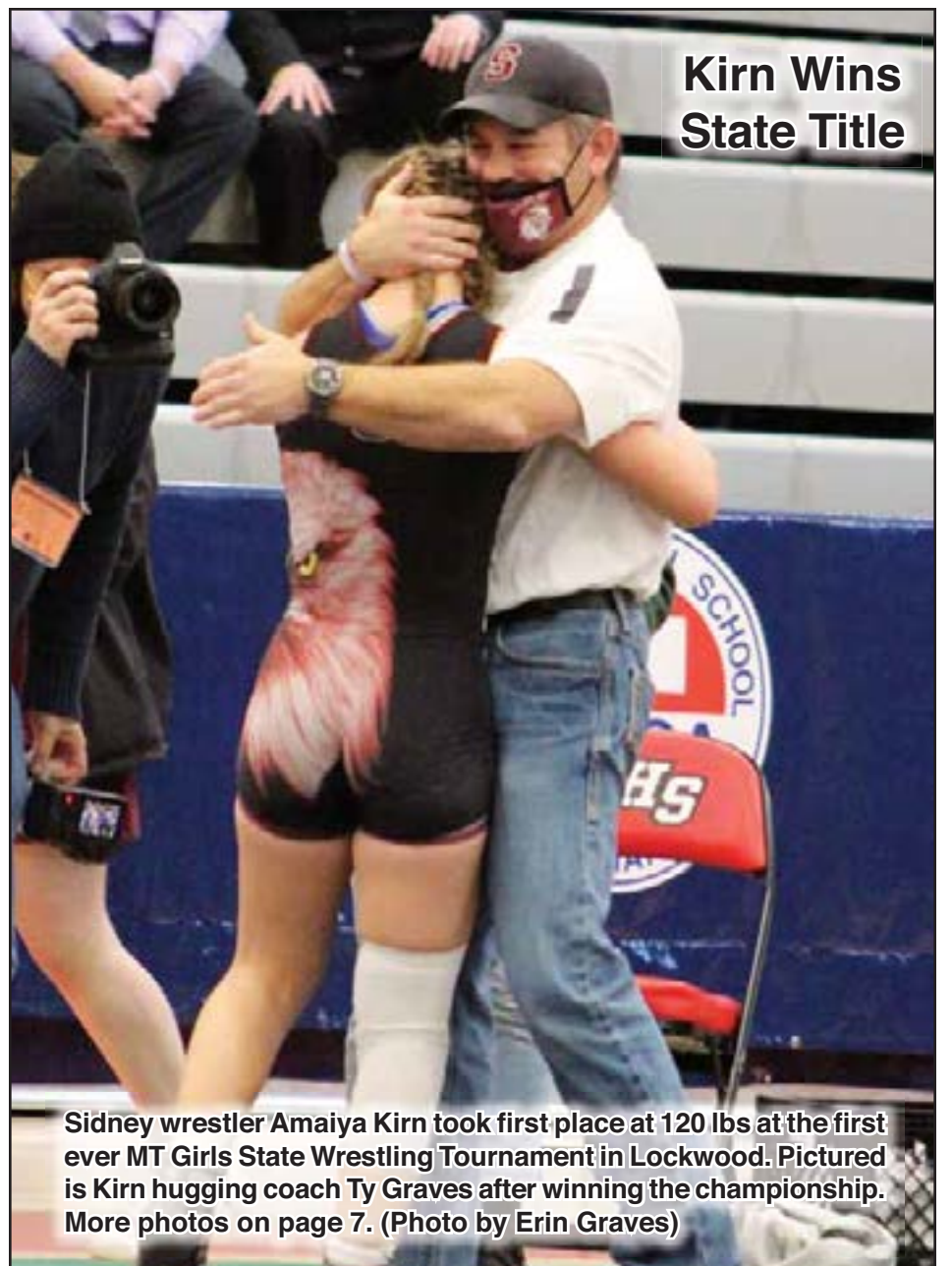
Great Country Music Rough Rider Center, Feb. 28

On Sunday, Feb. 28 the Rough Rider Center is hosting, with help from Stonehome Brewing Co., part of the ND Country Fest Your Town Tour featuring national recording artists

Copper Chief, Julia Cole, DJ DU, and North Dakota favorites Breaking Eight!

The doors will open at 5 p.m. with the music starting at 6 p.m. For tickets visit www.roughridercenter.com

or buy tickets at the door for \$30. All ages are welcome. Alcohol will be available for purchase. For more information contact Kylee at kyleer@roughridercenter.com or call 701-842-3665.



Kirn Wins State Title

Sidney wrestler Amaiya Kirn took first place at 120 lbs at the first ever MT Girls State Wrestling Tournament in Lockwood. Pictured is Kirn hugging coach Ty Graves after winning the championship. More photos on page 7. (Photo by Erin Graves)



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Keep an eye out for some of the fraudsters' tactics:

- Offers of something vague in the future for your money now.
- Emails, phone calls, knocks on the door from people saying they need your personal information so you can be vaccinated or be in trials for another novel coronavirus vaccine.
- Offers for a generic version of the vaccine that claim to have received FDA approval.

Politely decline and take any information to your known medical professional. If you suspect a scam, report it to the FTC at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint).

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STATISTICS

LAKE WATER LEVEL REPORT
Sakakawea

Current Elevation.....	1837.5
Last Week's Elev.	1837.8
One Year Ago	1838.0
Release For Day (C.F.S.)	22,000

SIDNEY WEATHER DATA

Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low
Precip.		
February 15.....14	-18.....	0.000
February 16.....6	-9.....	0.012
February 17.....17	-4.....	0.012
February 18.....22	-4.....	0.001
February 19.....33	-4.....	0.000
February 20.....45	11.....	0.000
February 21.....47	17.....	0.000
Total 2021 YTD Precipitation	0.254	

OBITUARIES

Velma Mae Daugherty, 82, Arnegard, ND

Funeral services for Velma Mae Daugherty, 82, Arnegard, ND were held 1 p.m. CST, Monday, Feb. 22, 2021, at Wilmington Lutheran Church, Arnegard, ND with Pastor Garrett Gudmunson officiating. Interment was in Schafer Cemetery, Watford City, ND under the care of Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Watford City, ND. Visitation was 12-5 p.m. CST, Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021, at the funeral home and one hour before services at the church. Remembrances, condolences and pictures may be shared with the family at www.fulkersons.com.



Velma Mae Daugherty

Velma passed away on Monday, Feb. 15, 2021, at McKenzie County Healthcare, Watford City, ND.

Velma Mae Wilkinson was born on May 24, 1938 she was the first child born to Stella May (Shastid) and William "Louis" Wilkinson on the farm, Altamont, KS. Her Grandma Joyce was there, it was raining and her dad had to hook up the team of horses to go out and pull Dr. Jones out of the ditch to get to the house. They moved to Parson, KS when her dad went to work at the ice plant delivering ice in town. She started kindergarten in Parsons, KS.

After her dad got out of the Army, he worked in the oilfield building oil tanks. They transferred to Great Bend, KS when she was in second grade. The year she was a freshman, they were transferred to Merino, CO where she graduated from Merino High School.

Velma married Dan Daugherty Aug. 13, 1957. They lived on the Daugherty farm in Merino and had their first child, Sharon Kay on March 26, 1958. They moved to Dan's first job at a gas plant in Leader, CO, a month before Carol May was born on Sept. 14, 1959. They lived there a year and a half before moving to Lone Tree Gas Plant, between Upton and Newcastle, WY. Kevin Dan was born on May 13, 1965. Velma absolutely loved taking the kids to walk the roads and hills in that area. Oh, the stories she would tell about those hikes!

In 1968, they moved to Moorcroft, WY, to a homestead on Belle Fourche River. Mom made wherever she lived home; many hours were spent quilting, sewing, gardening, and canning. The family was always on the river whether it was swimming or ice-skating. Many evenings were spent barbecuing and roasting marshmallows on an open fire pit.

In 1973, the gas plant moved to Arnegard, ND, along with all the employees. Her green thumb turned the gumbo ground into a beautiful yard, garden, and flower beds. Velma loved being outside; whether it was working in her garden, working with her flowers, or simply sitting in the sun, she was happy. She made fresh homemade cookies every day after school or her famous mayonnaise cake!

Velma loved sewing and she also made sure her kids and grandkids knew how to as well. She sewed baby clothes and blankets, school clothes, prom and wedding dresses, and quilts. Not a kid in the country went without a Velma Daugherty crocheted or knitted blanket.

She and Dan went on many long trips. She loved going to Yellowstone National Park and Black Hills. Velma always had projects of her handwork going as they traveled to Colorado and Missouri when visiting family.

Around 2011, Velma's health started declining including her fight with Parkinson's disease. But as we all know, Velma was a tough fighter and survived many health challenges.

December 2019, Velma went to live at the Good Shepherd Home, Watford City, ND. Her family is grateful for the nurses and CNAs who loved her as their own Grandma. It broke her family's hearts to not be able to visit as often as they wanted to, due to COVID-19. We were blessed to spend six days at the hospital, where she assured her family she had Jesus in her heart. Velma passed surrounded by her loving family and special friends at McKenzie County Hospital.

Velma is leaving behind her husband Dan Daugherty, Arnegard, ND. Children, Sharon Ceynar and husband Bill, Arnegard, ND; Carol Sanford and husband Kenny, Watford City, ND. Grandchildren, Jami Novodvorsky and husband Shane, Douglas, ND; Laci Cargo and husband Seth, Arnegard, ND; Cody Ceynar and wife Janelle, Watford City, ND; Amy Polivka and husband Nick, Watford City, ND; Melony Douglas and husband James, Sheridan, WY; and Rory Sanford and fiancé Lisa, Watford City, ND. Great grandchildren, Tate and Miranda Novodvorsky; Dylon Cargo, Trey, Camden, Blake, and Weston Polivka; Zooey Douglas, Tucker and Kooper Sanford; who loved her beyond measure. Sisters, Wilma Hamilton, Harrison, AR; Dianna Evans and husband Jerry, Fairview, MO; Lorraine Johnson and husband Ernie, Ringold, GA.

Velma was preceded in death by her parents, her son, Kevin, her brothers, Louis, James, Martin, Jay, and her sister, Joy.

Design Your Session Plan Workshop Starts March 4 Watford City

Submitted by Marcia Hellandaas, NDSU Extension Agent McKenzie County

This series of sessions to help farm and ranch families pass their businesses on to the next generation will start next week Thursday, March 4, Watford City, and will continue on March 11 and 18. Each of these meetings, of which attendance is highly encouraged, will be held from 5:30-8:30 p.m. CT at NDSU Extension/McKenzie County Office, 205 6th St. NW, Watford City.

"The program will prepare you to envision, communicate, plan, write and shape the legacy of your family farm or ranch business," said Marcia Hellandsaas, McKenzie County Extension Agent.

Participants will receive a workbook to help them prepare important planning information and begin the transition process. Tools to help them improve communications with family will be included as well as how to choose and work with professionals such as attorneys, accountants, lenders and insurance agents.

For more information or to register for this series, please go to <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/succession>. You may also contact NDSU Extension in McKenzie County at 701-444-3451 or email marcia.hellandsaas@ndsu.edu.

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EVENTS

SEND US YOUR EVENTS!

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RICHLAND COUNTY

Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT Zone. Wed., Feb. 24

10 a.m. -4 p.m. - **Jodi Lightner: Straight There and Back** - This show features drawings examining "how architecture coexists with what we are thinking and imagining." Showing through Feb. 27. **Joseph Garcia: Visual Interpretation of Natural History** - Joseph Garcia's artwork looks at how nature, science, and history can be explained visually. Showing through March 13. MonDak Heritage Center, Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. For more information call 406-433-3500, e-mail mdhc@richland.org or visit <https://mondakheritagecenter.org/>.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. - **WOTM Soups** - Open to the public. Potato soup. Sidney Moose Lodge.

Sun., Feb. 28
9 a.m.-noon - **Breakfast** - Open to the public. Sidney Moose Lodge.

1 p.m. - **Bingo** - Open to the public. Sidney Moose Lodge.

Mon., March 1, Tues., March 2
2:30-7:30 p.m. - **Child Find/Preschool Screening At Central School** - This screening will identify those children who may need educational, medical or other types of assistance for problems or handicaps that may not have been detected. **Appointments are necessary** and to make an appointment call **Middle School, 433-4050** during school hours, Mon.-Thurs., 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. The screening is provided at no cost as a public service of Sidney Public Schools.

Mon., March 1, 15, April 5, 19, May 3
6:30-8 p.m. - **Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Meetings** - Open to all Moms with school aged children and younger, including Moms who are expecting. Sidney Lutheran Brethren Church, 1101 Madison Lane. No childcare provided. For more information call Stacy Abar, 406-672-1463.

Tues., March 2
10 a.m. -4 p.m. - **Cataclysm Exhibition** - A portfolio exchange curated in response to the current global political climate, featuring artists from around the country and Canada who were asked to create work based around their hopes and fears given the current global state of affairs. Showing through May 29. MonDak Heritage Center, Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. For more information call 406-433-3500, e-mail mdhc@richland.org or visit <https://mondakheritagecenter.org/>.

Fri., March 5, 12, 19, 26
5-7 p.m. - **Sidney Knights of Columbus 2021 Fish Fry** - \$10 per person, Ned Shinnick Hall, St. Matthew's Parish Center, 310 7th St. SE. All COVID-19 guidelines will be followed and mask or face covering use required for ages five and older.

Sat., March 6 & 20
10 a.m.-4 p.m. - **Open Studio Saturdays** - All participants must make an appointment call 406-433-3500 or email mdhc@richland.org. Adults 18+ years old only, masks required, other restrictions apply. Take home an Art to go Kit for your little ones. MonDak Heritage Center. If you are unable to make it during open studio hours set up an appointment with Jessica, 406-433-3500. For more information e-mail mdhc@richland.org or visit <https://mondakheritagecenter.org/>.

March 8 & 22
7 p.m. - **Snacks & Chats** - Anxiety & depression support group for teens ages 13-19. Board games, foosball, ping pong and treats. Meetings on 2nd and 4th Mondays each month, Pella Church, not church related.

Tues., March 16
12 p.m. - **Job Service Employers Committee Meeting (JSEC)** - Open to everyone. Reynolds Market conference room. Meetings every third Tues. of the month. For more information call Margie 406-433-1204 ext. 204.

12-6 p.m. - **Red Cross Blood Drive** - St. Matthew's Parish Center, 310 7th Street SE. Advance appointments strongly recommended. To make an appointment, 406-868-0911 or 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org. Face masks are required.

Sat., March 27
5 p.m. - **Dick Davidson Medical Benefit** - Silent auction, 5-7 p.m.; free will donation meatball supper, 6 p.m.; live auction, 7 p.m.; cash bar. Richland County Event Center. For more information contact Travis Morrill, 406-480-9514. To make a donation for the silent or live auction contact Sheila Marker, 406-480-3442. If you are unable to attend but would like to make a donation an account is set up at Stockman Bank under "Dick Davidson Benefit". All proceeds will be used for medical expenses and supplies to aid in Dick's recovery.

McKENZIE COUNTY

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT Zone

Thurs., Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1
4-5 p.m. - **After School Art-3rd-6th by Long X Arts Foundation** - Children will take home a different art project every day! \$15 a class. Rough Rider Center, 2209 Wolves Den Parkway. COVID-19 guidelines will be followed. For more information call Jessie, 701-770-8659 or email longxart@gmail.com.

Thurs., Feb. 25, March 11, 25, April 1
2-4 p.m. - **Food Giveaway with New Winter Hours** - First Presbyterian Church, 316 4th Ave. NE.

Sun., Feb. 28
5 p.m. - **Your Town Tour NDCF 2021** - Doors open at 5 p.m.; music at 6 p.m. Featuring Cooper Chief, Julia Cole, Breaking Eight and DJ DU. Rough Rider Center. For tickets visit www.roughridercenter.com or \$30 at the door.

Tues., March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
4-5 p.m. - **After School Art-K-2nd by Long X Arts Foundation** - Children will take home a different art project every day! \$15 a class. Rough Rider Center, 2209 Wolves Den Parkway. COVID-19 guidelines will be followed. For more information call Jessie, 701-770-8659 or email longxart@gmail.com.

Tues., March 2, 5-7 p.m. & March 16, 2-4 p.m.
Food Pantry Handouts - First Lutheran Church, 212 2nd St. NW. For more information call McKenzie County Extension Office, 701-444-3451 or visit McKenzie County Food Pantry Facebook page for dates, times and updates.

Fri., March 5, 8 a.m. - Sun., March 7, 7 p.m.
3rd Annual Nodak Northern Lights Gymnastics Meet - Rough Rider Center. For more information visit the Nodak Northern Lights Facebook page.

Tues., March 9, 23
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. - **Percs & Rec Kids** - Free fun activities for children, crafts, story time, scavenger hunts, sport games, building blocks and more. McKenzie County Public Library.

WILLIAMS COUNTY

Events in Williston unless otherwise listed. CT Zone.

Sat., Feb. 27
9 a.m.-3 p.m. - **Hypertension Screening Event** - Providers will offer blood pressure screenings, check blood glucose (sugar) levels and offer diabetes education. Insurance will be billed. If you currently do not have insurance, financial counselors are available. Call 701-572-7651 to schedule an appointment. Craven Hagan Clinic, 1213 15th Ave. W. Event by CHI St. Alexius Health Williston Medical Center.

DAWSON COUNTY

Events in Glendive unless otherwise listed. CT Zone

Fri., March 5, 4-8 p.m.; Sat., March 6, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., March 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Glendive Gun Show - Antiques, art, books, collectibles, coins, jewelry, western items, firearms and accessories. 170 tables, food and refreshments available. \$3 per day, \$6 for all 3 days. EPEC, 313 S. Merrill.

Fire At S&K Stack Testing



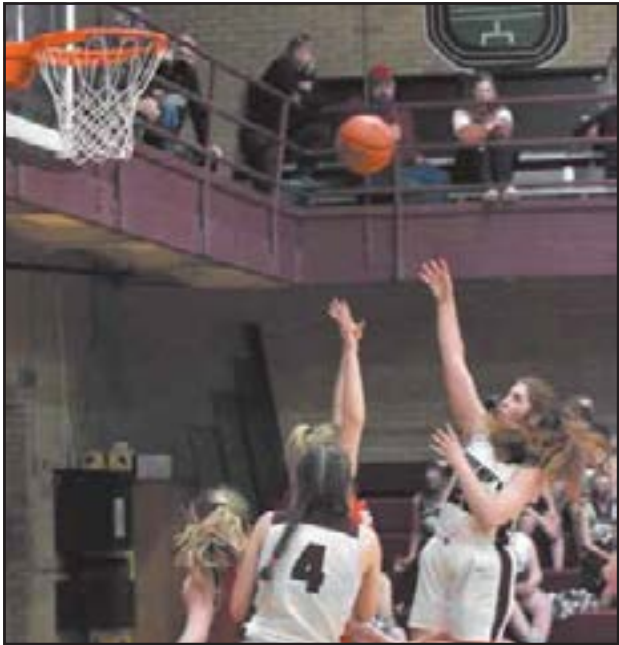
The Arnegard Fire Department responded to a fire in Watford City at S&K Stack Testing on Thursday, Feb. 18 at the request of the Watford City Fire Department. At approximately 2:15 p.m. Mutual Aid request came in, upon arrival the Arnegard firefighters made contact

with WCFFD Command and deployed lines along the northern and western sides to knock down open flames and cool down what had already burned. This was a massive response with multiple agencies on scene or assisting with traffic control including the Watford

City PD, McKenzie County SO, McKenzie County Ambulance, McKenzie County Road Department, McKenzie County Emergency Management, Badlands S.A.R. among numerous others.



Sidney Eagle Basketball Action



The lady Eagles hosted the Dawson County Red Devils last Friday in Sidney. Top Left: Ali Merritt shoots the ball against the Red Devils. The lady Eagles lost against Dawson County 46-54. The Eagle basketball was in Glasgow last Saturday. Above: Olivia Schoepp goes up for a shot in Glasgow. Bottom Left: Parker Sinks gets ready to shoot the ball in Glasgow. The girls lost to Glasgow 27-39. The boys lost to Glasgow 60-61 in double overtime. The Eagles will head to the divisional tournament this week in Billings at the Metrapark. The boys play Wednesday at 11 a.m. against Park and the girls will play Thursday at 9 a.m. against Hardin. Photos by Tonya Schoepp



Spring Classes Open For Registration

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

March 13	Micro Greens
March 27	Easter Traditions
April 10	Early Bird Veggies

Micro Greens March 13th

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Saturday: 9am - 5pm
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Over 216,000 Total COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Now Administered In Montana

DPHHS to Distribute More COVID-19 vaccine doses for this week

The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) will distribute statewide to local jurisdictions during the week of Feb. 22 a total of 20,930 COVID-19 vaccine first doses and 16,990 second doses

for those completing the vaccine series as part of its weekly allocation from the federal government.

This is a slight uptick in weekly vaccine dose allocations, and includes two more Pfizer trays that account for an additional 2,340 doses. The increase can also be attributed to an adjustment

by the federal government that allows for six doses to be extracted per Pfizer vial as opposed to the previous five-dose calibration.

DPHHS continues to be notified by the federal government week-to-week regarding vaccine allocation. However, the agency has been assured the amounts

will not be less than current levels.

While the federal government's vaccine shipments to the state remain low, DPHHS continues its work to efficiently allocate doses across Montana. Factors that affect vaccine allocation to counties include the local jurisdiction's esti-

mated population of those eligible to receive the vaccine in each phase, previous allocations to each specific provider, and the amount of vaccine that such provider has left to administer.

DPHHS then uses this information to determine specific allocations to local jurisdictions before they are notified every Friday. The local jurisdictions then begin to make their vaccine allocation plans for the following week.

County administration numbers are updated every Monday on the state's vaccine dashboard.

216,383 Total Doses Now Administered

Montana is in Phase 1B. In Phase 1B, COVID-19 vaccines are available to Montanans 70 years of age and older, 16 to 69 years of age with a high-risk medical condition, and Native Americans and other persons of color who may be at elevated risk for COVID-19 complications.

As of Feb. 22, 2021, a total of 216,383 Montanans have received the COVID-19 vaccine first dose and 68,191 people are fully immunized. These numbers are updated daily on the vaccine dashboard. The dashboard includes information on total vaccine doses administered, Montanans fully immunized, and doses administered per 1,000 eligible people across Montana counties.

DPHHS has Vaccine Landing Page Website with Local Resources

For vaccine-related information, go to the DPHHS COVID-19 vaccine website landing page that includes a map with local information and resources. Local jurisdictions continue to hold vaccine clinics for those eligible in Phase 1B and are providing regular updates online about vaccine availability at the local level. This information changes constantly so Montanans are encouraged to check the map frequently.

The DPHHS map links to online and social media sites where jurisdictions share information regularly on vaccine availability and scheduling. The map also includes the best local phone number to call, but Montanans are urged to utilize the online information first due to high call volumes.

Health officials also state that during the vaccination process, it's important to remain vigilant to limit the spread of COVID-19. Montanans are encouraged to continue to practice basic public health prevention methods to keep case numbers low while the vaccine rollout continues: wear a mask to protect yourself and others, practice social distancing by staying six feet apart, stay home if you are sick, cover your cough, wash your hands often, and avoid large crowds.

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Front Row (L-R): Manager Christina Cote, Beau Rider, Isaac Kline, Zane Soiseth, Maxwell Heen, Keaton Wehrman, M. Ryan Pingel, Manager Alex Sims.

Congratulations to the Alexander Boys Basketball team for qualifying for the District 15 tournament!

- From the Alexander Robotics Team

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Livestock Reports Due March 1

Montanans have just a few more days to report the number of each type of livestock they own in order to pay the per capita fees set yearly by the Montana Board of Livestock.

Livestock reports are due March 1. Owners can report online at ReportYourLivestock.mt.gov.

Livestock owners must report what they owned as of Feb. 1.

If you reported last year but no longer own livestock, you still need to submit a reporting form to let us know your livestock count is zero.

Owners preferring a paper reporting form can download one at MTRRevenue.gov or call 406-444-6900.

Per capita payments are due May 31.

Montana Hunting And Fishing License Year Begins March 1

The new license year opens March 1, which means that is the day you can buy your 2021 hunting and fishing licenses and begin applying for permits and special licenses. The deadline to apply for deer and elk permits is April 1.

Applications for most species; deer, elk, antelope, deer B, elk B, antelope B, moose, sheep, goat, bison, bear, turkey – can be made beginning March 1.

Hunters and anglers can buy licenses and apply for permits on the FWP website beginning at 5 a.m.; click on "Buy and Apply." Most FWP offices will be open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The licensing call center will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. from March 1-April 1; after April 1, the hours will return to 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The call center can be reached at 406-444-2950.

Remember, if you're applying for a special license or permit, you will need to have a valid email address.

Virtual Financial Education Class Start March 1

Submitted by Marcia Hellandsaas, NDSU Extension/McKenzie County

Experiencing a reduction in family income can be a traumatic experience. But, there are ways you and your family can minimize the hardship.

NDSU Extension is offering a virtual workshop series, "Your Money, Your Goals." These classes will provide tools and information you need to help you deal with your current situation. The program will help you focus on working through your challenges, increase your confidence and financial knowledge, acquire new skills and learn about resources that will help you achieve goals.

Four classes of your choice will be held. A packet of materials will be mailed to you prior to each session.

Lesson dates and topics are:

- March 1: Setting Goals
- March 8: Behind on Bills
- March 15: Getting Through the Month
- March 22: Dealing with Debt

Each meeting is scheduled for 12 noon-1 p.m. CT through Zoom. Pre-registration is required and closes the Monday prior to each class. Materials will be sent out once registration has closed. To register go to www.tinyurl.com/21YourMoneyYourGoals.

For more information, please call NDSU Extension/McKenzie County at 701-444-3451 or email marcia.hellandsaas@ndsu.edu.

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Gianforte Signs ‘Constitutional Carry’ Gun Bill

The Measure Will Let Montanans Carry Concealed Firearms Without A Permit By Default Almost Anywhere In The State

By Eric Dietrich,
Montana Free Press

Helena - Gov. Greg Gianforte signed a major ‘constitutional carry’ bill Thursday that will let Montanans carry concealed firearms in public settings including banks and bars without a permit, in addition to limiting university system officials’ ability to restrict firearm possession on college campuses.

The measure, House Bill 102, has been described by proponents as a way to enhance Montanans’ Second Amendment rights and promote public safety by making it easier for law-abiding citizens to defend themselves from criminals. Opponents have argued that making it easier for Montanans to keep guns close at hand won’t necessarily promote public safety.

“Our Second Amendment is very clear: The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed,” Gianforte said at a bill signing ceremony Thursday afternoon. “Every law-abiding Montanan should be able to defend themselves and their loved ones.”

The measure allows concealed firearm possession without a permit by default in most places in the state, with exceptions including secure law enforcement facilities, federal buildings, courtrooms, and K-12 schools. Property owners

and tenants would have the ability to expressly prohibit firearm possession in private homes and businesses.

Additionally, the measure forbids the state university system from restricting firearm possession on campuses beyond requiring gun owners to have safety training akin to a hunter’s education course and safety measures such as requiring that firearms be transported in cases and stored with gun locks. The university system will also be allowed to forbid gun possession by students who have been formally disciplined for substance abuse or “interpersonal violence,” and prohibit possession by attendees at football games and other events that are supervised by armed security guards.

The university system provisions of the new law take effect June 1. Its other provisions are effective immediately.

As he signed the bill, Gianforte, a Republican, cited national situations where armed bystanders have intervened in violent situations, including a 2019 incident near Fort Worth, TX, where a volunteer security guard shot and killed a gunman who had fatally shot two congregants at the West Freeway Church of Christ.

“Criminals don’t care about safe zones or gun free zones. Gun control measures don’t prevent

criminals from perpetuating violence and other crime. Gun control measures step on the rights of law-abiding citizens,” Gianforte said.

Sponsor Rep. Seth Berglee, R-Joliet, said the bill honors a longstanding tradition of self-defense in Montana.

“The citizens of Montana have the ability to defend themselves, and I trust them with that responsibility,” Berglee said.

Attorney General Austin Knudsen, a Republican, also applauded the bill Thursday.

“No bill in the last 20 years has done more to protect our fundamental right to keep and bear arms,” Knudsen wrote in a statement.

The bill passed the Montana House and Senate on nearly party line votes, with support from nearly all Republicans and opposition from nearly all Democrats. The dissenters who broke with their parties on final votes were one Democratic lawmaker, Rep. Derek Harvey, Butte, and two Republicans, Sen. John Esp, Big Timber and Sen. Brian Hoven, Great Falls.

The portion of the bill specific to college campuses may conflict with a provision in the Montana Constitution that lets the state Board of Regents control the university system, according to an analysis prepared by legislative attorneys, potentially setting up a legal battle be-



Gov. Greg Gianforte at a bill signing ceremony for House Bill 102 on Thursday, Feb. 18. (Credit: Eric Dietrich/MTFP)

tween different arms of state government. Higher education officials have opposed the measure, saying it could result in more gun suicides and accidental shootings on campuses.

Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education Kevin McRae said Thursday that the Board of Regents would discuss the matter at its May meeting. He noted the bill had been amended to accommodate some of the concerns higher ed officials expressed about the initial version of the measure, adding the provisions that let campuses require basic safety training and restrict possession at sporting events. He also noted the bill had been changed so it takes effect in June, instead of immediately.

“Keeping our campuses safe places to teach, learn, live and grow is our highest priority,” McRae said in an email.

Gianforte didn’t take questions from reporters following Thursday’s bill signing ceremony. His press secretary, Brooke Stroyke, responded to a question about the law’s potential to trigger litigation by the Board of Regents with a brief statement indicating that the governor believes gun rights trump the university system’s own constitutional authority.

“The Board of Regents

has the authority to oversee and manage the university system, but it does not have the authority to take away

Montanans’ constitutional rights,” Stroyke wrote.

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Comments Sought On Draft Integrated Letter Report & Programmatic Environmental Assessment For Federal Participation In Watercraft Inspection Stations In Upper Missouri River Basin

Omaha, NE - A draft integrated letter report and programmatic environmental assessment has been developed to determine the economic and environmental impacts of federal participation in state-managed watercraft inspection programs along the Upper Missouri River Basin in Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska. Public comments on the draft EA will be accepted until March 2, 2021.

The existing watercraft inspection programs are managed collaboratively by the states of Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska, where watercraft transported along highways are inspected for the presence of aquatic invasive species and decontaminated when detected.

If approved, federal participation in the program would be cost-shared (50%) with each of the states, and would employ a regional strategy to identify locations that would provide the greatest likelihood of preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species to reservoirs operated and maintained by the Corps in the Upper Missouri River Basin.

Several strategies that could be used include: (1) Expanding the number of

locations or hours of operation at existing inspection stations (2) Adding canine detection capabilities, (3) Increasing public awareness (4) Constructing site improvements and (5) Augmenting existing monitoring efforts and contingency and response planning efforts.

The public is encouraged to provide comments on the draft integrated letter report and programmatic environmental assessment, which is available for viewing at: www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Planning/Project-Reports/

Comments can be mailed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District; CENWO-PMA-C; ATTN: Clayton Ridenour, Watercraft Inspection EA, 1616 Capitol Ave., Omaha, NE 68102-4901. Comments can also be emailed to: cenwo-planning@usace.army.mil. Comments must be postmarked or received no later than March 2, 2021.

This draft EA is consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality’s regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), the Corps’ regulations for implementing NEPA (33 CFR 325 and Engineering Regulation 200-2-2) and other applicable

environmental laws and regulations.

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Sydney Dethman, Froid/Lake, drives for a basket during the District 2C girls basketball tournament's championship game on Friday, Feb. 19. Plentywood won by a 42-24 final. (Photo submitted)

Taryn Hagler, Savage, goes up for a shot at the Class C District Tournament in Sidney last Friday against Culbertson. Savage won 38-35. The win gave Savage 5th place in the tournament and placement in the Class C divisional tournament. Placement for the girls are Plentywood 1st, Froid/Lake 2nd, MonDak 3rd, Circle, 4th and Savage 5th. Placement for the boys are Froid/Lake 1st, MonDak 2nd, Fairview 3rd, R&L 4th and Plentywood 5th. They all will advance to the Eastern C Divisional Tournament in Sidney March 3-6.



Class C District II
Tournament Action



The Fairview Warriors played against MonDak in the 2nd round of District 2C games in Sidney, Thursday, Feb. 18. MonDak won with a score of 39-36. Fairview's Brady Buxbaum #12 is guarding MonDak's Erik Field #14 as he drives to the basket. (Photo by Bobbi George)

IT'S TAX SEASON
Here Are Some Helpful Tips From The IRS:

- Don't count on receiving a refund by a certain date. Some refunds are required to be held until after late February.
- Track your refund on IRS.gov or the IRS mobile app, IRS2Go.
- All IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers (TACs) are by appointment only. Don't wait until it's too late to ask questions! However, Most questions can be resolved on the IRS.gov website without visiting a TAC.
- There are tools, filing options and other services and resources available on www.IRS.gov.

Consumer Alerts on Tax Scams

- Note that the IRS will never:
- Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Generally, the IRS will first mail you a bill if you owe any taxes.
 - Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.
 - Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
 - Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

Red Cross
Blood
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Sidney
March 16

A Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Tuesday, March 16, from 12-6 p.m. at St. Matthew's Parish Center, 310 7th St. SE, Sidney. Advance appointments are strongly recommended. To make an appointment, call the American Red Cross at 406-868-0911 or 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcross-blood.org. Face masks are required. The Red Cross is currently testing all blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies.



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Sidney Eagle Boys

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Front row (L-R): Boston Peters, Austen Taylor, Aaron Reitz, Ty Lovegren, Jack Thogersen, Riley Jackson.

Girls: Hardin vs. Sidney • Thurs., 9 am



Sidney Eagle Girls

Back Row (L-R): Coach Harry Owczarek, Daisy Snow, Ali Merritt, Coach Kayla Rushing, Olivia Schoepp, Allyson Nentwig, Coach Dan Peters.
Front Row (L-R): Leah Entz, Ella Norby, Taylan Hansen, Jenna Anderson, Sophie Peters.

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Montana Introduces Legislation To Create Interstate Cooperative Meat Packing Compact

Submitted by Dylan Klapmeier, Communications Director Montana House of Representatives Majority

Helena -The Montana House of Representatives in partnership with other states has introduced House Bill 336 to create an Interstate Cooperative Meatpacking Compact. The purpose is to streamline interstate livestock commerce by removing state barriers and agreeing to meet federal regulations.

"Montana and other ag

producing states have a long history of working together to meet the demands of our consumers," Montana Speaker of the House Wylie Galt (R-Martinsdale) said Wednesday. "As state leaders, it is our job to remove barriers to commerce between our states. We believe this compact will mutually benefit our ag economies and increase consumer access to locally raised meat products."

"As an eastern Montana fencing producer and feed-

lot operator, I can say that this compact will provide a much-needed infusion of interstate commerce to support our rural communities," said Representative Brandon Ler (R-Savage) who is sponsoring HB 336.

South Dakota and other western/midwestern states have introduced similar legislation. HB 336 will receive its first hearing in the House Agriculture Committee on Feb. 23.

Cundiff and Reid Perform for Sidney Kiwanis



State champions Emma Cundiff and Wyatt Reid perform their humorous duo to the delight of Sidney Kiwanians Thursday, Feb. 18. Because speech and drama were held virtually this season, it was only the second time the pair had performed in front of a live audience and they welcomed the opportunity to show off their skills. (Photo submitted)

Sidney Health Center Announces Area Births

Remi Marie Peyatt was born Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, to Haley Carpenter and Harley Peyatt, Glendive. She weighed 6 lbs., 8.2 oz. Maternal grandparents are

Jon and Crystal Batchelor and paternal grandparent is Wanda Wiseman.

William Gregorio Rees was born Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, to Maricel and Thom-

as Rees, Williston, ND. He weighed 5 lbs., 9.6 oz. Maternal grandparents are Felix and Nentta Calicoy and paternal grandparents Joe and Julie Rees. He joins

brother Robert.

Aubrey Irene Sorenson was born Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021, to Heather and Brent Sorenson, Sidney. She weighed 7 lbs., 9.2 oz.

Maternal grandparents are Cheryle Blakney and paternal grandparents are Ron and Sherry Sorenson. She joins sister Alexis.

Judd Jaxson Melby was

born Friday, Jan. 15, 2021, to Jordyn and Beau Melby, Sidney. He weighed 6 lbs., 8.8 oz. Maternal grandparents are Jeff and Marlene Wohler and paternal grandparents are Guy Melby and Julie Getchell.

Elsie Kay Papka was born Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021, to Brooke and Austin Papka, Sidney. She weighed 9 lbs., 4.8 oz. Maternal grandparents are Stephanie Reicherts and Tony Jensen and paternal grandparents are Tonya and Mark Papka. She joins brother Preston.

Violet Dawn Heller was born on Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021, to Aquilla and Tucker Heller, Sidney. She weighed 5 lbs., 14.2 oz. Maternal grandparents are Craig and Melissa Painter and paternal grandparent is Shannon Youngquist.

Kamden Dale Tjelde was born Friday, Jan. 22, 2021, to Jordan Gifford and Tyler Tjelde, Cartwright, ND. He weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz. Maternal grandparents are Rod and Jackie Gifford and paternal grandparents are Dale and Elaine Tjelde. He joins sister Mary and brother Jeffrey.

Lilly Ann Villeneuve was born Friday, Jan. 22, 2021, to Felicia Davis and Steven Villeneuve, Froid. She weighed 6 lbs., 1 oz. Maternal grandparent is Roma Eder and paternal grandparent is Shawna Villeneuve. She joins sister Adalynn.

Owen Ty Toennis was born Monday, Jan. 25, 2021, to Kacie and Tyrel Toennis, Plentywood. He weighed 7 lbs., 3.4 oz. Maternal grandparents are Steve Hove, Rea Jean Belgard and Teri Hove. and paternal grandparents are Mike and Judy Toennis.

Karsyn Avery Kucera was born Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021, to Chayna Basta and Keith Kurera, Fairview. She weighed 8 lbs., 0.6 oz.

Business Achiever Submission:

Gillette Vaira, M.A., has joined Rebel River Creative as an account executive. Prior to joining the Rebels, she worked in marketing and public relations at nonprofit and corporate levels. She has also worked in both student affairs and alumni relations at the collegiate level. Vaira graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in mass communication at MSU Billings and then earned a master's degree in broadcast journalism at the University of Montana. Vaira is an Emmy Award-winner and has earned national first- and second-place titles in public speaking. A native of Lambert, she is a fourth-generation college-educated woman and Montanan. Vaira may be reached at 406-702-1557 or gillette@rebelrivercreative.com.



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Welcome District 15 Tournament Fans!

The Richland Ranger Squirts were able to go 3-0 this weekend. On Saturday, Feb. 20 the Squirts hosted 2 great games vs. Hazen-Beulah B1 Gold on home ice; Game 1 went into overtime with a win for the Rangers of 5 to 4 and in game 2 Rangers won 4 to 2. On Sunday, Feb. 21 the Squirts traveled to Watford City to face WC Red and were able to bring home another win 6 - 2.



Holden Boehler.
(Photo by Brenda
Filler)

Girl’s State Wrestling Tournament Action

Right: Sidney’s Amaiya Kirn looks to score a reversal on Cascade’s Lily Grismer in the championship match Saturday at Lockwood High School, Billings, at the Montana All Class Girls State Wrestling Tournament. Kirn won the match to 5-3 to claim the championship. (Photo by Erin Graves)

Below: Sidney’s Keela Kary looks for the pin against Flathead Kalispell’s Cadence Denney on Friday at the Montana All Class Girls State Wrestling Tournament. Kary took 5th place in the 120 lb weight class. (Photo by Erin Graves)



Roundup
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MOBILE FRIENDLY

Rosendale Visits Sidney...

Continued on page 12A.
of health care and expanding access, that’s going to work well,” Rosendale is the ranking Republican member charged with managing technology modernization handling veteran’s records from Department of Defense and Veteran’s Affairs. His experience handling telemedicine and cyber-security in the Auditor’s Office will be instrumental in making these records work cohesively between these two department’s systems.

Border Security
Rosendale then transitioned to border security and how it affects the country and Montana. “Illegal immigration affects us in a big way when we start looking at the reservations and the ease at which they can bring in illicit drugs, have sex trafficking and human trafficking,” he stated. Rosendale also mentioned the loss of jobs on the border due to the Biden administration’s shift in border policy.

Duane Mitchell, Richland County Commissioner, asked a follow up question, “Is there is a way Congress can slow these sanctuary cities down.” Rosendale said, “Yes, yes. They can rein in on them by taking away tax breaks on municipal bonds. Everybody’s been trying to figure out how to keep these sanctuary cities from being able to just open up and not have any recourse, right? They talk about removing funding.”

Richland County Commissioner Shane Gordor asked about changes to the border policy at the northern border under the new administration. “I don’t think we will have the concerns that we are going to have the pressure to eliminate the security on the northern border that we have on the southern border because it’s not such a hot topic politically,” Rosendale replied.

Keystone XL Pipeline
Commissioner Gordor asked about the Keystone XL Pipeline and what changed when Senator Tester voted yes during the initial hearing and voted no during a subsequent vote. Rosendale said it was all tied to a reconciliation bill. “The yes vote was for the reconcil-

iation bill,” he stated. “The no vote was to insert the permit into the reconciliation bill and so it never made it in.”

Gordor then asked what can be done at this point to reinstate the permit. “You have to put pressure on John (Tester),” he stated. The amendment does have a chance to be inserted in the reconciliation bills for the next three years. “You have three reconciliation bills. Fiscal 21, fiscal 22, fiscal 23. So there’s actually three bites at the apple.” Rosendale also commented that it is a national security issue as well as costing the state \$80 million and job losses.

Editor’s Note: Senator Tester did write a letter to President Biden on Feb. 2 urging him to reconsider his decision to cancel the presidential permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Rosendale was also asked if the value of Bakken oil will be lowered with the introduction of the Canadian Tar Sands oil from the Keystone XL Pipeline. “The Keystone XL coming through here with the 100,000 barrels of a day from the on-ramp down in Baker, what we are going to see is the Bakken oil is going to become more valuable,” he stated. The pipeline would decrease the transportation costs and is used to blend with the Tar Sands to make it more sellable.

Minimum Wage
Sidney Mayor Rick Norby’s biggest concern is regarding the possible increase of the minimum wage to \$15 per hour and it’s financial impacts on the operation of the Sidney Svarre Municipal Pool. The pool currently starts new employees at Montana’s minimum wage of \$8.65 per hour. Rosendale stated that he has been a long time opponent against the wage increases. “I was on the legislature floor many times and testified against it.” It was also stated that the CBO said it would eliminate 1.4 million jobs. Rosendale also went on to explain how wages here were \$17.50 an hour due to inflation from the oil boom, when it all simmered back down the wages came back down as well. “It wasn’t set by anybody, not the county, city or state, but

by supply and demand.”

Covid-19
Commissioner Gordor asked Rosendale his take on the approach going forward in recovering from the impacts on our society from Covid. He expressed the challenges of being in an area on the border of two states with different sets of Covid protocols. “I think the legislature took a very, very strong step by granting the liability immunity. That had to be done. I was trying to get that done at the federal level but it’s not going to happen up there right now,” Rosendale said. “I think the delivery of vaccinations around the county is going to help establish herd immunity. Herd immunity works.” Rosendale also mentioned the use of treatments such as hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin for Covid.

Editor’s note: Currently the FDA has cautioned the use of hydroxychloroquine for use outside a hospital setting or clinical trial due to risk of heart rhythm problems. The FDA has yet to granted emergency use of ivermectin for the treatment of Covid-19. There has been a recently released research article that shows promising results in a laboratory setting but additional testing is needed.

Rosendale stressed the importance of opening up our society again. “We have got to get our businesses opened up, we have got to get our schools opened up. It is not good for people to be isolated. Whether we are talking about the students or the general population,” he said. “The depression and the additional substance abuse that starts taking place. It is not healthy for people to be isolated.”

Gordor then posed the question, “Why open up when you are continuing to get money to keep your doors closed?” Rosendale is skeptical on the need for additional Covid relief funding. “We still have very close to the neighborhood of \$9 billion, almost a trillion dollars available at the federal level that has even been distributed back out,” Rosendale said.

Richland County Health Department administrator

Brittney Peterson stated the importance of supporting the health department in combating the challenges of Covid in our community. She stressed the importance personal responsibility and how the use of masks has helped our schools stay open. Rosendale added that he was pleased with the advancements in telehealth & the contributions of the telecommunications industry in meeting those needs. He does think that broadband needs to be expanded to accommodate those without access. Rosendale also thinks that HIPA laws should be relaxed to use telehealth more broadly.

Peterson added to the discussion that the ability for the schools to be open gives the parents ability to return to work. “We have got to get the community healthy and then we can get the economy healthy,” Rosendale stated.

Buckwheat: A Hazard to Montana’s Export Markets

Montana Wheat & Barley Committee reminds growers to ensure grain exports are buckwheat-free

Submitted by Chelsi Bay

As farmers prepare for spring planting, the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee is reminding producers to ensure that wheat shipments destined for export are buckwheat-free. In light of the ongoing global pandemic, food safety has become one of the most important factors for purchasers of ingredients. Montana exports 60-80% of its wheat to countries located in the Pacific Rim. Since Asian countries are large importers of Montana wheat, it is important that producers and handlers understand the serious health risk and potential economic impact posed by buckwheat.

Tame buckwheat is a deadly allergen in Asian countries. It is often compared to peanut allergies, carrying different levels of reaction severity, ranging from mild to extreme. The United States has taken precautionary measures to provide allergen safety in labeling, such as zero tolerance for unlabeled allergen exposure, which are the same efforts taken for exporting food ingredients.

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) has provided the following guidelines on this issue:

- Use of buckwheat must be excluded from cover crops plantings in rotation or adjacent to fields with wheat production or abstain from growing wheat as a commodity for two calendar years after planting buckwheat.
- Use of buckwheat must be excluded from pollinator plantings in rotation with or adjacent to fields currently planted or that will be planted to commodity wheat within the next two calendar years.

There is zero tolerance for export elevator deliveries exposed to buckwheat. Following an exposure, grain elevators may extend their rejection to refuse future deliveries from certain producers, meaning it is crucial that producers do not expose their operation to buckwheat in any form.

To protect and foster the health and prosperity of the Montana’s agricultural industry, the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee is committed to educating producers about the dangers of buckwheat in a small grains rotation and surveying cover crop mixes across the state, including volunteer situations.

Established in 1967, the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee promotes research, marketing and education for the benefit of Big Sky Producers living, working and growing here in the Last Best Place. For more information, visit www.montanawbc.com.

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Dining With Diabetes Virtual Class

Submitted by Carrie Krug, Montana State University Extension Richland County Family Consumer Sciences Agent

Montana State University Extension will be offering a Virtual Dining with Diabetes class beginning Monday, March 1 at 5:30 p.m. and continuing through the month of March. Anyone is invited to participate in this virtual class.

Dining with Diabetes is a nationally accredited program for adults with, or at risk of, developing Type 2 Diabetes. Family members and/or friends are also invited to attend the program. The class will meet via WebEx weekly for four weeks (March 1, 8, 15, and 22) with a three-month follow-up class in June.

As a part of this virtual course participants will learn how to prepare meals that are healthy, simple, and taste good while enjoying the comforts of home. During these virtual

sessions, recipes will be demonstrated, and participants will have the opportunity to follow along and create a meal in their own kitchens.

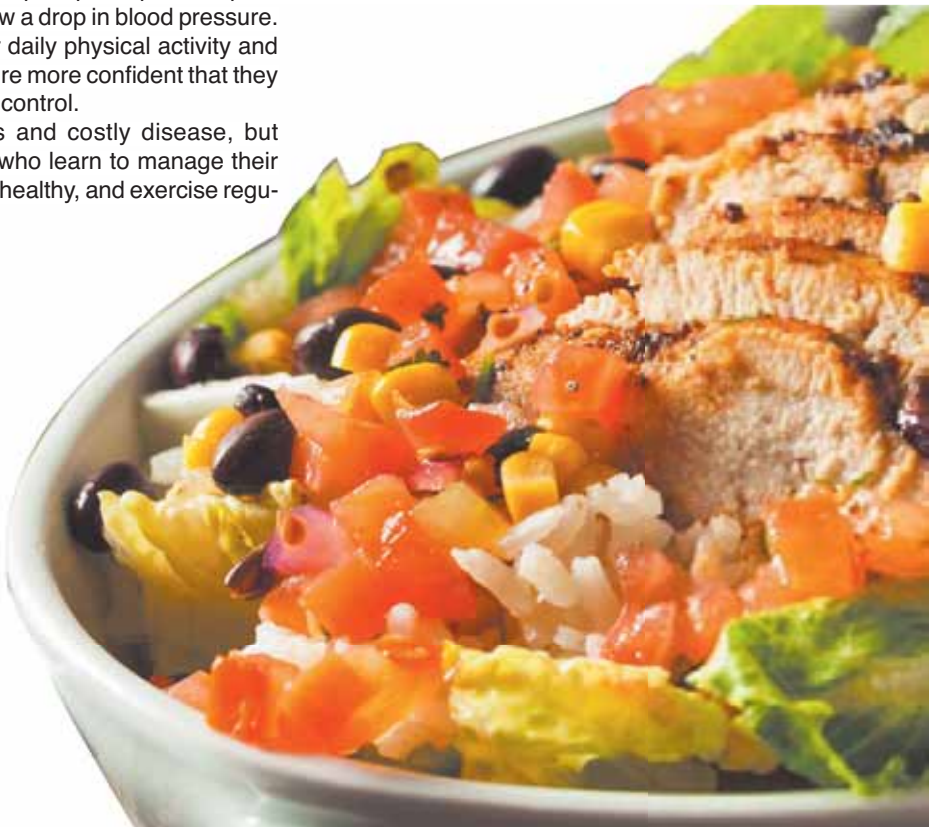
Participants will learn information regarding diabetes, including how to understand important diabetes-related medical tests and pharmaceuticals. Up-to-date information on nutrition, meal planning, and exercise, will also be included in this program.

After taking the class, 50% of past participants experienced a drop in A1C and 59% saw a drop in blood pressure. Participants also increased their daily physical activity and fruit and vegetable intake and were more confident that they could keep their diabetes under control.

Diabetes is a very serious and costly disease, but research has shown that those who learn to manage their blood glucose (sugar) levels, eat healthy, and exercise regu-

larly can lower their risk of complications and lead a healthier and more productive life. For individuals with pre-diabetes, lifestyle modification information learned in this class can prevent individuals from developing Type 2 diabetes and the complications associated with it.

Preregistration is required so the WebEx link may be distributed. Please contact the Valley County Extension Office at 406-228-6241 or the Richland County Extension Office at 406-433-1206.



Sidney Wrestling Results

Glasgow vs. Sidney/Fairview, Feb. 19

103: Damon Adkins (G) won by fall over Gordon Knapp (S/F) 5:58

113: Owen Lonski (S/F) won by fall over Jake Kuka (G) 1:45

126: Kolby Hutzenbiller (S/F) won by fall over Dawson Boland (G) 5:56

132: Kolton Reid (S/F) won by fall over Alex Ost (G) 0:26

138: Jordan Darby (S/F) won by fall over Mason Don-

aldson (G) 4:14

145: Zander Burnison (S/F) won by fall over Devon Nesbitt (G) 5:33

152: Aden Graves (S/F) won by decision over Colton Fast (G) 3-0

160: Kade Graves (S/F) won by major decision over Damien Nesbitt (G) 9-0

170: Dylan Lutz (S/F) won by major decision over Kyler Hallock (G) 9-1

182: Easton Hopes (S/F) won by decision over Cooper Larson (G) 1-0

205: Dylan Nieskens (G) won by fall over Trey Schepens (S/F) 1:14

285: Brodey Skogen (S/F) won by decision over Mayson Phipps (G) 3-1

182: Extra: Ethan Nickels (G) won by fall over Nathan Romo (S/F) 2:31

182: Extra: Ethan Nickels (G) won by fall over Hunter Moore (S/F) 0:31

Team Scores: (S/F) 47 – (G) 12

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Guest Opinion: Legislative Report

Greetings from Helena!

We are well aware of the power outages in Eastern Montana and it has been the subject of discussion around the legislature. Almost every source of power had trouble during the ice storm in the south. Wind, solar, nuclear and gas-powered generators all had problems. We know that hydropower's weakest season is the winter when water is not running as fast. The good old standby, safest, and most reliable power generator is coal. Yet between the bean counters and the environmentalists they have convinced the right people that we should shut it down. In my opinion, the bean counters and the environmentalists are both wrong. But, even if they weren't, being reliable is awful important for the lives and productivity of people. Let's keep the pressure on.

In Fish and Game Committee we talked about some wolf trapping and snaring bills. They range from using snares on wolves to making the trapping season longer. There are about 1200 wolves in the state of Montana, far above the target of 250 that was set when we introduced them to

this country. So, we should get more aggressive on controlling the population of wolves. Another thing we did was reject one of Governor Bullock's appointees to the Fish and Game Commission that was appointed on the 25 of Nov. 2020. There are different philosophies between the former governor and our present governor. This action seemed to draw a lot of news and interest. But that is part of the process.

In Health and Human Services Committee, we heard several bills, one of them, SB245, that would allow doctors and other healthcare workers to let their conscience be their guide in performing certain non-life-threatening services. We passed out of committee SB100 which would deal with fraud in DPHHS.

In Judiciary, we heard several bills about limiting the power of the governor in emergency situations. These bills dealt with the loss of religious freedom, the loss of constitutional rights, and how long a state of emergency could go on. One bill also eliminated the possibility of having an all-mail in ballot for state and

federal elections.

I am sure you are aware that the mask mandate has been lifted and we can now carry concealed weapons almost everywhere in the state without a permit. I think this is good news for Montana.

Reagan Hall, Sidney, was my page this week. She did a great job and we enjoyed having her work in the Senate.

If you are in Helena be sure to stop and see us. If you want to look up the text of a bill you can find it at <https://leg.mt.gov>.

For Freedom,
Senator
Steve Hinebauch



Montana State Senator Steve Hinebauch

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EVENTS GLENDIVE GUN SHOW
The EPEC building, 313 S. Merrill, Friday, March 5, 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, March 6, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, March 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Questions call Ernie, 406-377-3969. CDC guidelines followed.

The Roundup Help Wanted

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Lunch Menus

Sidney School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Chicken patty sandwiches, veggies, peaches.
Fri., Feb. 26: No school.
Mon., March 1: Hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, celery sticks, clementines.
Tues., March 2: Chicken fried steak, potatoes, gravy, corn, peaches, dinner rolls.
Wed., March 3: Biscuits and gravy, hash browns, fruit crisp, orange juice.
Savage School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Chicken a la king.
Fri., Feb. 26: No school.
Mon., March 1: Hamburgers, fries.
Tues., March 2: Pork steaks, mashed potatoes and gravy.
Wed., March 3: Lasagna.
Rau School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Chili, cinnamon rolls, mixed fruit.
Fri., Feb. 26: No school.
Froid School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Sloppy joes, tater tots, baked beans, fruit.
Fri., Feb. 26: No school.
Mon., March 1: Soft tacos, refried beans, lettuce, taco bar, fruit.
Tues., March 2: Goulash, bosco sticks, veggies, fruit.
Wed., March 3: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, buns, vegetable, dessert.
Bainville School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Knoephla soup, dinner rolls, apples.
Fri., Feb. 26: Philly cheese steak, peppers and onion, bananas.
Mon., March 1: Corn dogs, baked beans, fries, pears.
Tues., March 2: BBQ chicken strips, potato salad, bread, peaches.
Wed., March 3: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, corn, mandarin oranges.
Richey School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Beef en-

chilada casserole, corn, fruit, cake.
Fri., Feb. 26: No school.
Culbertson School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Chicken fried steaks, mashed potatoes, country gravy, corn.
Fri., Feb. 26: Corn dogs, smiles, peaches.
Mon., March 1: Pizza, salad, pineapple.
Tues., March 2: Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn.
Wed., March 3: Hamburgers, fries, mandarin oranges.
Lambert School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Pizza hot-dish, green beans, fruit.
Fri., Feb. 26: Soup and sandwiches, fruit.
Mon., March 1: Chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, fruit.
Tues., March 2: Super nachos, fresh veggies, fruit.
Wed., March 3: Meatball subs, chips, fruit.
Fairview School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Sloppy joes, veggies, chips, fruit.
Fri., Feb. 26: No school.
Alexander School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Ham or turkey croissants, homemade soup.
Fri., Feb. 26: No school.
Mon., March 1: Breakfast for lunch.
Tues., March 2: Cavatini, corn, garlic toast.
Wed., March 3: Popcorn chicken bowl, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn.
Watford City School
Thurs., Feb. 25: Cheese pizza, side salad.
Fri., Feb. 26: BBQ rib sandwiches, wedges.
Mon., March 1: Pancakes and sausage, fruit topping and whipped topping.
Tues., March 2: Two soft shell tacos with all the fixings, Dr. Seuss Cupcake.
Wed., March 3: Wacky macaroni and cheese with ham, graham crackers.

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6 p.m. — Al-Anon Family Group Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave., Sidney, MT.
7 p.m. — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.
8 p.m. — AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

TUESDAYS:
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7 p.m. — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.

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LYIP Helps Ensure Successful Sugar Beet Production



James Brower, LYIP manager, points to the map of the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project.



Water in the main canal being delivered to farmers. (Photo submitted)



LYIP main canal empty. (Photo submitted)

By Anna Dragseth
Ever since 1909, the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project (LYIP), has been providing a reliable supply of irrigation water to several acres of farmland across the west side of

the Yellowstone River (even during the Dust Bowl). This supply of irrigation water is crucial to ensuring the successful production of irrigated crops, with a majority of it being sugar beet crops. The project irrigates just under

60,000 acres on the west bank of the Yellowstone River. It consists of four separate districts and covers a span of 59,000 acres in three counties and two states.

“LYIP delivers water to farmers, and in order to do that safely, we have to maintain all these irrigation ditches and banks that are made out of dirt - we make sure that gophers don’t bore holes in them and we help keep the beaver dams from stopping up the water and causing floods and those kinds of things,” stated James Brower, LYIP Manager.

Brower explained that it is extremely important to maintain water delivery canals. He said, “If the farmers’ drains get blocked up then the water gets high and starts backing up into farmers’ fields or for people’s basements.”

As far as maintaining the irrigation systems, LYIP has had a challenging year. Brower said, “There are always challenges - this year we have had a lot more beaver dams than we’ve seen in several decades, like three times more beaver dams than our normal average. It is sometimes tough to maintain because those beavers can build dams just about as fast as we can remove them!”

In addition to this, Brower explained that 2020 was extremely challenging due to the loss of Bill Hamburg, who was the assistant manager at LYIP for 49 years. “He unexpectedly passed away from cancer and he was the soul of the organization. He ran every piece of equipment we’d ever had and was just an encyclopedia of information. We have three people trying to help do his job and we still can’t seem to keep up with everything he did,” explained Brower.

In recent years, area sugar beet growers have had very high tonnage. “There are many factors that contribute to that but if you don’t have water flowing to your fields then every other factor can be worthless,” added Brower. A reliable source of irrigation water for sugar beets is necessary so that beets do not wilt, dry out, or stunt.

The irrigation district appreciates and values area beet growers. Brower said, “We know the beet growers pay for this equipment and the salaries of the payroll of the people who maintain the ditches. The beet crops pay for the majority of the operations and maintenance of the irrigation canal, so we are very dependent and appreciative of all the irrigators.”

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Two Area Sugar Beet Growers Inducted Into Sidney Sugars 20/20 Club

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Bryce Jorgensen
(Photo submitted)



The Jorgensen crew working on harvest. (Photo submitted)

By Anna Dragseth

Bryce Jorgensen:

Bryce Jorgensen, Savage, averaged 29 tons per acre and 20.09% sugar. “I was very pleased that I made it in the 20/20 club. Sugar beet farming is a risky business and profit margins are getting tighter every year so there is more pressure to grow a good crop these days,” stated Jorgensen.

To qualify for this exclusive club, a sugar beet producer must average over 20 tons per acre and 20% sugar for the entire crop. “This is an elite group of growers,” added Duane Peters, Sidney Sugars Incorporated, Agricultural Manager.

Jorgensen has been farming for a little over eight years. “This is my eighth harvest,” recalls Jorgensen. Over these years, he has been helping his dad, Dave Jorgensen, farm in addition to farming his own acres. “My short farming journey has already had its high points and low points. Getting started farming is hard these days. I am thankful for all of the people who let me rent land and borrow machinery when I didn’t have any.”

Jorgensen enjoys farming, especially raising sugar beets. He explained that one of his favorite things about raising the crop is watching it come up in the spring. He said, “We put a lot of effort into planting the crops and hope for the best crop we can get. It is rewarding watching the crops grow throughout the summer.”

He mentioned that the “nice cool nights” in September helped increase the sugar percentage of his crop.

When asked how this year’s growing season went, he responded, “This spring started out tough like usual. We had a late freeze, after completing planting; all the beets were up when it froze. I had a sick feeling checking fields the next morning wondering if anything had survived, and I was fortunate to not get hit hard enough to have to replant. We had good growing days this summer, although being hot and dry, my pivot almost ran steady for July and August.”

As for beet harvest, Jorgensen said it is very labor intensive. “We put in a lot of extra work and time. I like to see the progress of harvest with a hard-working crew.”

Jorgensen added that the weather has been challenging

(continued on next page)



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Sidney Sugars 20/20 Club...

(continued from previous page)

during beet harvest. He said, “The weather threw us for a loop, it was too warm and then too cold; it was a race to finish before the cold.”

Mortenson Farm Partnership:

The Mortenson Farm Partnership, Buford, ND, averaged 26 tons per acre and a district high of 20.17% sugar over 850 acres. “I feel really honored and really surprised - to have that good of sugar content over that many acres is a huge blessing and really is somewhat of a miracle,” said Joe Mortenson.

The Mortenson Farm Partnership consists of Joe Mortenson, his dad, Steve Mortenson, and about 9 full-time hired hands. “We farm somewhere between 800-1,000 acres of sugar beets, depending on the year and with the rotation,” stated Joe.

The Mortenson’s have had many years of experience growing sugar beets; “As I was growing up, I was always helping my dad on the farm and then my grandpa, Emery, who also grew sugar beets,” said Joe.

The sugar beet growing operation started many years ago with Joe’s grandfather, Emery Baxter, who was a long-time Buford area farmer.

And then in the 1980s, Joe’s father, Steve, tried his hand at raising sugar beets with little over 100 acres and one tractor. After many years of dedicating his time to the land, his operation evolved into a successful 12,000-acre farm, where he performs both dryland and irrigation farming.

“What my dad has built over the past 40 years is kind of where it has come. It is really neat to be a part of an operation that once had little to nothing and now has big trucks and 12-row diggers; just the way it has grown is what makes it so neat for me,” added Joe.

Joe has been helping his family farm for as long as he can remember. The only time he was not farming is when he went off to college for four years, but soon after that time period, he returned home and started farming full time.

He explained that he enjoys growing sugar beets because of how unique the crop is to the area. “We are so lucky that we have the Sidney Sugars factory because the next closest place, as you go east, is the Grand Forks area so there really aren’t any beets in between here and the eastern side of North Dakota.”

Making the 20/20 club makes growing beets just that more special for the Mortensons. “It really is an honor to qualify for the club. I give all the credit to our hired hands and to what my dad has done for the farm over the years. I have only added on to that and have helped grow it from there.”

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Joe and Steven Mortenson (Photo submitted)

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Beets ready for harvest in the Mortenson field.

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Brian Jenks, NDSU Extension weed specialist, (pictured far right) will give a Weed ID presentation.



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# 2021 MonDak Ag Days To Be Held in Hybrid Format March 4 & 5

By Anna Dragseth

MonDak Ag Days is an annual event that brings together the agriculture community to celebrate the industry. It provides educational opportunities for MonDak area farmers and ranchers and showcases the latest in agriculture related equipment and technology.

This event is traditionally held in person, but due to circumstances related to COVID-19, it will be offered in a hybrid virtual/in person format.

“This year’s event will be very different from the “traditional” MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show. We will not be having the banquet or the trade show but will still have educational sessions,” explained MSU Richland County Extension Agent, Tim Fine.

The educational sessions will focus on weed identification; a 2021 spring weather outlook; the importance of using the correct amount of water in pesticide applications; small grain disease identification and management; are seed treatments effective/economical; comparing and contrasting liquid vs. dry fertilizer applications; alfalfa weevil ID, scouting, and control; why is wheat stem sawfly becoming a bigger issue; grasshopper problems experienced in 2020 and an outlook for 2021.

Organizers of this event are still in the process of confirming speakers.

Fine is hoping to offer programs where private pesticide applicators can earn credits towards renewing their licenses. He said, “But more importantly than that, we hope that they learn something to ultimately improve their operation.”

Although this event will be very different from previous years, Fine is excited that they are able to offer this event in a hybrid format. “I’m excited that we’re going to be able to at least have some assemblance of normal with the hybrid virtual/in person sessions. Currently, we are restricted to approximately 25 people that can attend the event in person so hopefully there will be somewhat of a crowd.”

For more information on the event, visit the MonDak Ag Days Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/mondakagdays](https://www.facebook.com/mondakagdays) - there will be more updates to follow.

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# Resistant, Persistent Weeds Focus Ag Research Summit Webinar Feb. 25

**Submitted by Beth Redlin**

Whether herbicide resistant or just aggressive spreaders, weeds are a constant plague in both crops and pastures, which is why management options are a key research subject for university and federal scientists. For Dr. Brian Jenks, North Dakota State University's North Central Research Extension Center weed scientist, Minot, weeds have been at the heart of his research program for more than two decades.

That research and its application to local farms and ranches is featured in the fourth webinar of the 2021 MonDak Ag Research Summit Series – entitled 2021 weed control update in the MonDak – to be held at 10 a.m. MT, 11 a.m. CT, Thursday, Feb. 25.

As the keynote speaker for the Feb. 25 webinar, Dr. Jenks will share his take on difficult to control weeds such as kochia, horseweed and narrowleaf hawksbeard, as well as added information on weed resistance to commonly used herbicides; methods for making spring

burndowns more effective, and new herbicides coming available.

Jenks' holds a PhD in weed science from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and conducts applied weed control research in most crops grown in western North Dakota.

Following him are three shorter presentations by USDA and MSU weed researchers in Sidney and Huntley, addressing weed issues found in rangeland, sugarbeet and aquatic systems:

- **Purging Spurge:** where are flea beetles most effective? - Dr. Natalie West, Pest Management Unit, USDA Agricultural Research Service; Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory research ecologist, Sidney.

- **Management of herbicide resistant weeds in sugarbeet systems** - Dr. Lovreet Shergill, MSU Southern Agricultural Research Center Weed Scientist, Huntley.

- **Aquatic invasive weeds in Montana and North Dakota** - Dr. John Gaskin,

Pest Management Unit; USDA Agricultural Research Service; Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory research leader and research biologist, Sidney.

The webinar concludes at 11:30 a.m. MST/12:30 p.m. CST and is eligible for one pesticide recertification credit for Montana participants attending the live webinar. Sorry, viewing the subsequent recordings – to be made available online – does not qualify for points.

All interested persons are invited to participate and anyone can join the day of the event by using the following (Zoom program) link: <https://ndsus.zoom.us/j/91453448686>. No registration is needed to participate.

The MonDak Ag Research Summit is coordinated by MSU's Eastern Agricultural Research Center; USDA ARS's Northern Plains Agricultural Research Lab, both in Sidney; and NDSU's Williston Research Extension Center, Williston. Normally a one-day, in-person event, this year's MonDak Ag Research Summit

was moved online due to COVID-19.

Remaining webinar dates and keynote presentations in the 2021-webinar series include the following:

- March 11: Seasonal Outlooks and Potential Climate Change Impacts for eastern Montana and western North Dakota - Patrick Gilchrist, NOAA, National Weather Service Station warning coordination meteorologist/service coordination hydrologist, Glasgow.

Note, all webinars run from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. MST/11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

rologist/service coordination hydrologist, Glasgow.

- March 25: Topic: marketing; Title: pending; Keynote - Dr. Vincent Smith, Initiative for Regulation and Applied Economic Analysis, Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics, Montana State University Professor, Bozeman.

Note, all webinars run from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. MST/11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

CST and include opportunities to ask questions of the speakers during the live sessions.

For questions or more information on this series, contact Beth Redlin, 406-433-9427; [beth.redlin@usda.gov](mailto:beth.redlin@usda.gov), or Violeta Hobbs, 701-774-4315; [hobbs@ndsu.edu](mailto:hobbs@ndsu.edu) or visit our website at [www.ars.usda.gov/pa/nparl/agsummit](http://www.ars.usda.gov/pa/nparl/agsummit).

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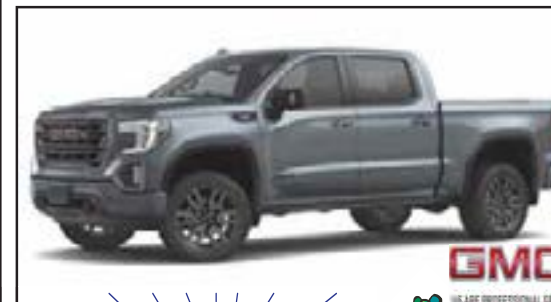
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# American Crystal Board Announces Changes At American Crystal Sugar Company's Meeting


Two newly elected directors joined American Crystal's Board. Representing the Hillsboro Factory District is Chris Hong. Hong is a third-generation farmer and has raised sugarbeets since 1997. He is part of a family farming operation with his brother and father named Hong Farms near Buxton, North Dakota. Representing the Crookston Factory District is Bruce Newhouse. Newhouse's farming history dates back to the late 1860s. He raises sugarbeets and operates BTN Farms with his son near Fisher, Minnesota. Newhouse previously served as Secretary of the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association Executive Committee, the American Sugar Beet Growers Association board, the Red River Valley Insurance Pool and the Soil and Water Conservation board of West Polk County. Two Directors also exited American Crystal's Board. Donald Andringa, a director representing the Crookston Factory District since 2008, exited the Board after reaching his term limit of four consecutive three-year terms. He served on the Boards of United Sugars Corporation, ProGold LLC, the University of Minnesota Crookston Northwest Research and Outreach Center, the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association, the Red River Valley Insurance Pool, and the American Sugar Beet Growers Association. Cindy Pulskamp, a director since 2017, also exited the Board. She represented the Hillsboro Factory District and is part of a family farming operation north of Hillsboro, North Dakota. Pulskamp was the first woman elected to American Crystal's Board and served on the compensation and audit committees. Prior to American Crystal, she served on the Factory Board of the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association.

American Crystal is a grower-owned cooperative and the nation's largest beet sugar producer with operating facilities in Moorhead, Crookston and East Grand Forks, Minn.; Hillsboro and Drayton, ND; and Sidney, MT.



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