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## 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.

## Enjoy a Christmas Classic Event at Fox Run Dec. 9th & 10th

By Meagan Dotson

The Shops at Fox Run will be holding a Christmas Classic event Friday, Dec. 9th and Saturday, Dec. 10th with great sales and specials both days; store owners invite the community to kick off the holiday season, and they welcome Eastern A Tip Off Tournament sports fans to stop by and enjoy activities and great shopping, too.

Saturday, retail shops will be having their Christmas open houses where customers can register for door prizes.

The businesses at Fox Run and Run the World Sidney Run Club have partnered together to hold a Santa Fun Run that day, beginning at Fox Run, 404 N Central Ave in Sidney. The 5K run starts at 10am, and a 1 mile run/walk for families starts at 11am; participants are invited to put on their best ugly sweater or dress up in Santa or elf-wear. Runners can register the day of at High Caliber Sports, but to ensure that you get a 2016 Santa Fun Run T-shirt, pre-register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/MT/Sidney/SantaFunRun2016> by Nov. 30th (today). Registration is \$25 per person and part of the proceeds will benefit the Richland County Christmas Coalition "Gifts from the Heart", which donates Christmas gifts to children in need.

From noon to 4pm, 4-H vendors will be outside the stores selling tasty treats, and carolers will be outside spreading Christmas cheer. Bright Beginnings Preschoolers will be filling Reynolds Market with the festive sounds of Christmas carols inside the store at 1pm. Santa will be arriving in style at 1pm, also, and will be inside Reynolds Market at 1:30 so parents and grandparents can take pictures of their little ones with him.

So, come out to the shops at Fox Run for a Christmas Classic event to remember!

## Richland County Food Bank In Need of Community Support

The Richland County Food Bank is in need of community support. As fall has turned into winter we have seen a larger need within the community for food assistance. If you would consider sharing a can of tuna, ramen noodles, soups, dish soap, these are just a few of the items that we distribute every Monday and Thursday. All items need to be non-expired, and unopened. The Food Bank is available by appointment by calling 433-8142.

Thank you for your continued support of the Food Bank.

## Light Someone's Life This Holiday Season

By Meagan Dotson

In September of 2015 Patricia Knoepke was diagnosed with endometrial cancer, and was facing immediate surgery. There is no convenient time for a medical emergency, and for Pat, it meant being temporarily unavailable to care for so many people who depended on her. Pat is a caretaker to her mother, Isabel, who lives with her and her husband, and runs a daycare that her mom began in 1976.

Melissa Boyer with the Foundation for Community Care saw Pat's Facebook message about her need for cancer treatment, and knew that help was available.

"She had taken care of my kids and many other kids in this community. Pat and Isabel don't run a daycare because it makes them millionaires; they do it because it's a service to this community and they love nurturing tiny people. We wanted to help," Melissa explained.

Pat received money from the Medical Emergency Fund which helped pay for hotel, travel, and medical expenses. She underwent surgery in October of 2015 at the Billings Clinic, pushing it back just far enough to take care of her grandkids while her daughter was out of town. Her daycare was closed for two months during her recovery, and just a few months later she had gallbladder surgery.

"It was a hard recovery because I had the two surgeries so close together," Pat remembers. "That's hard to come back from, but these families depend on us and we have to be there for them. Some families don't have any other childcare options."

Fortunately, endometrial cancer is almost always 100% curable with surgery, and Pat has since been cancer-free. She hasn't had to undergo chemotherapy or radiation, but to be on the safe side she will be screened every three months for the next two years, and every six months for three years after that.

"At first I told Melissa that I didn't need the help, but she talked me into it and I'm glad I applied," Pat said. "I would definitely recommend the Medical Emergency Fund to anyone who needs it. All they need to do is contact the Foundation and they will help you with the rest. I'm thankful for all of their help."

The Light a Life campaign is currently underway, taking



donations for the Medical Emergency Fund. For more information, or to donate, contact the Foundation for Community Care at 406-488-2273, or visit them online at [www.foundationforcommunitycare.org](http://www.foundationforcommunitycare.org), or in the office at 221 2nd St NW in Sidney.

## Bovine Connection Returns to Benefit Farmers and Ranchers

By Cheyenne Wiley

The blowing snow and icy roads did not hinder the Bovine Connection's turnout in Culbertson on Nov. 29. After a five-year hiatus, the Bovine Connection returned to the area thanks to agents of Montana State University and North Dakota State University and several sponsors.

More than 40 farmers and ranchers showed up to the Culbertson Saddle Club Barn, where five presenters from Montana and North Dakota shared information about the current cattle industry.

"People are scared of getting out of a bad situation because they're afraid of the dark, the unknown – what's in the dark," said Dave Pratt of Ranch Management Consultants.

The "unknown" involves the low market prices that have recently affected farmers and ranchers.

Pratt spent the afternoon providing tips to ranchers to increase their profit, as well as how to successfully transfer a

ranch on to the next generation.

"Ninety-five percent of ranchers in the United States do not make a profit," he said. "Of people who want to pass their ranches on to the next generation, only one-third is successful."

To learn Pratt's secrets, visit [www.ranchmanagement.com](http://www.ranchmanagement.com) and subscribe to Profit Tips at the bottom of the page.

Speakers Lisa Pederson, Extension beef quality specialist, and Dr. Gerald Stokka, livestock stewardship specialist, both of North Dakota State University, were unable to attend due to inclement weather but engaged with the audience via Skype.

Pederson spoke about strategic culling, in which the farmer removes poorly performing cows or bulls from the herd to manage profitability and productivity. Reasons for culling a cow may include low reproductive success, old age, or poor teeth and genetics.

Stokka discussed in his presentation a new rule that farmers must abide by: the veterinary feed directive. VFD feed drugs

are antibiotics used for animal medicine and will require a prescription from a veterinarian starting Jan. 1, 2017. VFD orders will be needed to purchase medicated feed.

Wendy Becker of the Montana State University Extension showcased new cuts of beef on the market.

Dr. Andrew Roberts of the USDA Agricultural Research Services Range and Livestock Experiment Station shared his research regarding production efficiency in beef cattle.

"The less the dam is fed, the heavier the heifer will be after five years," Roberts said. "Feeding cows a bunch of hay now may not benefit heifers down the road."

The Culbertson Saddle Club catered a steak lunch to all attendees.

For more information on the Bovine Connection seminar, contact your local Montana State University or North Dakota State University agent.



Dave Pratt of Ranch Management Consultants, Inc. shares his tips on increasing ranching profits at the Bovine Connection seminar on Nov. 29 in Culbertson. Pratt teaches ranching for profit across the nation and has even presented in Australia. (Photo by Cheyenne Wiley)





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**AREA RECOVERY GROUPS**

**MONDAYS:**  
12 p.m. — AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave, Sidney.  
1 p.m. - 3 p.m. — Grief Reovery Support group at First Lutheran Church, Watford City.  
6 p.m. — Al-Anon, Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave, Sidney.  
7 p.m. — Fairview Alive and Kicking at Faith Alliance Church, 704 S. Western Ave.  
8 p.m. — AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride.

**TUESDAYS:**  
7 p.m. — AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave, Sidney.

**WEDNESDAYS:**  
8 p.m. — Al-Anon, Sanford Room, McKenzie Co. Public Library, Watford City.

**THURSDAYS:**  
7 p.m. — NA meeting, MonDak Trucking office Bldg., 725 W. Holly, Sidney.  
8 p.m. — AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride.

**FRIDAYS:**  
12 p.m. — AA, Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave, Sidney.  
12 p.m. - 1 p.m. - AA meeting, basement of Wilmington Lutheran Church, Arnegard.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. - 5 Stones faith based recovery meeting, Sidney Nazarene, 606 9th St. SW. Back door is open.  
7 p.m. — Path to recovery at Faith Alliance Church, 704 S. Western Ave.  
8 p.m. — AA meetings, Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. Bldg, Sidney.

**SATURDAYS:**  
9 a.m. & 7 p.m. — AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Education bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave, Sidney.  
3 p.m. - NA meeting, Straight The Path Grp, MonDak Office, 725 W. Holly St., Sidney.  
7 p.m. — AA 24 hour group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride.

**SUNDAYS:**  
3 p.m. - NA meeting, Straight The Path Grp, MonDak Office, 725 W. Holly St., Sidney.  
7 p.m. — AA Group Trinity Lutheran Church Ed. bldg., 214 S. Lincoln Ave, Sidney.

**STATISTICS**

**LAKE WATER LEVEL REPORT**

	<b>Sakakawea</b>
Current Elevation.....	1839.4
Last Week's Elev. ....	1839.3
One Year Ago .....	1840.5
Release For Day (C.F.S.) .....	16,000

**SIDNEY WEATHER DATA**  
Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Nov. 21 .....	31	27	0.07
Nov. 22 .....	29	26	0.00
Nov. 23 .....	27	25	0.00
Nov. 24 .....	28	14	0.00
Nov. 25 .....	32	14	0.00
Nov. 26 .....	37	10	0.00
Nov. 27 .....	35	17	0.00
Total YTD Precipitation.....			14.61

# OBITUARIES

## Sandra Lorene (Stoner) Gasho, 69

### Trotters, North Dakota formerly of Sedro-Woolley, Washington

Sandra Lorene (Stoner) Gasho, age 69, of Trotters, North Dakota, passed away on Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at St. Vincent's Health Care in Billings, Montana. Visitation was held from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., Thursday, December 1, 2016 at the Silha Funeral Home in Beach, North Dakota. Funeral Services were held at 2 p.m. on Friday, December 2, 2016 at the Squaw Gap Community Center in Squaw Gap, North Dakota with Reverend Nell Lindorff officiating. Interment followed at the South Side Cemetery outside of Trotters. Silha Funeral Home of Beach has been entrusted with the arrangements.



Sandra Lorene (Stoner) Gasho

Sandy was born on November 30, 1946 in Burlington, Washington to William and Mary (Smallwood) Stoner. She was raised and educated in Sedro-Woolley, Washington, graduating with the class of 1965.

After graduating from high school, Sandra met and married Gordon Gasho in 1965. To this union three sons were born. In 1979, Sandra became a firefighter and served for twenty five years in the Prairie Community for the Skagit County District #8, as well as being an EMT. She worked as a fry cook from 1977 to 1980 and for the Sears store from 1980 to 2004. In 1996, Sandra had cancer and beat it. She worked as an assistant manager for the Cocusa Motel in Burlington from 2004 to 2011.

Sandra came to North Dakota in 2011. She was married to Harlan Gasho at the family farm on February 23, 2013.

Sandra was a member of the local Grange Association from 1981 to 2000 and a member of the Independent Order of Forresters. She was also a leader in 4-H and in FFA from 1976 to 1989, while her children were in school.

Sandra loved to crochet, cook and bake for family and friends. She also loved her horses, but her favorite hobby was her grandchildren.

Sandy was preceded in death by her parents, William and Mary Stoner; her sister, Marcy Beernick; her brother, John Stoner, and two daughters-in-law, Jeri Gasho and Diana Gasho.

Sandy is survived by her husband, Harlan Gasho of Beach; her sons, Tony Gasho of Beach, Jason Gasho of Sedro-Woolley and Gary Gasho of Foster, Oklahoma; her sisters, Debbie Warren of Mt. Vernon, Washington and Nikki Townsend; her brothers, Ron Stoner of Ventura, California and Rick Stoner of Casper, Wyoming; six grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Susan G. Komen breast cancer charity at P.O. Box 650309 Dallas, Texas 75265-0309 or online at: ww5.komen.org.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

## Helen Elizabeth West “Red”, 67, Fairview, MT

Memorial service for Helen West, 67, of Fairview, MT was held at 10 a.m., Saturday, December 3 at the Waterhole in Fairview, MT with Pastor Roberta Pierce officiating.

A visitation was held from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., Friday, December 2 at Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home in Sidney, MT. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home.

Pictures, remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at www.fulkersons.com.

Helen died Monday, November 28 at her home in Fairview, MT.

# WHS Wind Ensemble Named Governor’s Band for 2016-2017

Gov. Jack Dalrymple today announced that the Williston High School Wind Ensemble and the Sheyenne High School Concert Choir have been selected to serve as the 2016-2017 Governor’s Official State Band and Chorus.

“Congratulations to the Williston High School Wind Ensemble and the Sheyenne High School Concert Choir for being named this year’s Governor’s Official Band and Chorus,” Dalrymple said. “These are two very accomplished organizations and they will represent North Dakota with pride and enthusiasm. They have continued the fine tradition of outstanding musical talent that exists in schools and communities across our state.”

The Williston High School Wind Ensemble is directed by Eric Rooke and is comprised of 144 students. The band performs regularly at sporting and community events showcasing the strength of the WHS music program and the musical talents of its members. Along with local activities, the band has also performed in Chicago, IL, San Antonio, TX, and San Diego, CA. Members of the WHS Wind Ensemble are often selected to continue their musical education through participation at the collegiate level for colleges such as the University of Mary and the University of North Dakota.

Sheyenne High School Concert Choir, under the direction of Anthony Peterson, is comprised of 47 members from grades 9-12. The choir performs four formal concerts each year, along with participation in numerous music festivals and competitions including large group, small ensembles, solo and select honor choirs. The students also participate in other school and community events by providing vocal performances of the National Anthem, special music for graduation ceremonies, community-wide holiday caroling and various other functions.

The Governor’s Band and Chorus were selected from applications submitted by school and civic groups from across the state based on musical talent, achievement and community involvement.

**EVENTS**

**SEND US YOUR EVENTS!**  
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### RICHLAND COUNTY

Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT Zone.  
**Wed., Dec. 7**

9 a.m.-4 p.m. - QuickBooks for Farmers - Learn how to track and manage income, expenses, bank loans, farm budgets and more. \$99 fee. Preregister by December 2 with the Job Service Sidney, 406-433-1204.  
4:30-5:30 p.m. - Teen Craft - Christmas scrapbook. Sidney-Richland County Library, 406-433-1917.  
6 p.m. - Free Community Meal - Everyone welcome. Pella Lutheran Church, 418 West Main.  
6-7 p.m. -Book Buddies - Sidney-Richland County Library, 406-433-1917.  
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 Dec. 12 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. 8**  
5-6:30 p.m. - Family Science Night - Sidney-Richland County Library, 406-433-1917.

**Fri., Dec. 9**  
10:30-11:30 a.m. - Read & Play - Reindeer. Sidney-Richland County Library, 406-433-1917.  
11:30 a.m. - Richland Red Hatters Christmas Lunch - Rod Iron. RSVP by Dec. 7, call Sylvia, 798-3882 or Margaret, 488-4613.

**Sat., Dec. 10**  
7 a.m.-1 p.m. - Gifts From The Heart - Shopping for any Richland County resident with children, ages 0-18, who feels they are in need may participate. Masonic Lodge, on Main Street across from the court house.

9:30 a.m. - Annual Bake Sale & Auction - Free refreshments served, everyone welcome. Peoples Congregational Church, 405 10th Ave. SW, Sidney. 406-433-3707.  
10 a.m. - Santa Run - Run starts at Shops at Fox Run, 10 a.m., 5K; 11 a.m., 1 mile. Registration fee \$25. For more information and to register, https://runsignup.com/RACE/MT/Sidney/SantaFunRun2016.

**Sun., Dec. 11**  
2-5 p.m. - Bingo - Sidney Moose Lodge.  
**Mon., Dec. 12**  
10:30-11:30 a.m. - Tales 4 Tots - Ornaments. Sidney-Richland County Library. 406-433-1917.

**Tues., Dec. 13**  
3:30-4:30 p.m. - Lego Club - Sidney-Richland County Library. 406-433-1917.

**Wed., Dec. 14**  
6 p.m. - Ham & Turkey Benefit Dinner - Includes all the trimmings. Pella Lutheran Church, Sidney. Free will offering, all proceeds will go to the Richland County Food Bank.

**Sat., Dec. 17**  
12 p.m. - Crafternoon - Friendship bracelets. Sidney-Richland County Library. 406-433-1917.  
2:30-4:30 p.m. - Santa Is Coming - Mr. & Mrs. Santa will visit the Sidney Church of the Nazarene for a free picture with them, 606 9th St. SW, corner of Lincoln and 9th.

**Tues., Dec. 20**  
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.

### McKENZIE COUNTY

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT Zone  
**Wed., Dec. 7**

7 p.m. - A Magical Medora Christmas Concert - Featuring past and present Stars of Medora. Tickets available at First International Bank & Trust, Cornerstone Bank, Dakota West Credit Union, BNC and at the door. Watford City High School Amphitheater.

**Thurs., Dec. 15**  
6 p.m. - Johnson Corners Christian Academy Soup Supper - 6 p.m., soup supper; 6:30 p.m.; silent auction; 7 p.m., live auction. Rough Rider Center, Watford City, ND.

### WILLIAMS COUNTY

Events in Williston unless otherwise listed. CT Zone.  
**Wed., Dec. 7**

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. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 7 & 8, photos with Santa and Craft Night. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 11; visit from Frozen’s Elsa and live reindeer exhibit; 5:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 14, adult Christmas craft night; 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Dec. 15 and 16, magical winter shows; 5:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 21, musical holiday craft night and sing along; 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Dec. 27 and 28, Science Guy shows. Spring Lake Park, Williston.

**Thurs., Dec. 8**  
6:30 p.m. - Reflections Of Love - Chi Health at Home-Hospice provides family and friends an opportunity to celebrate the life of their loved one. Free admission. Sacred Grounds Cafe, Chi St. Alexius Health, Williston, ND.  
7-8 p.m. - Ft 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.

**Fri., Dec. 9**  
Williston Economic Development Holiday Open House - The public is invited for food, beverages, door prizes and networking opportunities. Center for Development.

**Sun., Dec. 11**  
6 p.m. - Las Vegas Magic & Illusion Show & Holiday Spectacular Family Concert - Featuring a former NY Broadway performer and former legends of Las Vegas cast members. Williston High School, 4200 32nd St. W., Williston.

**Fri., Dec. 16**  
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 Dec. 17. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. 701-572-9034.

### DAWSON COUNTY

Events in Glendive unless otherwise listed. MT Zone  
**Sat., Dec. 10**

4:30 p.m. - Chili Feed - Zion Lutheran Church basement, Glendive, MT, runs through 7 p.m. or until chili is gone. Proceeds and donations go to the Glendive Ice Foundation.  
6 p.m. - Down Home Christmas Dinner - An evening of fun, food and a good time. No host cocktail hour, silent auction, live auction, buffet style dinner. \$25 per person. Moose Lodge, Glendive, MT. To get tickets call 377-7999 or stop by the Boys and Girls Club of Dawson County, 111 West Bell Street, Glendive, MT.

**Wed., Dec. 14**  
12-1 p.m. - Kiwanis Christmas Dinner - Annual Kiwanis Christmas dinner for all members and their spouses. The DCHS Honor Choir will be singing Christmas Carols. \$13.50 per person. RSVP Karen, 406-989-0409. DCHS, 900 N Merrill Ave., Glendive, MT.

**Sat., Dec. 17**  
9 a.m.-6 p.m. - Last Chance Gift Show - Stop by to get your last minute Christmas shopping done. This event continues 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Dec. 18. Moose Lodge, Glendive, MT. For more information contact Barb Polette, 377-3602.



# Forever Buds Named the 4-H Club of the Year

MNAXLP

Right: Forever Buds 4-H Club, named Club of the year.



**By Josie Evenson**  
**Richland County Extension Agent**

The Forever Buds 4-H club was named club of the year at the Richland County 4-H Achievement Day. The annual event was held on Sunday, October 23, 2016 at the Richland County Event Center and was hosted by the Missouri River Ranchers 4-H Club. This event is a time for 4-H members, leaders and parents to celebrate all the accomplishments throughout the past 4-H year.

The Friend of 4-H award is given to a business, family or individual who has gone above and beyond to help the 4-H program. The award this year was given to J.J. Hovde and Wendy Becker for their continued dedication to the 4-H program through their education and technical support of the livestock projects. Both Hovde and Becker give unselfishly of their time during the fair to run ultrasound tests on all market livestock projects, to ensure that all Richland County youth with market projects learn more about their project and are entered in local and state ultrasound contests. Both are a huge asset to the program.

Achievement Day serves as a day of celebration. A day to highlight the accomplishments of those involved in the Richland County 4-H Program. There are many different awards that are presented to members and leaders for their dedication to 4-H throughout the year.

This year's Helping Hand Award was awarded to Dillon Lunderby. The Helping Hands Award is presented each year to a member that shows not only great leadership, but also a willingness to go out of their way to help others in the 4-H program. We would like to thank Duane and Sherry Mitchell for sponsoring this award.

We would also like to thank the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring the awards for the Jr. Members. Receiving the trophies this year were: Top Jr. Beef Judge – Braden Kindopp, Top Jr. Swine Judge – Jaylen Baxter, Top Jr. Sheep Judge – Garrett Larson, Top Reasons- CJ Nevins, Top Jr. Overall Judge – Jaylen Baxter, Top Jr. Girl Demonstrator – Jori Horsburgh, Top Jr. Boy Demonstrator – Corbin Steinbeisser, Top Crown Demonstrator – Becca Deming, Top Jr. Public Speech- Amariah Hier, Jr. Fashion Revue - Lauren Prevost and Top Jr. Quilt – Trey Schepens.

Shooting sports is by far the most attended activity in 4-H throughout the nation. The past year consisted of 6 shoots in the disciplines of Air Rifle, Archery and Air Pistol. Winners of each category are as follows: Top Sr Air Rifle-Holly Bouchard, Top Intermediate Air Rifle Shane Waltner, Top Jr Air Rifle- Dalton Bouchard, and Most Improved Air Rifle- Grace Klempel. Top Sr Archery-Holly Bouchard, Top Intermediate Archery-Beth McMillen, Top Jr Archery-Corbin Mullin and Most Improved Archery-Liam Steinbeisser. Top Sr Pistol-Sierra Osborne, Top Intermediate Pistol –Colten Dahl, Top Jr Pistol-Lily Waltner and Most Improved Pistol- Jaxsen Reuter.

The shotgun program was also brought back this year. In the shotgun division

the winners were: Top Sr Shotgun – Sierra Osborne, Top Intermediate Shotgun-Colten Dahl, Top Jr Shotgun-Wyatt McPherson and Most Improved Shotgun- Chace Waters.

The Horse committee presented awards to Shaylee Dean as the All Around Rookie, Allison Lander as the All Around Junior and Randy Lander as the All Around Senior. The Silver Spur award is given to a person that has dedicated their time and skills to help make the horse program here in Richland County a better program. This year the Silver Spur award was given to two very special ladies, Waynette Molloy and Pat Wick.

The family of Brad Canduff also has started a memorial in his name. This year at Achievement Day the first award was given. This year a beautiful saddle and matching tack was given to a 4-H member through a drawing. The winner was Allison Lander. The family hopes to continue this award in Brad's name.

Linda Simonsen, the local poultry leader also gives an annual poultry award. This year that award was given to Cade Verschoot.

The carcass champion awards go to the top beef, lamb, hog and goat carcass from the fair. This year the top beef carcass went to Sierra Osborne, the top lamb carcass went to Kynlee Vitt, the top swine carcass went to Garrett Youngquist and top goat carcass went to Madison Sparks.

New awards in the livestock projects were decided on and given by the 4-H Livestock Committee. These awards are based on average daily gain of the market animal, live placing at the market show during the fair and the carcass data. The Overall Species champions were: Market Beef- Tana Kostelecky, Hog- Bryar Lange, Sheep- Sierra Osborne and Goat- Will Sparks.

The Gorder Family presented livestock grants to Mya Jorgensen, Taryn Hagler and Mazie Madison for their projects. These scholarships are given to 4-H members to help them in their projects in memory of Brodie Gorder through the Brodie Gorder Memorial.

4-H is geared towards teaching youth lifelong skills that will aid them throughout their life. One skill that 4-H members learn is how to keep accurate and detailed records. Members received recognition for their outstanding record books. The Sr. winners were: 2nd place record book- Jordan Baxter and 1st place record book- Kyle Topp. The Jr. winners were: 2nd place record book- Garrett Larson and 1st place record book- Marett Schieber.

Members receiving a plaque recognizing ten years of membership were; Taylor Fink, Brady Gorder, Bryar Lange and Garret Leland.

Without the outstanding group of volunteer leaders in the 4-H program, many activities would not be possible. These leaders give up personal time to ensure that youth have the best experience in the 4-H program. Receiving the award of the Silver Clover for 5 years of service were: Amy Conlin, Brian Bouchard, Chris Torgerson, Jill Carpenter, Susan Wright and Trish Buxbaum. Receiving a Pearl Clover for 15 years of service was: Donna Coffman.

Receiving a Diamond Clover for 20 years of service were: Edwin Reis and Linda Reis. Receiving an Emerald Clover for 25 years of service was: Pat Wick.

The Richland County Leader's Council also decided to give two new awards this year as well. The new awards are called the "I am 4-H" Award and the Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Award. The "I am 4-H" Award goes to a 4-H member who is an outstanding member in all aspects, promotes excellence in 4-H and personifies the true spirit of 4-H. The recipient of this award was Garret Leland. The Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Award goes to leaders who have been involved in recruitment, training, education or promotion within the 4-H program. This year Larry and Stephanie Hatter were honored with this award.

Every year the clubs have 4-H displays throughout the county to celebrate National 4-H Week. The Award for Best Window Display went to the Three Buttes 4-H Club.

Achievement Day was a big success in celebrating all the accomplishments and hard work of 4-H youth, parents and volunteers over the past year. Congratulations go out to all involved in the 4-H program.

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Lunch Menus

**Sidney School**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Meatloaf, seasoned mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, dinner roll.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Ham and cheese round, chicken noodle soup, carrot sticks, pineapple tidbits.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** BBQ riblets, oven wedges, orange wedges.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Chicken drumsticks, potatoes and gravy, mandarin oranges, dinner roll.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Hot ham and cheese, cheesy potatoes, peaches.

**Savage School**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Sweet and sour chicken, lo mein, corn, apple sauce.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Corn dogs, fries, mandarin oranges, cucumbers, carrots.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Scalloped potatoes with ham, peas, pears, jello, bread.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Christmas dinner, ham, potatoes and gravy, yams, green beans, buns, relish tray, dessert.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Hamburger on a bun, fries, tomato, pickles, lettuce, onions, pineapple.

**Rau School**  
**Wed., Dec. 7:** Cook's choice.  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Shrimp/fish nuggets, fries, veggies, jello, muffin.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Chicken noodle soup, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, veggies with ranch, fruit.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Pizza sub, salad, fresh fruit.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Sloppy joes, pickles, corn chips, grapes.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Cook's choice.

**Froid School**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Tater tot casserole, veggies, buns, salad bar, fruit, milk.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Fishwich, chips, veggies, salad bar, fruit, milk.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Chicken nuggets, rice pilaf, veggies, salad bar, fruit, milk.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Chili, cinnamon rolls, cheese sticks, salad bar, fruit, milk.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, veggies, buns, dessert, salad bar, fruit, milk.

**Bainville School**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Makenzie Butikofer Day! Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, strawberries, ice cream sandwiches.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Beef stroganoff, green beans, fruit.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Beef strips, chips, peas and carrots, fruit.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Jameson Egemo Day! Bacon cheeseburger, french fries, peaches, broccoli, brownie.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Soup, egg salad sandwiches or uncrustables, fruit cup.

**Culbertson School**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Nachos, fruit, milk.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Pork egg rolls, rice, fruit, milk.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Sloppy joes, tater tots, fruit, milk.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Pizza, fruit, milk.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Tacos, spanish rice, fruit, milk.

**Richey School**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Meatballs, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, fruit cocktail.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, peas, peaches, milk.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Burritos, spanish rice, broccoli, applesauce, milk.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, hash browns, grapes, milk.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Beef strips, scalloped potatoes, corn, pears, milk.

**Lambert School**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Super nachos, fresh veggies, fruit, milk.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Spaghetti, peas, bread stick, pears, milk.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Corn dog, gems, fruit, milk.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Sweet and sour chicken, stir fry veggies, rice, pineapple, milk.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Chalupa, fresh veggies, fruit, milk.

**Fairview School**  
**Wed., Dec. 7:** Chef salad, raw carrots, apples, milk.  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** Chicken noodle casserole, peas and carrots, mixed fruit, dessert, milk.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** No school.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Peanut butter and jelly uncrustables, chicken noodle soup, oranges, milk.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, pineapple, dessert, milk.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** French dip with au jus, baked beans, banana, milk.

**Watford City**  
**Thurs., Dec. 8:** BBQ chicken, macaroni and cheese, green beans, peaches, biscuit.  
**Fri., Dec. 9:** Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, roll, fruit, cookie.  
**Mon., Dec. 12:** Corn dog, smiley potatoes, corn, pears.  
**Tues., Dec. 13:** Steak fingers, cheesy hash browns, peas, cinnamon applesauce.  
**Wed., Dec. 14:** Hamburger gravy over mashed potatoes, steamed broccoli, roll, grapes.



Sidney Gymnastics Club Competes in Milo Dullum Qualifier in Dickinson

Pictured far left is level 4 gymnast Allison Thiel on floor.

Left: Level 4 gymnast Lacie Selting on beam. (Photos by Keri McPherson)

Sidney Gymnastics Club Results Milo Dullum Qualifier Dickinson, ND

**Submitted by Pat McWilliams**  
Sidney Gymnastics Club ventured across the border into North Dakota for their first competition of the 2016-2017 competitive season; to the "Milo Dullum Qualifier" held in the high school gym in Dickinson, ND.  
Being the first competition of the season, Coaches Pat & Jan McWilliams didn't know

how well the SGC gymnasts would stack up against competitors from North Dakota and Montana.  
As it turned out, SGC stacked up pretty well. More like extremely well. The truth of the matter is, they came out on the top of the stack both in Level 3 and Level 4.  
Level three team results, first place, Sidney Gymnastics Club 108.500; second place, Gymagic Gymnastics (Minot) 108.250; third place, Dickinson Gymnastics 105.950; fourth place, Bismarck Gymnastics 105.600; fifth place, Northern Pacific Gymnastics (Miles City) 104.500; sixth place, Dakota Star (Mandan) 102.200; seventh place, Eastern Montana (Circle) 101.250; eighth place, Devil Dog Gymnastics (Glendive) 99.550; ninth place, Western Stars 98.00.  
With 7 out of 11 gymnasts in their first year of competition, the McWilliams were shooting for third place. However, two of the newcomers-Morgan Kindopp & Emma Coughlin in their first competition ever, stepped up to help "old timers" Avery Barker, Kiley Schoepp, Macy Tjelde, and Kenzie Gaffield secure the number one spot; narrowly edging Gymagic (Minot) out by 00.250.  
Top Ten individual results (out of 37 athletes), SGC won 4 out of 5 individual events, sweeping the top three spots in both the uneven bars and the all around.  
Vault, fifth place, Morgan Kindopp 9.250; fifth place, Macy Tjelde 9:250.  
Uneven bars, first place, Emma Coughlin 9.200; second place, Morgan Kindopp 9.050; third place, Avery Bark-

er 9.000; fifth place, Macy Tjelde 8.750; sixth place, Kiley Schoepp 8.70; tenth place, Kenzie Gaffield 8.350.  
Balance beam, first place, Avery Barker 9.150; third place, Morgan Kindopp 8.750; seventh place, Emma Coughlin 8.200.  
Floor exercise, first place, Avery Barker 9.300; third place, Morgan Kindopp 9.250; sixth place, Kiley Schoepp 8.900; seventh place, Emma Coughlin 8.800.  
All around, first place, Avery Barker 36.600; second place, Morgan Kindopp 36.300; third place, Emma Coughlin 35.400; eighth place, Kiley Schoepp 34.800.  
Level 4 results, the McWilliams have high expectations for this year's Level 4 squad, with outstanding returning athletes in Taylor McPherson, Allison Axtman, Kambre Kloker, Marleah Campbell, Allison Thiel and Riley Jimison; plus the addition of Lacie Selting.  
The L4s exceeded those high expectations in Dickinson, grabbing the first place team position by more than three points over second place Minot.  
Team results, first place, SGC 106.600; second place, Gymagic 103.750; third place, Dickinson 100.750; fourth place, Bismarck 99.950; fifth place, Northern Pacific 88.900; sixth place, Devil Dog Gymnastics 85.550  
Marleah Campbell and Taylor Shone first place and second place in the AA. Like the L3s, the L4s won all but one individual event; with Campbell taking two event titles; McPherson one event title, and Kloker one event title.  
Top Ten individual results (out of 43 athletes).  
Vault, first place, Marleah Campbell 9.00; second place, Allison Thiel 8.500; fourth place, Kambre Kloker 8.900; sixth place, Taylor McPherson 8.750; eighth place, Riley Jimison 8.600.  
Uneven bars: fourth place, Marleah Campbell 8.650; fifth place, Taylor McPherson 8.600; seventh place, Allison Axtman 8.550; ninth place, Kambre Kloker 8.250.  
Balance beam: first place, Kambre Kloker 9.050; third place, Marleah Campbell 8.800; fourth place, Taylor McPherson 8.700; fifth place, Allison Axtman 8.600; tenth place, Lacie Selting 8.250.  
Floor exercise, first place, Taylor McPherson 9.300; third place, Marleah Campbell 9.050; third place, Allison Axtman 9.050; fifth place, Kambre Kloker 9.00.  
All around, first place, Marleah Campbell 35.500; second place, Taylor McPherson 35.350; fourth place, Kambre Kloker 35.200; sixth place, Allison Axtman 34.000; ninth place, Allison Thiel 32.850; tenth place, Lacie Selting 32.800  
The next competition for the SGC squad is the "Julie Ziegler Invitational" in Bismarck, ND January 14-15, 2017.

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Beginning Saturday, Nov. 26th, customers can bring this BINGO card into participating businesses and have that business stamp their logo. Be sure to stop by the MonDak Heritage Center and the library, too; and to get that last square stamped, make a donation to the Food Bank Christmas Tree that will be at Ribbon & Rail. When all the squares are stamped, with your name and phone number/ email address clearly written on the back, completed cards can be dropped off at participating businesses. You've got 2 weeks to play, and all cards must be turned in on or before Dec. 10th. The completed cards will be drawn from Dec. 12th to determine the winner of \$425 in Chamber Bucks! Only one card may be completed per person.

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# A Steak in Ag A Monthly Report by R-CALF USA

R-CALF USA may be defined as a non-profit producer organization, but our work benefits anyone who eats meat and lives in an economy that includes agriculture. We're more than a producer organization; we're your organization!

R-CALF USA Shares 100-Day Strategy with 1,200 Ranchers in Dakotas who attended one of six meetings held in November. This plan was also recently submitted to the Trump Transition Team. Herman Schumacher, the group's co-founder organized the meetings.

The largest turnout was Aberdeen, where more than 400 cattle producers watched R-CALF USA's presentation, "Making the U.S. Cattle Industry Great Again." Attendees stayed an additional hour to ask questions and learn more about the plan to fix the industry's broken markets.

"The huge turnouts indicate that cattle ranchers are fed up with their marketplace that collapsed even while supply and demand forces were promising much higher prices," said Schumacher.

"What other industry in the U.S. suffers a 50 percent price collapse when supplies increase by no more than two percent?" Schumacher asked

retorically.

R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard's presentation showed that the U.S. cattle industry is in sharp decline – shrinking in terms of participants, herd size, and beef output. He said the cattle industry is the last frontier for multinational meatpackers because it's the only remaining animal industry the meatpackers have not already vertically integrated from birth to plate.

The group's plan calls for restoring and then preserving marketplace competition. It asks the Trump Administration to provide producers the tools they need to compete in their domestic market and to take from monopolistic meatpackers the tools they use to manipulate and distort competitive market forces. R-CALF USA articulated five urgent tasks for the new administration:

Reinstate mandatory country-of-origin labeling (COOL) for beef so U.S. ranchers can compete against the growing tide of foreign beef imported into their domestic market.

Empower producers to monitor and enforce the rules of competition by finalizing the 2010 GIPSA rules that will finally implement the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921.

Enforce antitrust laws to stop packers from using their market power to exploit cattle producers on one end of the supply chain and consumers on the other.

Protect the cattle industry's price discovery market by banning packer ownership of livestock and cattle contracts that do not contain a negotiated price.

Pass smart trade policy to reverse the industry's trade deficit and require that only beef from cattle born, raised and processed in the U.S. can bear a USA label when exported.

A live recording of Bullard's presentation is available for viewing on the R-CALF USA Facebook page. Both Bullard's full presentation and R-CALF USA's complete comprehensive plan are available at <http://www.r-calfusa.com/the-issues/competition-issues/>

For additional information on any of the topics mentioned, please visit [www.r-calfusa.com](http://www.r-calfusa.com).

R-CALF USA is funded solely by donations and membership dues. Please consider becoming a member and giving a donation. For more info or to join, go to [www.r-calfusa.com](http://www.r-calfusa.com), 406-252-2516.

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<p><b>2012 FORD PLATINUM</b></p> <p>STYLESIDE, SUPERCREW, 3.5L TURBO V6, 6SPD AT, 4WD, RED STK 6219</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD EXPEDITION</b></p> <p>LIMITED, FFV, 5.4L V8, 5SPD AT, 4WD, AUTUMN RED STK 6228</p>	<p><b>2013 FORD F-150 LARIAT</b></p> <p>STYLESIDE, SUPERCREW, 3.5L TURBO V6, 6SPD AT, 4WD, WHITE STK 6222</p>
<p><b>2013 FORD F-150 PLATINUM</b></p> <p>STYLESIDE, SUPERCREW, 3.5L TURBO V6, AT, 4WD, RUBY RED STK 6142</p>	<p><b>2015 FORD F-150 LARIAT</b></p> <p>STYLESIDE, SUPERCREW, FFV, 5.0L V8, 6SPD AT, 4WD, BRONZE FIR STK 6226</p>	<p><b>2014 FORD F-350 DRW</b></p> <p>CREWCAB, 6.7L V8 TURBO DIESEL, DUAL REAR WHEEL, 4WD, SILVER STK 6245</p>
<p><b>2014 FORD EXPEDITION</b></p> <p>LIMITED, FFV, 5.4L V8, 5SPD AT, 4WD, WHITE STK 6230</p>	<p><b>2014 FORD F-350 RANCH</b></p> <p>CREWCAB, 6.7L V8 TURBO DIESEL, 6SPD AT, 4WD, TUXEDO BLACK STK 6207</p>	<p><b>2014 FORD ESCAPE SE</b></p> <p>1.6L TURBO L4, 6SPD AT, 4WD, RED STK 6202</p>

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# County Agent Update

By Danielle Steinhoff

## Strategic Culling


November 29th and 30th there were two great programs in our area for beef producers. Lisa Pederson, North Dakota State University Extension Beef Quality Specialist presented on strategic culling of beef cattle. One thing that was mentioned was that there might be some reasons to cull beyond the "2 O's", old and open. Another thing that was mentioned was the economics, that there might be some more potential value for heifer calves and lower culling rate to retain more cows. There are some traits that could be used for culling that are more than just convenience, such as looking at feet, legs, and structure. Issues with feet, lets and structure can occur by injury, disease or even nutrition limitations, but it also can be because of their structure which could come from genetics. There is little research on the genetic compo-

nent of feet/hof issues, but the link could be heritable. Vertical cracks, also known as sandcracks, can be found on up to 64% beef cattle, on their outside claw on their front foot. Seems to be a genetic component. Another possible heritable trait is corkscrew claw, most common in hind hooves. This is observed most commonly in cattle three years old and older. This is also a heritable trait, good to be able to see dam and grandma if possible. Another feet/hof issue is horizontal cracks, which is equally prevalent in dairy and beef cattle, if cow is horned, you will also see the changes in the horn rings at the same time. Horizontal cracks occur during calving.

Another issue is udders, the structure and genetics are important with cows that have many calves. Pederson states that all breeds are created equal regarding good and bad udders. Having equal size teats and tight suspension of the udder is important. If there is large teat size and poor suspension there is the chance of having to milk out that cow for the calf. Looking at the dam of the bull is important, genetics of the bulls mother. Of course, disposition. Safety for you and yours on your operation is most important. No cows to get a pass, even if they are your favorite. Sometimes temperament issues do not occur until cattle are older.

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# Bull-buying Workshops Set

Producers will learn how expected progeny differences and DNA can help them select the right bulls.

**By NDSU Agriculture Communication**

Cattle producers will have an opportunity to learn how expected progeny differences (EPDs) can help them buy the right bulls for their operation during workshops the North Dakota State University Extension Service is holding this winter.

The Buying Bulls by the Numbers workshops will be held Dec. 9, and Jan. 20 and Feb. 3, 2017, at NDSU’s Dickinson Research Extension Center. The same workshop information will be presented at the North Dakota Beef Commission offices in Bismarck on Dec. 16, and Jan. 3 and Feb. 10, 2017.

The workshops will focus on implementing EPDs and DNA in bull selection.

“Our main goal is to provide producers with a hands-on experience on how they can utilize these tools as they look at bull selection and pending purchases,” says workshop host Kris Ringwall, NDSU Extension beef specialist and director of the Dickinson Research Extension Center.

The hands-on discussion is designed to help producers proactively use the data in breed sire summaries. Ringwall will help producers search breed databases to evaluate possible bull purchases using EPDs.

“There is so much information within breed sire summaries that is very useful to help producers develop a cattle production program that fits their management system and environment,” Ringwall says. “The workshop will provide insights into how pro-

ducers could effectively use the numbers by actually reviewing information from catalogs.”

The major outcome of the Buying Bulls by the Numbers workshop is to have producers study individual bull data to see how EPDs have or will impact their production model.

Participants can see how EPDs relate to direct traits such as weight or size. The workshops also will include discussion on how indirect traits such as milk production can offer further refinement to the selection of breeding stock.

Ringwall will present information on genomics as well.

“The genetics of the beef herd in North Dakota is wide and varied,” he says. “One desired outcome of the workshops is to give producers an insight into how they can utilize genomics in their beef herds.”

The workshop will conclude with a discussion of indexes, which are a new tool that can simplify sire selection.

The workshops are free of charge, but preregistration is required because space at each workshop is limited.

To register, send an email to [lee.tisor@ndsu.edu](mailto:lee.tisor@ndsu.edu) or contact the Dickinson Research Extension Center by phone at 701-456-1105.

Producers who are unable to attend these workshops may contact their local Extension office to see if a similar workshop is being held in their area.

# Sidney Young Professionals Holding a Winter Clothing Drive, Dec. 8th – 16th

**By Meagan Dotson**

Sidney Young Professionals (SYP) will be holding a winter clothing drive Dec. 8th – 16th; donations can be dropped off at the donation box housed at Meadowlark Public House, 117 S Central Ave in Sidney. The kickoff begins during the SYP monthly meeting, Thursday, Dec. 8th at the Meadowlark Public House from 6pm – 8pm. The recently formed group is seeking donations other than coats, such as boots, hats, gloves, scarves, snow pants, socks, and long underwear in children’s sizes. Donated items will be distributed to Richland County schools.

“We knew there was a need because we have educators on our board,” explained SYP board member Katie Dasinger. “One of our goals is to fill the gaps between other organizations’ service projects, such as the LYREC coat drive, Edward D. Jones toy drive, and the Lions’ and Kiwanis’ ‘Gifts from the Heart’ drives. We didn’t want to detract from other fundraising events, so we focused on meeting supplemental needs.”

SYP is a business service with the purpose of creating networking opportunities and

outreach through events and classes, as well as developing a social element that highlights what Sidney has to offer outside of work. It was also formed as a way to address the high turnover of young professionals in the area, acting as a resource for businesses to help them recruit and retain employees.

SYP meets the second Thursday of the month, and is open to anyone in Richland County. There is no cost to attend, however the group asks for at-the-door donations to help cover the costs of the monthly meetings.

The Dec. 8th meeting will start with appetizers and social, and includes a 30-minute program, addressing some of the needs of young professionals in the area. They invite the public to visit with them about their organization when dropping off donations.

For more information about SYP, contact Richland Economic Development Corp at 406-482-4679, or visit their Facebook page.

# Williston Leaders to Learn About Proposed Concepts for Sloulin Redevelopment Dec. 9

The City of Williston and Cardon Global officials are taking the next step toward “Reimagining Williston.” The two parties will meet next week to explore the possibilities for a large development in the center of town. The workshop will allow Cardon to present preliminary concepts for the Sloulin Field Redevelopment Master Plan.

Cardon Global has been working on ideas for the master plan for about six months. The Arizona-based firm was selected by the Williston City Commission in early 2016 to manage the expansive project. Cardon is also overseeing the FiveSouth redevelopment in Downtown Bismarck. The firm plans to break ground on it sometime next year.

“We’re happy to be partnered with Cardon for their ideas and creativity they bring to the table,” said Williston Administrator David Tuan. “We’re

hopeful this workshop will help us imagine some exciting concepts to present to the public for input.”

The opportunity to redevelop more than 800 acres within Williston’s city limits emerged as the plan to relocate Sloulin Field International Airport was finalized. A groundbreaking ceremony for the new Williston Basin International Airport was held last October. Completion is projected in 2020. When the new XWA terminal opens, Sloulin Field will be decommissioned, and construction on the redevelopment can begin. The ideas for the multi-use project are essentially limitless.

“The redevelopment of Sloulin Field presents a unique opportunity for the City of Williston. Not a lot of communities can say they have 800 acres of blank canvas to develop in the heart of their city,” said Shawn Wenko, Williston Eco-

nomic Development executive direct. “I think you are going to see some wild ideas develop over the next several months of what “could be” at this site.”

The Cardon Global-City of Williston workshop will be held on Friday, Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Williston Area Recreation Center. The public is welcome to attend as observers; however community input will be sought at town hall meetings at a later date.

“It’s exciting for the economic office to be a part of this. But, I am more excited that the residents of the City of Williston and the region will also have a chance to weigh in on this project. This will be the largest redevelopment project in the city of Williston’s history,” said Wenko.

The schedule for the Sloulin Field Redevelopment town hall meetings has yet to be announced.



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## Wrestlers Compete in Eagle Invitational



The Sidney wrestling team kicked off the season by hosting their annual Eagle Invitational Tourney on Dec. 2-3. The Eagles won 2 and lost 1 in the dual tourney Friday. Individually, Jace Johnson placed 7th and Christian Dean placed 6th. Above: Jace Johnson pins his Bowman opponent at the Eagle Invite. (Photo by Kari Jones)

## Middle School Wrestling Results

The following are the individual results for the wrestlers that went to the Williston Invitational on Saturday, December 3.

75-80#, Kaden Wise, first place; Owen Lonski, second place; Ben Carlsen, fourth place.

80-85#, Zander Dean, first place; Kolby Hutzenbiler, second place.

88-92#, Grady Nelson, second place.

90-95#, Gage Johnson, fourth place.

95-100#, Aden Graves,

first place; Tucker Nevins, third place.

103-105#, Jordan Darby; second place; Deegan Carranza, fourth place.

104-108#, Hunter Moore, fifth place.

105-112#, Blake Benson, second place.

113-120#, Nathan Romo, first place; Zander Burnison, fourth place.

118-125#, Kade Graves, first place.

123-130#, Dallas Massey, third place.

125-133#, Logan Ullmer,

second place; Kolton Reid, third place.

129-138#, Easton Hopes, fourth place.

136-141#, Shandyn Gurney, second place; Branden Batty, third place.

150#, Riley Waters, second place.

165-175#, Brodey Skogan, second place.

220-240#, Trey Schepens, first place.

HWT, Carlos Hernandez, third place.



## Sidney Kiwanis Club Welcomes Four More Members

The Sidney Kiwanis Club welcomed four new members at its Thursday meeting. Joining this global organization of volunteers were, l to r, Chris Hillesland, Ian Walker, Jenna Donahue and Tim Fine.

Kiwanis meets at noon every Thursday at the Sidney Elks Lodge. If you are interested in learning more, or becoming a member, join them for lunch, a great program and fellowship.

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## The Glendive Agri-Trade Expo is Scheduled for Feb. 10th & 11th 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 convene 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 Cowbells 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](http://www.gatexpo.com). We're looking forward to seeing you there!

## North Dakota Fish House Regulations

Winter anglers are reminded that any fish house left unoccupied on North Dakota waters must be made out of materials that will allow it to float.

A popular question this time of year is if campers qualify as legal fish houses. The answer is the same for any structure taken on the ice – if it's left unattended, it must be able to float; if it's not able to float, it must be removed when the angler leaves the ice.

Other fish house regulations include:

Fish houses do not require a license.

Occupied structures do not require identification. However, any unoccupied fish house must have the owner's name, and either address or telephone number, displayed on its outside in readily distinguishable characters at least three inches high.

Fish houses may not be placed closer than 50 feet in any direction to another house without consent of the occupant of the other fish house.

All unoccupied fish houses must be removed from all waters after midnight, March 15.

Anglers should refer to the 2016-18 North Dakota Fishing Guide for other winter fishing regulations.

## WATFORD CITY IS CELEBRATING The Sights and Sounds of Christmas Chamber

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### Stores Open Late

For your shopping convenience, many stores will be open late throughout the month of December. Be sure to check with your favorite stores about their shopping hours!

### Merry

### Christmas Elf

Starting December 12, be sure to wish everyone you see a "Merry Christmas," because if you're the first person to wish "Merry Christmas" to the Secret Elf of the Day, you'll win \$25 in Watford City Bucks!

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Find the Chamber Elf at member businesses, take a Selfie with Elfie and text it to us at 701-570-5084 for your chance to win Watford City Bucks December 12-14.

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# DPHHS Raising Awareness About HIV; Urging Montanans to Get Screened Regularly



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December 1 is World AIDS Day and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and local partners are using the commemorative event as an opportunity to increase awareness about who may be at risk, and to decrease the stigma of HIV/AIDS.

The 2016 World AIDS Day theme is “Leadership. Commitment. Impact.” State-supported HIV treatment and prevention programs are committed to reducing the epidemic in Montana by facilitating planning, implementing strategic HIV prevention activities and ensuring access to HIV treatment.

“World AIDS Days is a time to reflect on the many Montanans who work so hard to enhance HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment efforts in Montana, and to also remember those who have perished from the disease or are currently living with HIV,” said Judy Nielsen of the DPHHS STD-HIV Prevention Section.

She also said additional health coverage options are also proving beneficial. In January 2016, Montana launched the HELP Plan (Medicaid expansion) that extended health coverage to thousands of state residents. The Ryan White Care Act also provides life-saving medication to hundreds of Montanans with HIV. “Access to health care and treatment is critical because it allows persons with HIV to improve their health outcomes and live more productive and longer lives,” Nielsen said.

Judy Nielsen of the DPHHS STD-HIV Prevention Section said the relatively low number of persons living with

HIV in the state gives rise to the hope of one day “Getting to Zero,” which was a recent World AIDS Day theme. Montana in 2016 currently has an estimated 620 residents living with HIV.

The number of new infections reported annually in Montana is fairly stable, averaging 20 people per year. However, given the recent increase in other sexually transmitted disease (STD), officials are concerned that they could see additional HIV infections in the next few years. Certain STDs that result in ulcers or lesions can increase a person’s susceptibility to infection with HIV.

A recent advance in the field of HIV prevention involves the use of medication taken by persons at high risk for acquiring HIV. Pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, consists of taking a daily pill and has been proven to reduce the risk of infection if a person is exposed to HIV.

Another effective prevention method is treatment of individuals who are already infected with HIV. People living with HIV who are on HIV medications can lower the amount of virus in their blood to undetectable levels, substantially reducing the risk of sexual transmission of HIV to others.

To lower an individual’s risk of HIV infection, public health authorities recommend the following:

- Reduce the number of sexual partners or remain in a long-term monogamous relationship.
- Talk to your partner about HIV and use latex condoms every time you have sex.
- Have an honest and open discussion with your health care provider about your sexual history and ask if you should be tested for STD and HIV.

In addition to advice from a health care provider, HIV counseling and testing services are available at the clinics listed on the <https://getcheckedmt.org> website.

More information on HIV can be found by contacting a local health department or visiting [www.dphhs.gov](http://www.dphhs.gov)

## SHS Speech & Drama Take First in Plentywood



Front Row: Tianne Earle, Katrina Meldahl, Christine Turek, Kyle Topp, Laura Elmore, Shea Roberts. 2nd Row: Tyler Berka, Alex Messer, Luke Turek, Peachlyn Simons, Hannah Evans. 3rd Row: Madison Brost, Atlas Hill, Zach Sommerfeld, Kasey Gorder, Jhren Carpenter.

Submitted by Christy Pierce

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2016 the SHS Speech, Drama & Debate team travelled to Plentywood Montana to compete against 14 schools, the entire team advanced to finals. Senior Laura Elmore competed with her Dramatic Solo and achieved a perfect score of 6. This was her first time taking home a medal. Kyle Topp placed second. The Drama Team brought home the 1st place trophy for the second time this year. In Classic Duo Peachlyn Simons & Atlas Hill placed 3rd, Christine Turek & Shea Roberts placed 4th. Humorous Duo Tyler Berka & Katrina Meldahl placed 7th. The Speech Team also brought home the 1st place trophy. Zach Sommerfeld placed 1st in Extemp. Impromptu: Kasey Gorder placed 2nd. MPA: Tianna Earle placed 4th, Jhren Carpenter placed 5th. Original Oratory: Luke Turek 2nd, Alex Messer 3rd. Informative: Hannah Evans placed 4th. The Team travels to Glendive next weekend.

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## DECORATE YOUR HOME SAFELY DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

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**Make sure all extension cords and electrical decorations are marked for proper use**



**Outdoor electric lights and decorations should be plugged into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)**



**Inspect all lights, decorations, and extension cords for damage before using**



**Exercise caution when decorating near power lines. Keep yourself and your equipment at least 10 feet from power lines**



**Turn off all indoor and outdoor electrical decorations before leaving home or going to sleep**




**Avoid overloading electrical outlets with too many decorations or electrical devices. They can overheat and cause a fire**



**Never connect more than three strings of incandescent lights together**



**Water your Christmas tree daily**



**Keep all decorations at least 3 feet away from heating equipment or an open flame**



**Purchase electrical decorations from reputable retailers** that are approved by a national recognized testing lab such as **UL** (Underwriters Laboratory), Intertek (**ETL**), or Canadian Standards Association (**CSA**)



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