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Sidney's Top Stories of 2016

Lions Club Provides Voluntary Services Through Community Involvement & International Cooperation

By Meagan Dotson

For the Sidney Lions Club, 2016 was another busy year serving their community. Lions International was formed in 1917 with their mission being: To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation. It is the world's largest service club with 1.4 million members in 210 countries and geographical locations.

The Sidney Lions Club has about 50 members, and takes special pride in being one of the few places in the state with an active high school Leo Club. One Leo Club project this year was raking yards throughout the community, and assisting their fellow Lions in collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

"Leo Club is important because it builds young people as leaders and gets them involved in their community," said Sidney Lions Club President Kelly Reisig. "A lot of the time Leo Club members go on to become Lions."

Lions help display the Memorial Day flags in Veteran's Memorial Park, and talk about the importance of the national flag when they hand them out during their Flags for First Graders project.

They sponsor and organize a Youth Track Meet for grade-schoolers each year. They hold a pie social at Crestwood and the Lodge, volunteer their time with Meals on Wheels and at the Food Bank, and have an Adopt-a-Highway project south of Sidney. Project Gratitude, the Senior Coalition Color Run, LVA Adult Literacy Program, the MonDak Heritage Center's Shakespeare in the Park, the Diabetes Walk, Post-Prom, Sidney's K-9 Unit, the Richland County Boys & Girls Club, and the Veteran's Day dinner every other year are all organizations and

events that the Sidney Lions Club have invested themselves in through volunteerism. Additionally, they have awarded \$31,700 in annual scholarships since 1982.

One of the things that Lions Club is most widely known for is their Sight & Hearing Foundation; in 1925 Helen Keller challenged them to be Knights of the Blind, and in addition to supporting the Lions Club International Sight & Hearing Foundation, Sidney Lions have eyeglasses and hearing aid collections, offer partial financial assistance for eye screening, support Northwest Eye Bank and leader Dogs of America, and just this year purchased a PlusOptix machine. PlusOptix allows for a quick and easy eye test that screens for eye disease as well as vision; this allows them to thoroughly screen more people in a shorter amount of time. Sidney Lions Club, in cooperation with the Health Department, took PlusOptix into Richland County schools this year, and plan on making its services available to others in the community in the future.

The Sidney Lions Club is funded through community donations and annual fundraising events such as their Christmas wreath sales, their scholarship breakfast, mint sales, and the Richland County Fair People Movers project, where they provide golf cart rides from people's cars to the fair entrance, and vice versa.

"We have something going on every month," commented Reisig. "We are very fortunate to have a fantastic membership; our members are a very actively involved and committed group."

The Sidney lions Club is always ready to welcome new members, and anyone interested is invited to stop by their meetings at noon the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at the Sidney Elks Lodge, 123 3rd St SW.



Lion Craig Price helps set up Memorial Day Flags in Veteran's Memorial Park prior to the parade. This is just one of many ways the Sidney Lions Club volunteers their time to the community. (Photo taken by Kelly Reisig)



Richland County Commissioners
Shane Gorder, Loren Young, Duane Mitchell

The Billings Symphony Kicked-off the 2016 Sunrise Festival of the Arts

By Meagan Dotson

For the first time, the Billings Symphony Orchestra performed in Sidney at the Anderson Pavilion in Veteran's Memorial Park. On Friday, July 8 it's estimated that between 500 and 700 people were in attendance for the free concert.

Performing Symphony in the Park, which has drawn crowds to Billings, MT for 44 years, the concert was an expansion of the Sunrise Festival of the Arts. The symphony got kids involved by inviting high school band students to play a side-by-side rehearsal earlier in the day, and brought the Instrument Petting Zoo, which gave kids a chance to play a variety of real instruments. They also held a Kids Conducting Contest during the concert and had high school band students open for them.

The Billings Symphony Orchestra has traveled in-state as far as Hardin, Red Lodge, and Columbus to be involved with children's concerts, however, this was the first time that the entire symphony has traveled out of Billings to perform their marquee-event, Symphony in the Park.

Both the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and the Billings Symphony hope for future performances at the Anderson Pavilion.



Corben Holler won the kids conducting contest at the Billings Symphony performance in Sidney on July 8. Holler won a wand and the chance to conduct the symphony in front of the crowd.

Sidney Livestock Market Continues Improvements



The sale barn area at SLMC is now more welcoming for buyers and sellers.

Sidney Livestock Market just keeps improving the sales experience for its customers. This year, the interior got a needed facelift with some updates to the office which included new flooring. The sale barn is now much brighter and cleaner with the removal of the old false ceiling, and new lighting and paint. A new sound system makes the buying and selling process much better for everyone.

Outside, work continues with the addition of two new big pens and some new water tanks. In a couple of months, work will start on redoing the load-out shack.

"We've got it now how we want it," stated manager Tim Larson. The goal of Sidney Livestock Market is to provide a service to the community and a superior experience for both buyers and sellers. With the constant improvements made, that experience just keeps getting better and better.



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Sidney's Top Stories of 2016

A Community Comes Together to Accomplish an Amazing Feat in Record Time

By Meagan Dotson

On Sunday, Aug. 21, phones started ringing. David Haverkamp placed a call to Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project (LYIP) stating that they had noticed water bubbling out of the ground partway down the 45' – 50' embankment that served as the main irrigation canal's outside wall. A ditch rider was sent out, who first called Project Manager James Brower, and when he didn't answer, called the watermaster, Pat Micheletto. Micheletto then called Brower to tell him that the canal had breached.

The 72-mile-long, 60' wide, and 11' deep lifeline to valley farmers was gushing water at speeds fast enough to create whitewater. In September of 2012, a number of trees and bushes had been cleared from the canal banks four miles south of Sidney, because the tree roots had formed a barrier that was interfering with drainage and destabilizing the canal bank. The canal banks had been terraced to remove tree roots and sheets of drain tile were installed, however no one suspected that any of the trees were so old that they would have roots deep enough to tap into the bottom of the canal. As the deep roots rotted away, a small trickle of water picked up speed, washing out more and more sand, until the ground became so saturated it gave way to the enormous water pressure. Chunks of the bank started to collapse, 100,000

cubic vards of dirt in all.

LYIP employees rushed to open up waste ways, including Crane Creek, Fox Creek, Lone Tree Creek, the Savage Creek waste way, and the Burns Creek waste way and they raised checks as they went.

Parts of Crane Creek flooded, and the Savage waste way washed out the culvert to Elk Island. While the Savage waste way was throttled, the Savage Fire Department assisted in locating boaters who would've otherwise been stranded and had their vehicles stranded.

Coffer dams were installed at County Roads 117 and 119, as well as at the repair site.

The gates at Intake were shut almost immediately, however it takes 24 hours for anything done at Intake to affect Bell Hill, the area where the breach occurred. LYIP had done all they could do to stop the water, but still it ran, fed by underground springs and canal walls that had spent the last couple of months absorbing water into the ground.

Dirt clogged drainage designed to handle small overflow. The water flooded the surrounding farmland, at 2 1/2'-3' deep; it was only contained by higher ground, county road 115 and MT Highway 16.

Sunday night LYIP worked to stop the water, prevent further homes from being flooded, and they cleaned dirt and trees out of culverts. On

Monday morning, the four LYIP districts met and surveyed the damage.

Interstate Engineering dropped everything they were doing to survey the canal and have an estimated cost of repair ready that night. They immediately began staking the construction site, and only billed for their own necessary labor costs.

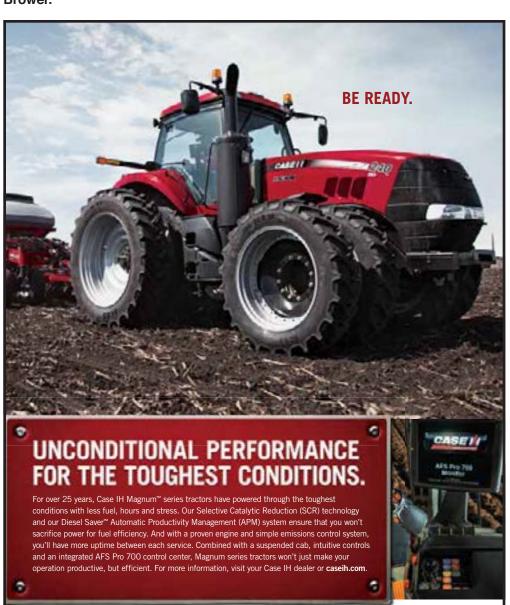
It would be nearly a half a million-dollar fix. District I had half of its water shut down, District II was completely dry, and Savage and Intake were unaffected, however 2/3 of the LYIP were dry due to district

District II advised the LYIP not to spend the \$485,000 to fix the canal immediately because they didn't feel their crops could be saved, and didn't want to see more money spent than was necessary. Then the other three districts stepped in, willing to pay an equal share to get the repairs going. They weren't prepared to see their neighboring communities take the loss of crops and finances without a fight.

Businesses stepped up, too. LYIP turned to Don Franz. owner of Franz Construction, who had experience repairing the LYIP Main Canal. He gave them a guaranteed bid of \$485,000, regardless of how long the repair would take and of additional cost that could result if problems presented themselves during the repair. Franz also provided extra Continued on page 11.



The excavation process would move a total of a quarter million yards of dirt for the new section of the canal. Photo provided courtesy of Project Manager James Brower.





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Sidney's Top Stories of 2016

The Foundation for Community Care is Committed to the Quality & Continuance of Local Healthcare

By Meagan Dotson

The Foundation for Community Care was established as a non-profit healthcare fundraising organization in 1983, and has been committed to ensuring the continuance and quality of local healthcare services ever since. They work closely, but not exclusively with Sidney Health Center, and have assisted organizations such as the Richland County Health Department and Cancer Coalition.

They are committed to investing in what's important to their donors, and patient care. Responding to the desires of their

anyone

supporters, in 2016 the Foundation assisted in the installation of Medical Air in the Sidney Health Center's OB Department. Likewise, they granted \$30,000 to the Fire Department for Personal Protective Equipment.

Other 2016 contributions include granting more than \$262,000 to healthcare in Richland County, and providing \$21,250 in aid to 43 families through the Medical Emergency Travel Fund.

In addition to the generous contributions made by supporters, the Foundation holds fundraising events throughout the year such as their annual Golf Scramble, which raised \$26,000 this year, the Wine & Food Festival, and nationally recognized #GivingTuesday. In March, the Foundation recognized the nationwide Dr.'s Day campaign, in which they partner with the community to let medical providers know how appreciated they truly are through thank you cards and contributions made in honor of those providers. They also have their Memorial Day Campaign in May, and

of forget-me-nots. To cultivate a philanthropic spirit from a young age, 2016 marked the first year of the Foundation's Lemonade Stand, operated by kids willing to donate their time and energy. All the funds raised through these events and campaigns contribute to the Foundation's Endowment Fund.

who makes a gift in memory of a loved one receives a package

Other fundraisers include their Light the Park event, which replaced the Ribbon Walk, and raises money for the Cancer Center. Proceeds from the annual Best Kept Secret Bra Auction benefit the Cancer Coalition. The Josh King Memorial Scavenger Hunt generated funding to benefit the Josh King Memorial Scholarship for those seeking paramedic certification. This year, the Foundation brought back the lighting of their Christmas tree to kick off the Light a Life Campaign, which raises money for the Medical Emergency Travel Fund.

Additionally, the Foundation for Community Care awards healthcare scholarships each spring for local students who are going on to pursue careers in healthcare; they have given over \$56,000 in healthcare scholarships in the last ten years. Since 1984, the foundation has given \$2,932,905.61 in annual grants, a testament to their investment in the community and their commitment to their mission statement.

For more information about the Foundation for Community Care, ways to partner with them, and available resources they offer, visit them at www.foundationforcommunitycare.org, call 406-488-2273, or stop into the office located at 221 2nd St NW in Sidney.



Events such as Light the Park, which raised money for the Cancer Center, encourage community support of local health care.

Landmark Pizza House Re-opens Under New Ownership



By Meagan Dotson
The Sidney communication

The Sidney community was excited when it was announced that Pizza House would be reopened under new ownership. It was made official in July, and work began for owners and Sidney native Jennifer Moore and her mother Terri Moore; new flooring,

fresh paint, new bathroom fixtures, a new dishwashing station, and upgraded kitchen are just a few of the improvements that were made. In addition to the tried-and-true recipes that residents had been missing, a few new tasty items have been added to the menu, and wine and beer is now available.

as well. They currently offer a specialized menu, and will have a full menu in the new year. Pizza House is located at 710 S Central Ave in Sidney are open from 11 am – 9:30pm. They offer carry-out, delivery, and limited eat-in. Call them at 406-433-1971 or visit them on Facebook.





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Stockman Bank Confirms Dedication to the MonDak

By Dianne Swanson

Stockman Bank has reconfirmed its strong commitment to the MonDak area with the completion of a stately, three story brick and glass building on Holly Street in Sidney.

Bank president Garth Kallevig explained the bank had outgrown its downtown location and expansion there was not feasible. Adding a second story was not an option and taking out parking spaces by building to the alley would not have been good for customers.

Sidney Eye Care Renovated & Expanded in 2016

By Meagan Dotson

Sidney Eye Care had their Grand Re-Opening on Thursday, Sept.22nd. The event included a Trunk Show by three frame representatives, and served as a great opportunity for patients and community members to stop in and see all the new renovations.

The building next to the original practice was purchased three years ago, in preparation for a needed expansion. A year later, O'Brien began working with architects to develop a design that would allow them to build from the original office's exam lanes forward, and turn the two storefronts that made up the new building, into a larger open space.

In June of 2015 B&B Builders and their subcontractors began the construction process.

The buildings were given a sophisticated new look, both inside and out. The expansion tripled the size of the original office, which is currently being rented. There are two additional exam rooms, five in total, that help with patient flow and volume. There are many more frames to choose from, neatly displayed and adding to the 'gallery-feel' of the high ceilings. Patients now have a much larger waiting area and new disease detection technology has been incorporated.

Sidney Eye Care has two full-time optometrists, one parttime optometrist, and one doctor who travels from Watford City, ND to fill in as needed. They offer full comprehensive eye exams for vision and eye-related diseases, safety eye ware, contacts, and designer eye ware. The new address is 124 S Central Ave, Sidney, MT, 59270, but their number is the same. Call them today to schedule your appointment at 406-482-2609.

The search for a new site began in 2012. When the property on Holly came up for sale, Stockman decided it would be an excellent choice for the new facility. "We knew it would be a good location," Kallevig said. "This is the direction Sidney is moving with the Shops at Fox Run, Holiday Inn and the Post Office all in this area. "The new location offers great access both from Holly and 3rd St. NE., plus it has more than ample parking for staff, customers and the occasional semi or livestock trailer. The state-of-the-art drive

through offers four wider lanes to accommodate today's larger vehicles and a fifth ATM lane.

The spacious, comfortable lobby welcomes the customer into the world of professional, courteous, full-service banking. Lobby traffic has increased according to Kallevig, and two full time positions have been added.

A training and education center for both staff and the community has been well used. During banking hours, the 2nd floor boardroom is available to non-profit and community service organizations at no charge.

The third floor, which has a private elevator and staircase, is currently available for rent to a suitable tenant. In the meantime, it is available for events such as the Foundation's Wine and Food Festival. "The third floor was made part of the original plan since it costs less money to build for the future on the front end than come back and add on later," Kallevig explained. "The future of Sidney and the entire MonDak area are bright, and Stockman wants to make sure we can continue to grow with the community," Kallevig added.

Along with the new building came expanded lobby hours of 9am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday. The Downtown Auto



The new Stockman Bank ribbon cutting.

Bank on 2nd Street is also open Saturdays from 8am to noon. ATMs are accessible at both the new main location and the Downtown Auto Bank. "We want to maintain the Auto Bank location Downtown," Kallevig stated "We understand how much customers enjoy both the drive through and the walk-in convenience of that location."

"I have not had a single negative call or comment about the new building, "Kallevig said proudly. "Both customers and non-customers have commented positively about the commitment Stockman Bank has made to the community with this new facility and increased staff." Stockman Bank started as Richland National Bank in 1925 at 101 S. Central Ave., Sidney. When the brick building there was opened in 1969, Jay Lalonde wrote 'The officers and directors of the Richland National Bank are happy to be a part of this bustling, vigorous community. With our new facility we hope to better serve the ever increasing services required by the folks in this area.' "That's the same philosophy we have now, "Kallevig commented.

Long time bank owner Bill Nefsy purchased the Richland National Bank in 1980. The continuing customer oriented dedication has only been further confirmed by this tasteful addition to Sidney.









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Sidney's Top Stories of 2016

The Wings of Freedom Airshow Was a Highlight of 2016



The Canadian Snowbirds flew in tight formation, wowing the airshow crowd with their precision and technique.

By Meagan Dotson

September 23rd the skies came alive as pilots flew into town for the 2016 Wings of Freedom Airshow. The Canadian Snowbirds, who are part of the Royal Canadian Forces, headlined this amazing show September 25th, with performances being cancelled the 24th due to inclement weather.

The 2016 Wings of Freedom Airshow was dedicated to Phil Petrik, a man with an extensive aviation career, and founder of Richland Aviation, a

unique family business that is still thriving today.

It was the fourth airshow the city has hosted, put into action after Bryan Prevost was contacted by the Canadian Snowbirds who were interested in coming back to perform in Sidney. They performed only eight of their 39 scheduled shows in the United States this year. Flying CF-18s, they are the only nine plane iet demonstration team in North America, and have fans come from all over the

world to see their demonstrations. The Canadian Snowbirds were part of the Wings of Freedom Airshow in 2009 and came to visit for an impromptu demonstration in 2013.

The airshow was held at the Richland County Airport; other airmen who demonstrated their talents were Brent Handy, Matt Younkin, Bill Stein, Jim Peitz, Gene Soucy, and Warren Pietsch. Pietsch and Danny Clisham, announcer for the event, are both honorary Snowbirds.

FooYee Brings Chinese Cuisine Back to Sidney

By Cheyenne Wiley

After New China left town two years ago, Sidney residents no longer had a place to enjoy authentic Chinese food - until FooYee Chinese Restaurant opened in January.

FooYee offers an extensive menu featuring MSG-free beef, chicken, pork, vegetable, seafood, lo mein, egg fu yong, and rice dishes. The restaurant also provides carryout and catering, and possibly delivery once a delivery driver is available for hire. Two Chinese cooks moved from California to run the kitchen.

A lunch buffet is provided daily (except Sundays) from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Prices for patrons 11 and older are \$9.25; children 5-10 are \$6.95 and 2-4 are \$4.95. The lunch buffet offers consistent items that patrons enjoy, such as orange chicken and fried rice.

Owner Samantha Li and her husband, Michael, moved from Hong Kong to Glendive



10 years ago to start a business. When the owner of New China left Sidney for Las Vegas, the Li's jumped at the chance to bring Chinese food back to town.

Michael Li lives in Sidney and operates the business while his wife, the official owner, still resides in Glendive with their young son. She owns and operates Li's Chinese Restaurant in Glendive.

"It is hard to be away from

my little boy," Michael said, "but I hope I can keep serving Chinese food in Sidney.'

Foo yee is a preserved bean curd sauce traditionally found on Chinese vegetable dishes, but Michael said it also means "happy."

FooYee is open Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. To place a carryout order, call 433-7900 or dine in at 120 South Central Ave.

ENGINEERING



ONEOK's New Facility Opened in April 2016

ONEOK, a leader in gathering, processing, storing, and transporting natural gas in the United States, was founded in 1906 under the name Oklahoma Natural Gas Company. The company changed its name to ONEOK in 1980, and became a presence in the Williston Basin in 2004 as Bear Paw Energy. After the company became the majority interest owner of Northern Border Partners in 2006, Bear Paw Energy was renamed **ONEOK Partners**

"Our presence has continued in the Williston basin as our assets are uniquely positioned to capture flared natural gas inventory, as well as volumes from the substantial backlog of well connects and uncompleted wells from producers," explained Craig Forsander, Vice President of ONEOK Rockies Midstream.

Sidney is home to the company's regional Williston Basin headquarters. In late 2014, the company broke ground at their current location, 896 25th St. SE, building a new facility that houses up to 85 office employees, has a large pipe yard and warehouse for plenty of storage and room for expansion. The facility, completed in March of 2016, is also equipped with hightech audiovisual training space and teleconferencing equipment. It officially opened in April 2016, across the road from their previous location where they had rented a building with additional trailers for needed space.

As ONEOK has become a fixture of the community, they have established themselves as a company that gives back. Community involvement is a mainstay for this Fortune 500 company, and in the last year they have donated or sponsored NFPA Compliant Turn-Out gear for the Arnegard Fire Department, contributed to the Richland County Boys and Girls Club Capital Campaign Fund, made donations to the Close Up Foundation in Sidney, Williston, Watford City and Killdeer, have contributed to the Dunn County Fair Association's Killdeer Hail Storm Relief Fund and the Southeastern Montana Area Revitalization Team's (S.M.A.R.T.) Baker Tornado Relief Fund, just to name a few, for a total of \$324,194 in contributions in the Williston Basin this year.

Additionally, ONEOK employees have volunteered for events across the area throughout the year. In Sidney, Mont., they have given their time to the Sunrise Festival of the Arts, the Richland County Fair, South Meadow Complex Demo Day, Day for Kids Carnival, Richland County Boys and Girls Club Haunted House, Trail of Treats, Eastern C Divisional Volleyball Tournament and Wine and Food Festival. In Williston, N.D., ONEOK employees volunteered their time during Clean Up Williston and Bras for a Cause. Other volunteerism includes Pick Up the Patch, the McKenzie County Fair and Trail of Treats in Watford City, N.D., and Trick or Trunk in Dickinson, N.D.

"ONEOK's core value of service recognizes that good corporate citizenship is an essential and important responsibility. Our commitment to give back to the communities where we operate and our employees work and live includes financial contributions, as well as the time and talents of our employees," stated Forsander.

As the economic climate has changed in the Williston Basin, ONEOK continues to provide stability for its employees and thrive as a company. They staff conservatively, based on how



By Meagan Dotson

Erin Biebl Fink, DDS, started at Fink Dental Center on Aug. 6th, after moving back to Sidney with her husband and son. Fink, who graduated from Sidney High School in 2002, went on to receive her degree from the University of Minnesota. She was commissioned by the Air Force and spent a year at Travis Air Force Base in California, completing her advanced residency. She and her husband Cole Fink, then spent the



Erin Fink

next four years in Germany at Spangdahlem Air Force Base where she provided dental services to active duty airmen and their families. As the end of her active duty approached, the Finks decided to return to their hometown where Cole Fink's uncle, Dr. Richard Fink, DMD has a family dentistry practice.

Fink Dental Center offers services including exams, fillings, same-day crowns, extractions, tooth whitening, and they have an orthodontist available on Fridays. One new service offered at the practice is conscious sedation, which helps those that are anxious about dental work to have a positive and comfortable experience.

Fink Dental Center is located at 122 2nd St. SE in Sidney and their hours are currently Monday - Thursday from 8:00am -5:00pm. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call 406-433-4422.

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Middle School Math Teacher Receives ONEOK Grant to Purchase iPads. Pictured from left to right are 7th grade math teacher Kaitlin Bell, Operations Specialist with ONEOK Heather VanGelder, 6th grade math teacher and grant recipient Cara Lokken-Frandsen, Nick Frandsen, Curriculum Coordinator/ Title 1 Director/Assessment Coordinator Thom Barnhart, and **Suttyn Barnhart**

to best meet the needs of their customers and the company's core values, culture and stability makes it a company employees

"We remain focused on attracting, developing and retaining high-caliber employees who fit our culture and align with our ever-changing business needs; we are committed to a diverse workforce and inclusive workplace, which are integral to our business strategy, and critical to our continued success," Forsander commented. "We expect to resume our suspended capital-growth projects as soon as market conditions improve. With the planning and development we've already completed, we're in a position to quickly resume these projects when the environment improves and our customers require these services."

Kolstad Eye Clinics Opens a Sidney Office in the West **Side Professional** Center

By Meagan Dotson

Dr. Jon Kolstad officially opened Kolstad Eye Clinics' Sidney office on Monday, Oct. 17 in what used to be Dr. Roger Anderson's eye clinic. The clinic is equipped with digital refraction screens, digital retinal photos, digital laser retinal scanning, and digital OTCs. Glaucoma, cataract, and macular degeneration services are available, as well as standard vision screenings, and most insurance is accepted including Medicare, Medicaid, BCBS Healthy Montana Kids, and VA insurance. Kolstad Eye Clinics offers competitive pricing on their contacts and glasses, with an excellent selection of frames and flexible pricing.

Dr. Kolstad was born and raised in Northeastern Montana, and has been serving the area since 1995. He has clinics in Wolf Point, Glasgow, Scobey, and now Sidney.

Appointments are available within a week and walk-ins are welcome. Kolstad Eye Clinics' Sidney location is open Monday -Wednesday from 9:00am - 5:00pm, and will extend their hours and increase days as needed to provide quick and excellent service to their patients. To schedule an appointment, call 406-433-2705, or stop in at the West Side Professional Center at 1405 4th St SW Suite 2 in Sidney.

"I love what I do and I am excited to be in the community," he concluded.

Happy **New Year!**

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We will be closed December 30th & 31st See You January 2nd!

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The Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project would like to express its deepest appreciation to everyone for their support this year & in the past.

SPECIAL THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR HEROIC EFFORTS TO REPAIR THE BREACH IN THE CANAL!

- Franz Construction for their extraordinary efforts in overcoming any obstacles to get the canal repaired on schedule.
- Nortana Grain for bidding the fuel for Franz Construction without delivery costs & for leaving a tanker on-site to avoid delays.
- Interstate Engineering for responding immediately to suport this community, working through the night, whenever called & only billing labor costs that were necessary.

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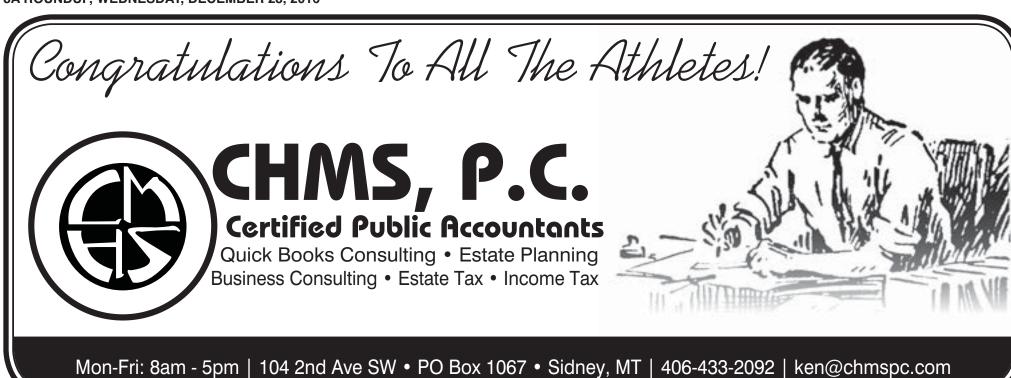
Eagle Country Ford Staff, seated, from left, John Nelson, Gary Schoepp and Shawna McGreevey. Back Joe Hutton, Kelly Lambert, DJ Canarios, Trina Buxbaum, Orlon Bostrom, Bradley Delfino, Daniel Smith, Marissa Schoepp, Keith Bissett, John Cremer, Peggy Franzen, Jackson White and Keith Bostrom.

As another Christmas season moves in, we'd like to thank you for your trust in us. Customers like you give us plenty of reason to celebrate, and we wish you all the best in the New Year!





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Sidney Sports Champions in 2016



Pole Vault State Champs

Sidney's Aubrey Kessel took first place for the pole vault at the Class A state track meet. Garrison Hughes, a sophomore, took first in the boys pole vault by clearing 15-0. (Submitted by Kathy Johnson)



The Sidney U15 soccer team won state. Pictured back L to R: Head Coach Frederik Adjetey, Spencer Sloan, Goalie James Allen, Kaleb Jimison, Jonathan Gonzalez, Garrett Still, Michael Scott & Asst Coach Justin Jones. Mid: Nicolas Trevino, Julian Imhof, Montana Zevenbergen, Tianna Earle, Sean Earle, & Logan Jones. Front: Kolby Hutzenbiler, Jessica

Romo, Liliana Johnson, Lorraine Coronato, & Riley Jimison. Not pictured: Caleb Slade & Morgan Slade. (Photo submitted by Heather Johnson)



The Sidney U19 soccer team won state. Pictured back L to R: Head Coach Ray Johnson, Kelvin Hill, Reagan Finsaas, Ian Aldrich, Goalie Jared Gustafson, Cody Johnson, Tanner Wacha, Carson Allen, Casey Christian and Michael Gangstad. Front: Asst Coach Jason Imhof, Troy Monsen, Jace Johnson, Skylar Imhof, Waylon VanBuren, Luke Beenken, Cristian Seitz, Bryana Christensen and Larren Foust. (Photo submitted by Heather Johnson)



Sidney's PeeWee **Hockey Team won** the 2016 state title. The peewee team consisted of: Goalie: Austen Taylor. Forwards: Shandyn Gurney, Trevin Trudell, Casey Rehbein, Shay Erickson, Graylin Martin, Landon Schumacker, Parker Mindt, Tate Hazen and Jaxson Franklin. **Defensemen: Wes** Van Hook, Logan **Boyer, Grady Larson** and Braden Kindopp. Coaches: Dawn Rehbein and Justin Boyer.



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Christian Dean points to the Sidney crowd after being crowned the Class A 103 pound champion at the Montana All-Class State Wrestling Tournament in Billings. (Photo by Erin Graves)

PGA Professional and former Sidney Eagles head golf coach, Ryan Troxel, has been named Coach of the Year by members of the Montana Coaches Association. Under Troxel's guidance, the girls' golf team took home the Class A state championship this fall. (L-R) Head Coach Ryan Troxel, Emma Torgerson, Tierney Messmer, Shealyn Bowlds, Torey Dahl, Kaelyn Volk and Assistant Coach Ben Berg.

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Sidney's Top Stories of 2016

Sidney Health Center Continues to Find Success Recruiting Medical Providers

Recruitment efforts by Sidney Health Center paid off in 2016.

Within the past twelve months, Sidney Health Center secured contracts with two female OB/GYNs, an aesthetic medicine physician and two physician assistants to help address the needs of the community.

Dr. Lisa Ross and Dr. Malua Tambi, who are both American Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology, joined the medical staff in June and August 2016 respectively providing a wide range of obstetrical and gynecology services. Their scope of

practice includes routine and high risk obstetrics, office and surgical gynecology, menopause management, infertility as well as minimally invasive and advanced laparoscopic surgery.

With the successful recruit of these OB/GYNs, Dr. Shari Twigg transitioned her practice to focus on aesthetic medicine. In fall 2016, Dr. Twigg became certified in Aesthetic Medicine from the American Academy of Aesthetic Medicine and is excited to get her new practice up and going in Fairview at the MonDak Clinic. Aesthetic Medicine includes all medical procedures that are aimed at improving the physical appearance and satisfaction of the patient, using non-invasive to minimally invasive cosmetic procedures.

Over the summer, Dr. Rajohn Karanjai, an internal medicine physician, had two physician assistants join his practice to help meet the demand for primary care. Bert

Lepel, PA-C joined the staff in mid-July 2016 and Jessica Jeffries, PA-C relocated to the area from Georgia in September 2016. Lepel and Jeffries work under the supervision of Dr. Karanjai, seeing adults 18 and older. Services offered include wellness checkups, diagnosis and treatment of illnesses and injuries as well as monitoring and treatment of chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes and asthma.

With the retirement of Dr. Edward Pierce in August 2016, the hospital continues to recruit a primary care physician to fill his shoes. Despite the fact that patients are missing Dr. Pierce,

the future looks promising as Sidney Health Center is successfully negotiating contracts with physicians who are interested in living and working in the MonDak region.

In fact, Dr. Seth Larson, who is currently in the family medicine residency program in West Virginia, has already signed a contract with his intent to practice in Sidney upon completion of his residency program in 2019. Dr. Larson is a Montana native and looking forward to practicing in Eastern Montana.

To address immediate health concerns, Sidney Health Center continues to offer a walk-in clinic at the Medical Arts Building Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM and Saturdays from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. No advance appointments are taken for the walk-in clinic and patients are seen on a first come, first serve basis.

The medical staff at Sidney Health Center is currently comprised of sixteen local physicians, who offer a wide-range of services including emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, ENT, podiatric medicine, radiation oncology, aesthetic medicine, pathology, and radiology. In addition, four family nurse practitioners, three physician assistants, three nurse anesthetists and an audiologist compliment the medical staff and round out the team.



Dr. Lisa Ross









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Big Sky Smile Center Opens



Big Sky Smile Center welcomed its first dental patients on February 9, 2016. With three dentists; Dr. Barrie Matthews, Dr. Caitlin Jacquot and Dr. Alyssa Mann, plus a highly qualified one-of-a-kind dental team, Big Sky Smile Center is fully equipped to handle all of your dental needs. They strive to make every patient

feel like family through friendly and compassionate service!

A full range of dental services is offered plus, implant placement and restoration, dentures, invisible braces, same-day crowns, Botox smile enhancements, and all extractions - including wisdom teeth. IV sedation will soon be offered at their Sidney

office for those that are more anxious about their dental procedures.

Big Sky Smile Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30am to 4 pm and Friday from 8:30am to 2 pm. Contact them at 406-488-3536 or stop by 821 S. Central Ave.,

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Sidney's Top Stories of 2016

New Fair Building Ready to House Exhibits, Host Events

EXHIBIT BUILDING

By Cheyenne Wiley

Richland County Fairgrounds' new 4-H and school exhibit building is one of Sidney's newest commodities. The multipurpose building was completed right before for this year's fair and is currently being used for storage until warmer temperatures allow for hosting events. Two wedding receptions

are already scheduled to take place in the building. Fair manager Jamie Larson said the building exceeded

her expectations. "B & B Builders did the construction on the project, and they actually did a phenomenal job," she said. "I knew it would be nice, but once it was finished and I walked in there, it was just amazing.'

The building is smaller than the fairgrounds' event center at 6,000 square feet, ideal for smaller gatherings. Citing a rustic ambience, Larson said that the building would be perfect for hosting weddings or other events, perhaps May through September because the building is neither heated nor cooled.

"There are big ceiling fans in there," Larson said. "If we keep it all closed up in the summer, it's insulated, so it does stay fairly cool."

To schedule an event, call Jamie at the fair office at 433-2801.

"It will be kind of like the event center where once people see it and start using it, it will become the talked about thing," she said. During the fair, Aug. 2-5,

the building will be used half for school exhibits and half for 4-H indoors exhibits. Portable partitions will separate the

"This will be our first summer actually using it," Larson

Sidney Millwork designed the exhibit display panels, which Larson said are brilliant.

"They're made of cork in order to pin exhibits," she said. "The lighting – track lighting - is designed specifically for the displays, which point right down at the exhibits hanging on the wall and sitting on the shelves."

Outside of the building on either side will house chickens and rabbit cages for more 4-H exhibits.

All companies involved in the construction of the 4-H and school exhibit building include JGA Architects, B & B Builders, Badlands Concrete Construction, CM Built Doors, Franz Construction, Frontier Heating, Lander Painting, Prairie Electric, Sidney Millwork, Thiel Brothers Roofing, and Associated Construction Engineering, Inc. The building cost about \$1 million.

Lundemo Firearms & Sports Moves Into Larger Space

Lundemo Firearms & Sports moved into its new spacious quarters in the M3 building in September. Although they didn't add merchandise, it is now all on display and easy to find. With over 250 guns, loading equipment and supplies and ammo for virtually everything, they have everything for hunters and gun enthusiasts, male or female.

Lundemo Firearms & Sports also carries Ice Castle fish houses. One is in stock but custom orders are welcome with delivery in approximately three weeks.

Anyone interested is encouraged to join the new Richland County Sportsmen's Club whose annual meeting will take place in January. The group is looking for a section

of suitable land on which to put a gun range. Stop by for more information and to sign up, or check them out on Facebook.

Located at 703 E. Main St., Sidney, Lundemo Firearms and Sports is open 9am to 5pm Monday through Saturday. Stop by or give them a call at 406-433-1044.

The Opening of Simply Scrumptious Bakery was a Sweet Addition to Sidney's Businesses

takes orders for weddings

By Meagan Dotson

In February of 2016 Michaela Lofthus made her dream a reality when she opened Simply Scrumptious Bakery.

Simply Scrumptious Bakery has a full expresso bar with drive-through. And of course, Simply Scrumptious Bakery has delicious and freshly made baked goods.

Loftus welcomes special orders, as well. The bakery

and parties including holiday parties, bridal, and baby showers. One of the many unique items offered are edible centerpieces, and they do seasonal baking for holidays; with Valentine's Day right around the corner, be sure to inquire about ordering cupcake bouquets, and Lofthus always welcomes customers to bring in their own ideas with at least three days' notice for orders.

Additionally, Simply Scrumptious can be reserved after 2pm. The inviting space can accommodate 30 - 40 people.

For more information about Simply Scrumptious Bakery, visit them at www. facebook.com/simplysb, call the bakery at 406-480-0541, or stop in at 141 7th St SW in Sidney, Monday – Friday from 6am - 2pm, and Saturdays from 7am - 1pm.



Richland County Fair & Rodeo
August 2nd -5th

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Sidney Dental Provides "Just About Everything"

By Cheyenne Wiley

Dr. Jesse Cole compares his reason for opening Sidney Dental to a root beer float. The way it is difficult to get the perfect balance of ice cream and root beer, it was hard for him to maintain balance at his practice in Scobey. Having been the only dentist in Scobey, Dr. Cole was unable to keep up with the demand of his business.

"It's difficult finding balance between having enough to do and keeping up with all you have to do," he said.

That prompted him to return to the San Francisco dental school from which he graduated to recruit Dr. Franco Ferrara. Dr. Ferrara had just graduated in May 2015. The pair caught up with Scobey Dental's busy schedule – nearly six months booked - and then decided to take over Dr. Kurt Christensen's practice in Sidney.

Dr. Cole and Dr. Ferrara have owned Sidney Dental, splitting their time between their Sidney and Scobey offices. Dr. Cole, who resides in Scobey, typically works in Sidney Mondays and Fridays, and Dr. Ferrara is in Sidney "75 percent of

Originally from Las Vegas, Dr. Ferrara now lives in

"Being from a big city, my favorite part is that people are so much friendlier here," he said. He added that he finds fulfillment in trying to improve people's lives day-to-day.

Dr. Cole, who grew up in Kansas and Alaska and practiced dentistry in Idaho, said he fell in love with the area when he moved to Scobey in 2010 to open Scobey Dental. He graduated from dental school 10 years ago from University of the Pacific, where both dentists studied.

"I don't mind the commute Since November 2015, [to Sidney]," he said. "I have a

pretty busy life and it gives me time to chill on the drive."

Sidney Dental offers "just about everything - you name it," both dentists said, including dental implants, 3-D x-rays, dentures, and Invisalign clear braces.

"Before, people would have to travel pretty far to get dental implants, like Billings or maybe Williston," Dr. Ferrara said. "That's something we brought into the practice."

Sidney Dental includes hygienist Deb Solberg, dental assistants Nancy Beiswanger and Kari Sinks, and office manager Cyndee Parker.

"I am grateful for people helping us build our business," Dr. Cole said.

To make an appointment, call 482-2666. Walk-ins and emergency visits are welcome. Sidney Dental is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located at 1405 4th Street SW in suite 4.

Bob's Hen House Held Their Grand-Opening Sept. 17th

By Meagan Dotson

Formerly Kentucky Fried Chicken, Bob's Hen House has a new recipe, a new look, and a new owner. Bob Blair opened the business on Aug. 18th after about six weeks of cleaning, painting, and putting up the new signs, which Blair designed himself.

Blair moved to Sidney in 2008 and found employment at Sidney Sugars. Unfortunately, Blair suffered severe internal injuries when a 600 lb. piece of metal fell on him while he was working at the Knife Station, which resulted in a yearlong recovery.

Needing a fresh start after the accident, Blair decided to invest his settlement money into the business. He had known the previous owner, and recognized the need for restaurants in the area.

The business has been well-received, open 11:00am – 9:00pm seven days a week. The menu consists of home cooked goodies such as pork ribs, biscuits, corn bread, mashed potatoes and gravy, macaroni and cheese,



Bob Blair, owner of Bob's Hen House.

peach cobbler, and of course, fried chicken.

Bob's Hen House is located at 202 East Main Street in Sidney, and can be contacted at 406-433-6310. So stop in and you might just be lucky enough to be greeted by the man himself with a, "Hi I'm Bob. Welcome to the Hen House."

Saddle Up **Moves**

Sidney Western wear store moved into the old **Trading Post location at** 111 East Main to better serve their customers. They are open Monday through Saturday 10 am to 7 pm.



A Community Comes Together to Accomplish an Amazing Feat in Record Time

Continued from page 3. equipment each day to manage obstacles that could've caused delay.

Nortana Grain Co. bid fuel delivery charges in order to save irrigators as much money as they could. They came in substantially lower than any other bid, and left fuel tankers on-site so that construction wouldn't be held up waiting for deliveries.

The main canal had experienced three prior breaches in the same area, about every 25 -30 years. The consensus was to re-route that section of the canal, with the cooperation of a near-by landowner.

On Wednesday, Aug. 24th, the first day of construction, tragedy occurred. Franz employee Terry Klein was shot while operating his excavator. The construction site was now a crime scene and everything had to come to a halt while law enforcement gathered evidence.

Knowing that time was of the essence, LYIP employees moved scrap metal and debris by hand; they even disassembled a pole barn with little more than manpower to ready the sight for the new section of

canal. LYIP employees worked long consecutive days to ensure quick completion.

When construction resumed, Franz Construction employees worked in two shifts, 24 hours a day to finish

"Terry Klein died trying to restore water service back to the farmers in time to save their crops, and I wanted to honor Terry's ultimate sacrifice by doing exactly that," said Franz of his operator.

A quarter million yards of dirt had to be moved for the new section of canal, but the soil was a perfect mix of silt and clay. Ten days after the breach was reported, the irrigation canal was functional

"I've worked irrigation for 25 years, in four districts, in three states, and I have never seen a community come together like this. I've never seen so many large private businesses give up their profit margin and sacrifice in order to save crops," said Brower. "The people who should've been screaming to spend the money to get it fixed didn't want us to spend the extra money in case it wasn't done in time to save their crops. The people

who had water were the ones that insisted we do everything we could "

The Haverkamps land and home ended up with the most flooding, and LYIP relocated them to a hotel. Even they were concerned with the greater good, and insisted that LYIP get the canal up and running before any insurance claims were filed.

The day of completion, LYIP employees had their first opportunity in more than a week to go home early, but stayed in order to blade a driveway for the Haverkamps. They would later build them a new, gravel driveway.

"I'm proud to be a part of this community and I'm proud of what this community can accomplish in just a few days of working together. I'm especially proud of my employees; not one of them made a single complaint throughout the entire process. Even when they were working long hours day after day and into the night," added Brower.

LYIP would like to thank all of the businesses, landowners, board members, and individuals who worked together with them to make this repair in record time.

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PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO PROTEST ONE NEW MONTANA RETAIL ON-PREMISES

Black Horse Hotel & Casino LLC. (Members: Lynne P Finnicum, Christy N Melancon) has applied for One Original New Montana Retail On-Premises Consumption Beer and Wine with Catering Endorsement License No. 17-212-6839-302 to be operated at 5864 Highway 405 North, Bainville, Roosevelt County. The public may protest this license transfer in accordance with the law.

CONSUMPTION BEER AND WINE WITH

CATERING ENDORSEMENT LICENSE

Who can protest this license?

Protests will be accepted from residents of the county of the proposed location (Roosevelt), residents of adjoining Montana counties (Daniels, Valley, McCone, Richland, Sheridan), and residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in 16-4-207(4)(d), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), are met.

What information must be included?

Protest letters must be legible and contain (1) the protestor's full name, mailing address, and street address; (2) the license number (17-212-6839-302) and the applicant's name (Black Horse Hotel & Casino LLC.) (3) an ndication that the letter is intended as a protest (4) a description of the grounds for protesting; and (5) the protestor's signature. A letter with multiple signatures will be considered one protest letter.

What are valid protest grounds?

The protest may be based on the applicant's qualifications listed in 16-4-401, MCA, or the grounds for denial of an application in 16-4-405, MCA. Examples of valid protest grounds include: (1) the applicant is unlikely to operate the establishment in compliance with the law; (2) the proposed location cannot be properly policed by local authorities; and (3) the welfare of the people in the vicinity of the proposed location will be adversely and seriously affected.

How are protests submitted?

Protests must be postmarked to the Departmen of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604-5805 on or before January 23, 2017.

What happens if the transfer is protested? Depending on the number of protests and the irotest grounds, a public nearing will be neid in Helena or Bainville. All valid protestors will be notified of the hearing's time, date and

vithin 90 days. A protester's hearing testimony is limited to the grounds in the protester's letter. Following the hearing, the Department of Revenue will notify the public whether the license transfer is approved or denied.

How can additional information be obtained? The cited MCA statutes are online at leg.

mt.gov/bills/mca toc/. Questions may be directed to Mike Sell, Compliance Specialist for the Department of Revenue's Liquor Control Division, at (406) 444-3505 or MSell@mt.gov

Publish Dec. 21, 28, 2016, Jan. 4 & 11, 2017

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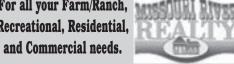
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Warrior Food Fight Benefits Food Bank



Members of the Yellowstone Valley Trailblazers 4-H Club, Savage Student Council and Fairview basketball team are pictured with a small portion of the food that was donated during the Warrior Food Fight food drive which was held to benefit the Richland County Food Bank.

Submitted by the Yellowstone Valley Trailblazers 4-H Club

The Yellowstone Valley Trailblazers 4-H Club teamed up with the Savage School Student Council to hold a food drive for the Richland County Food Bank. The Yellowstone Valley Trailblazers had originally planned to host a Parade of Lights and a free will soup feed with proceeds to benefit the food bank, but winter weather prevented the event from taking place.

Still wanting to help with the shortage at the food bank, the 4-H club contacted Savage school to see if they would be willing to partner with the food drive and help collect non-perishable items at the two remaining home basketball games before the Christmas break. The school jumped at the opportunity and offered a discount at the concessions stand for fans who brought food items to the game against the MonDak Thunder.

For the next basketball game against Fairview, fans were challenged to a Warrior Food Fight in a twist of the shared team mascot. Savage Student Council and the Yellowstone Valley Trailblazers offered a \$100 gift certificate for a root beer float party to the winning school. Fans from both sides brought sacks full of donated items. Although Savage won the food fight contest and the root beer float party, the real winners are those who will benefit from the generosity of both communities.

In all, 487 pounds were delivered to the Richland County food bank. Thank you to the MonDak Thunder, Fairview Warrior and Savage Warrior fans as well as the Savage Student Council in helping the Yellowstone Valley Trailblazer give back to the community.

> Fairview Elementary School presented a delightful Christmas program Monday, December 19.

From kindergarten through 5th grade, the children all wished everyone a Hawaiian Merry Christmas, singing "Mele Kalikimaka".



Personal Injuries & Pain Conditions







Thrivent Financial Donates to Food Bank

Members of the Richland County Food Bank receive a check for \$2,724 donated by Thrivent Financial on Tuesday. Pictured from left to right are Thrivent Financial Associate Harvey Senn, Food Bank President Candy Markwald, Food Bank Vice President Gloria Yockim, Food Bank treasurer Randy Jones, and Thrivent Financial Associate Ronald Gebhardt. Thrivent Financial provided meat for a freewill offering meal on Dec. 14 at Pella Lutheran Church, serving more than 300 people. (Photo by Cheyenne Wiley)



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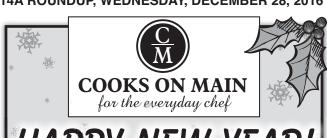
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Energy Roundup

Arthaud Awarded University of Mary's First Virtuous Leadership Award

By Kalsey Stults, Dickinson Press, ND December 13, 2016

Jim Arthaud started a three employee company in 1979 called MBI Energy Services. That company quickly became well known in the Bakken and quickly grew to become the largest independent oil field service provider in the Williston Basin. MBI is headquartered in Belfield but has locations across North Dakota, Colorado and Wyoming.

The leadership exemplified by Arthaud to grow a company to that magnitude and his involvement on state and local boards is part of the reason that he was awarded in Bismarck on

Arthaud was recognized by the University of Mary with its very first Virtuous Leadership Award at a special luncheon

"I can't think of a better, more respected businessman

and entrepreneur to receive this first Virtuous Leadership Award from the University of Mary," said John Warford, dean of the Gary Tharaldson School of Business at Mary in a press release. "Jim's passion for his workers, his state and his faith, exemplifies what the Gary Tharaldson School of Business is all about—that business can be a force for good."

Arthaud and his brother Jody Arthaud, senior vice president, fluid management operations, announced their retirement from MBI in August.

Arthaud's mentality through his time as CEO and founder was to always push forward.

"There are two ways to operate during a downturn," said Arthaud. "You can manage, or you can lead. We lead through the downturn.'

Since Arthaud's founding and leadership as CEO of the company, MBI has made several acquisitions to position

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Jim Arthaud, right, receives the University of Mary's first Virtuous Leadership Award from university president James P. Shea on Tuesday morning in Bismarck. (Submitted Photo)

itself as a broad-based oilfield service company, augmenting its hauling business with service rigs, wireline units, a fishing and rentals business, oil tools, wellsite supervisors, hot oil trucks and a crane business.

While Arthaud might technically be retired, he isn't taking things slowly.

He has now set his sites on a new business venture by starting McKenzie Energy Partners, LLC, based in Watford City. He

has teamed with leaders from his previous ventures to offer expertise in water management solutions in the Williston Basin, while adhering to their core values as stewards of the land and the environment they love. Arthaud formed the company to provide experienced engineering to design produced water gathering systems and disposal solutions with leak detection and control systems that follow industry best practices.



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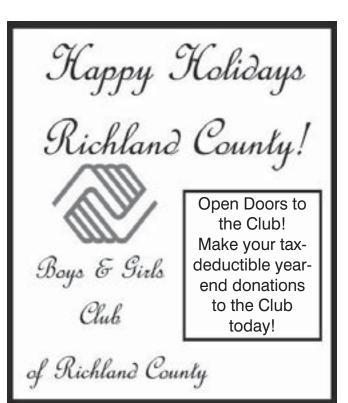
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Deadline for our January 4th issue is Thursday, December 29th at 10am. Classifieds are welcome until noon Friday, December 30th.



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County Agent Update

By Danielle Steinhoff

Body Condition Score

There are several approaches and tools to help determine if the beef cow's nutritional requirements and needs are being met. Some include testing feeds for nutritional content and visually evaluating cow appearance. A standardized scoring system has been developed to rate a cow's visual appearance from 1 to 9 based on body fat and fleshiness. Higher scores equate to higher condition and weight cows, reflecting current and past nutrition has supported weight gain and body maintenance. Low scores equate to thin cows which have likely utilized body energy reserves to meet requirements, and have likely been losing or have lost weight.

Cow weight and condition will fluctuate through the year associated with feeding level, pasture condition, and nutrient demands. Cow condition should be monitored as cows are observed. Cows noted to be losing weight or thin (BCS of 4 or less) in the fall need to start receiving supplemental feed and/or have calves weaned. Thin cows should be reconditioned prior to brutal cold winter and for optimum calf health and rebreeding to calve in smooth moderate flesh generally or BCS of 5 of for cows and 6 for heifers.

Here are some signs to help visually evaluate cows; moderate condition scoring cows (BCS 5) will be smooth in appearance and full in the quarter with only the last rib or two visible. As cows deposit fat and move to higher condition scores (BCS 6-7) they will become flat over the top line, have some fullness to the brisket, and patchiness over the pin bones. Conversely thin cows (BCS 3-4) will be sharp over the spine, with rib and hip bone structure easily visible. Very thin cows will also have lost muscling and become very flat or sunken in the rear quarter.

Generally, about 80 to 100 pounds of body weight is needed to move a cow up one numerical body score. Furthermore, under cold conditions, higher fleshed cows have reduced maintenance needs. NDSU Extension Service, breed associations, and feed dealers have developed publications or computer apps defining body condition scoring. This information was gathered from John Dhuvvetter, Area Livestock Specialist, North Central Research Extension Center.

Annie's Project

Just a reminder about the upcoming program North Dakota State University Extension Service Williams County will be hosting. Annie's Project is an opportunity to empower women in agriculture to be better business partners through networks and by managing and organizing critical information. This is a six week course that is a discussion based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in production, financial management, human resources, marketing and the legal field. The program starts January 12th and ends February 16th, meeting weekly on Thursdays. Participation is required at all dates, for more information or to register please contact Desire'e Steinberger at 701-577-4595

The Glendive Agri-Trade Expo is Scheduled for Feb. 10 & 11, 2017

By Kathy Newton McLane

February will be here before we know it. Mark the second weekend in February (February 10 & 11th) on your calendars for the Glendive Agri-Trade Expo (GATE) as we celebrate the 39th year of this exceptional agricultural tradeshow at the Eastern Plains Event Center (EPEC) in Glendive.

Every year, vendors from surrounding states and Canada vene in Glendive to showcase their products and get up close and personal with area residents. Northern AgNetwork and KXGN will again be on hand for interviews and live broadcasts during the show.

This is a great chance to break the ho hum of mid-winter cabin fever and come to the tradeshow to visit with friends and neighbors and see what's new and interesting in the world of agriculture. If you're feeling lucky, buy a raffle ticket and win one of those great prizes. Raffle tickets can be obtained from any GATE Board member or from the Chamber of Commerce.

Friday will feature weed seminars where private, governmental, and commercial pesticide applicators can receive the necessary points for renewing their chemical applicators licenses. On Saturday there will be additional useful and educational seminars – including one on pressure-cooking! And as always, enjoy the awesome cooking of the Glendive Cowbelles during both days of the tradeshow.

Vendors, please contact any GATE board member or call 406-987-3777 to register or if you have any questions or you can check out the website at www.gatexpo.com. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Tax Relief Before the New Year

Right now is the time of year when all of us tax paying Americans are trying to figure out how to keep more money in our own pockets and not write a big fat check to Uncle Sam. The Foundation for Community Care can help with this conundrum as well as care for your community and create a future income stream for you. Does this sound too good to be true? Fortunately, if you are looking for tax incentives, the Foundation can do all of these things for you. Here's how.

The Foundation for Community Care has the capability of issuing Charitable Gift Annuities and Deferred Charitable Gift Annuities. These planned gift types involve a simple contract between you and the Foundation. You agree to make a gift to the Foundation's endowment fund and, in return, receive set payments for the rest of your life. This arrangement allows you to support the Foundation's work as well as supplement your income.

Not only does this agreement provide you with regular payments and allow us to further our mission, but the tax incentives are incredible! Besides a federal tax deduction, Montana allows an endowment tax credit equal to 40% of the charitable value of your gift. Few states offer this tax incentive and it's only available until 2019. Take advantage of this while you can!

If you're like most Americans, you may be in search of new, creative ways to ease your annual tax burden. Fortunately, there are several things you can do to cut your taxes or increase the amount of your tax refund without incurring the wrath of the IRS. For more information about planned giving and how it can help you with your taxes this year, call Melissa Boyer at the Foundation for Community Care at 488-2273.

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RICHLAND COUNTY

Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT Zone. Wed., Dec. 28

9 a.m.-12 p.m. - Winter break Mini-Camp For Kids! - Drop off your children, ages 8 and up, for winter holiday fun of crafting and having a blast. This will continue on Dec. 29 and 30 and the cost is \$35 for all three days. For more information or to sign up call, 406-433-3500. MonDak Heritage Center, Sidney. 4:30-5:30 p.m. - Teen Craft - Ping pong ball lights. Sidney-Richland County Library, 406-433-1917.
6 p.m. - Free Community Meal - Everyone welcome. Pella

Lutheran Church, 418 West Main.

6:30 p.m. - Fairview Yoga - Yoga classes for adults only. \$5 per class, all levels welcome. Props needed, yoga mat, comfortable clothing, a smile. Fairview High School Cafeteria. There is also a 6:30 p.m. class on Jan. 2 for high school students and older. For more information contact Kayla Fox. 209-263-1336 or Tammi Eldridge Warren, 406-480-9273. 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Worship On Wednesdays - Kids & youth night with laughter, encouragement, worship, prayer and fun! Lonsdale United Methodist Church, Sidney.

Thurs., Dec. 29 12-1 p.m. - Sidney Kiwanis Club Meeting - Elks Lodge, 123 3rd St. SW.

5-6:30 p.m. -Family Science Night - Sidney-Richland County Library, 406-433-1917. **Fri., Dec. 30**

9 a.m.-noon - Senior Commodities Distribution - Back door of the Nutter Building, 123 W. Main. Message phone, 433-4353. 10:30-11:30 a.m. - Read & Play - Snowmen. Sidney-Richland County Library, 406-433-1917. Sun., Jan. 1

2-5 p.m. - Bingo - Sidney Moose Lodge.

Mon., Jan. 2 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. - MOPS - Mothers of 0-5 years old can come and connect, laugh, cry and embrace the journey

of motherhood. Breakfast and childcare provided. Sidney Lutheran Brethren Church, 1100 Madison Lane, Sidney, MT. For more info contact Rachel Dasinger, 406-480-0924, sidneymops@hotmail.com. Thurs., Jan. 5

4-9 p.m. - Sidney Eagles Boys Basketball vs. Glendive -

Sidney High School, 1012 4th Avenue South East, Sidney, MT. 433-2330. Fri., Jan. 6 4-9 p.m. - Sidney Eagles Girls Basketball vs. Glendive -

Sidney High School, 1012 4th Avenue South East, Sidney, MT. 433-2330.

Sun., Jan. 8 12-3:30 p.m. - Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner - \$15 for adults; \$5 for 12 and under. First Lutheran Church, Savage, MT.

12-1 p.m. - Sidney Lions Club Meeting - Elks Lodge, 123 3rd

Thurs., Jan. 12

5-8 p.m. - Sidney Wrestling vs. Dickinson - Sidney High School, 1012 4th Avenue South East, Sidney, MT. 433-2330. Fri., Jan. 13

6 p.m. - Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Annual Awards Banquet at the Sidney Country Club. Call 433-1916 for more information.

Tues., Jan. 17

1 p.m. - Leadership Skills; 6 p.m. Bridging Generational Differences - Jeff Kaufman brings his experience and insights on how to supervise, manage and understand today's workforce. \$35 one session; \$50 both sessions. Tickets are available from Job Service Sidney or one of the following JSEC members, Kelly Reisig, Cheryl Van Every, Leann Pelvit, Jana Lung, Kent Simonis or Heather VanGelder. Contact Job Service Sidney 433-1204 for more information. MSU Eastern Ag Research Center, 1499 N. Central Ave., Sidney, MT.

Wed., Jan. 18 5 - 10 p.m. - Community Pint Night- Meadowlark Public House. \$1 for every pint sold will go to support a community

Thurs., Jan. 19

11:30 p.m. - Richland Red Hatters Lunch Meeting - Rod Iron. RSVP by Jan. 17 call Slyvia, 798-3882 or Margaret, 488-

4613. Fri., Jan. 27

7 p.m. - Benefit Coyote Tournament Registration for Bryton Brien - Registration and mandatory rules meeting at the V.F.W. Sidney, MT. followed by Calcutta, 5 p.m. on Jan. 28 first check in; 7 p.m., Jan. 29 second check in. Two or three man team, \$300; early entry \$250. For more information contact Brett Finnicum, 406-480-0787 or Gary Brien, 406-973-2971.

Sat., Jan. 28

6 p.m. - Silent Auction & Dinner Benefit for Bryton Brien -Tickets: \$50 a couple, \$30 single. Tables, call for information. Richland County Event Center. For tickets or more information contact Kayla, 406-488-7888 or Diane, 406-488-

McKenzie County

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT Zone

Fri., Jan. 27

5 p.m. - Cowgirls 'n Conservation - Step back in time with old fashioned desserts, ladies reflecting on the past, door prizes and comfort foods. 5 p.m., Social and craft show; 6 p.m. dinner. RSVP with your \$30 registration fee to MCSCD at 701-842-3628 ext. 3 by Jan. 10 to be entered in the grand prize drawing. Rough Rider Center, Watford City, ND.

WILLIAMS COUNTY

Events in Williston unless otherwise listed. CT Zone.

Wed., Dec. 28

5:30-9:30 p.m. - Holiday Lights Drive - Features thousands of holiday lights set around a one mile loop. \$5 per car. This event continues through December 31. All activity nights take place at the Keel Boat building. 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Dec. . 28, Science Guy shows. Spring Lake Park, Williston. Sat., Dec. 31

10:30 a.m. - Out The Darkness Walk - Join the effort to raise awareness and funds for the American Foundation For Suicide Prevention to invest in new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy and support survivors of suicide loss. 10:30 a.m., Harmon Park Registration; 12 p.m., featured speaker and lunch; 1 p.m., walk starts. For more information contact Falon Justice. 406-480-4536, falonjustice@gmail.com. Williston.

Tues., Jan. 3 7 p.m. - Williston Camera Club - The club meets to learn, educate and improve photography. Any age, new and old members welcome at all times. James Memorial Art Center, 621 1st Ave., Williston, ND.

Thurs., Jan. 5

7-8 p.m. - Fort Buford History Book Club - Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of this month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. 701-572-9034.

Sun., Jan. 8

2-7 p.m. - Jump N Fun Family Fun Day - Come for a day of bouncing and games. \$5 for wristbands, concessions available. New Armory, Williston, ND.

Fri., Jan. 20

9 a.m.-4 p.m. - Confluence Quilters Monthly Meeting - All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Bring your own lunch and unfinished projects. This event continues on Jan. 21. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center.

6-10 p.m. - Williston Chamber Annual Banquet Journey to "Paris" Enjoy an evening of entertainment, awards and networking. Grand Williston Hotel and Conference Center. Call the chamber to reserve dinner tickets, 701-577-6000.

Dawson County

Events in Glendive unless otherwise listed. MT Zone Wed., Jan. 18

12-1 p.m. - Lunch N Learn - Glendive Public Library - For more information call 406-377-3633.

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Local Club Accepts Gift Donations Through Stockman Bank Christmas Tree

By Cheyenne Wiley

The Christmas tree at Stockman Bank is no ordinary tree. Beneath it lay gifts for the Boys & Girls Club of Richland County, and the club's needs are printed on children's handmade ornaments.

Pam Burman of Stockman Bank said the tree gives the Boys & Girls Club a little more of what they need – publicity and basic essentials.

"[The club is] just so short of regular essentials," she said. "There are many things they need every day to keep things running there, just the little things."

For those interested in donating, stop in to Stockman Bank to check out the tree's ornaments. The bank also provides a wish list of 99 items that the club needs. Items include postage stamps, napkins, Sharpies, bug repellent, digital tablets, all kinds of tape, board games, movies, sidewalk chalk, batteries, garbage cans, balloons, and much more.

The Christmas tree will remain standing until Jan. 1 in order to allow Sidney residents enough time to donate goods.

"People can get out there at the after-Christmas sales

and pick up twice the stuff for half the price," Burman suggested. "Under the tree is kind of sparse right now. We would like to see it packed. It is tough with the slower economy."

Cash donations are accepted, as well.

The Boys & Girls Club tree has been a tradition for many years at Stockman Bank and will continue to endure to help the community's after-school program. To donate, visit Stockman Bank at 301 West Holly Street in Sidney.



The Boys & Girls Club Christmas tree awaits donations in the Stockman Bank lobby. (Photo by Cheyenne Wiley)

Tis The Season For Free Holiday Ride Tokens

By Don Smies, Injury Prevention Specialist DUI Task Force Coordinator

The Richland County DUI Task Force is continuing our effort to confront and reduce buzzed and impaired driving in our county. The Holiday Token Project runs from December 23, 2016 to January 2, 2017. The free ride tokens are provided to local establishments. In turn the establishments disseminate the tokens to anyone who may be impaired, thus providing a free option to get home safe.

The Task Force would like to continue with the Holiday Token Program, but we need your help. Last year the Holiday Token Program cost the Task Force \$1425.86. We also provided free ride tokens for Fairview's Old Timers Festival (\$245.72) and the Richland County Fair (\$248.00). In all \$1919.58 was spent. Remember, NO County funds were used to sponsor these programs. The funds were generated through donations and other fundraising activities by the DUI Task Force. We estimate that just the Holiday Token Program alone will need \$2000.00 this year. Why, you ask? Our program has gained popularity throughout the community and has saved lives. Last holiday season 134 folks received a safe and free ride home. As a result, DUIs were decreased by 42.85% from the previous year. The Fairview Festival Program provided 10 folks a safe, free ride home. DUIs were reduced 200% from the preceding year. At the Richland County Fair, 30 people received a free and safe ride home. DUIs were reduced a whopping 500% from the 2015 fair.

Our goal, like yours, is to keep impaired drivers off our roadways. Every one of us either drives our roadways every day, or has a loved one that does. By sponsoring ride tokens, you can rest assured knowing your tax deductible donation is making a difference. I know in my heart, if an impaired person is sitting in the back seat of the Sidney Shuttle, they are not going to endanger your family or mine on the roadways of Richland County.

Let's make this Holiday Season the safest yet. Thank you in advance, for your help in this very important program.

You can reach Mr. Smies at 433-2207 or email at dsmies@richland.org. Anyone in the community that is interested is encouraged to come to the quarterly meetings and to participate as you like. Together we will make a difference.

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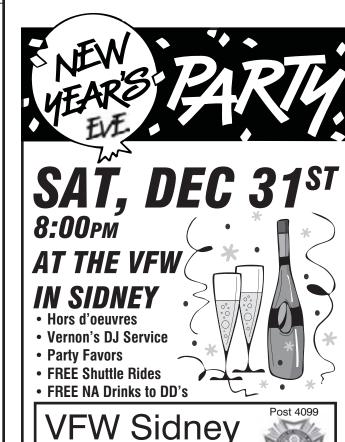
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