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Wednesday, May 13, 2020

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Sidney FFA Member Emma Torgerson Wins Ram Truck Scholarship



Emma Torgerson stands with Action Auto Sales Manager Gary Schoepp. (Photo by Aliza Hunter)

By Aliza Hunter

Emma Torgerson, a senior at Sidney High School, was presented with a \$2,000 National FFA scholarship sponsored by Dodge Ram. Ram Trucks has had a strong partnership with the National FFA Organization based on the historic connection between traditional American farming and Ram Trucks. A key foundation of the Ram/FFA partnership has been \$2,000 Ram scholarships (funded by Ram Marketing) awarded annually in communities across the U.S. to FFA members via the National FFA Scholarship Program. Benefits to Ram have included the opportunity to participate in local events, banquets, meetings, and school award assemblies, cultivating business for Ram Trucks. This opportunity also gives local Ram dealers a direct connection to this investment in their communities. Last year, the National FFA Organization awarded \$2.2 million overall in scholarships designed to fit the diversity of its applicants. Scholarships are sponsored by businesses like Ram Trucks and individuals through the National FFA Foundation and are given for a wide variety of experiences, career goals and higher education plans. The selection process takes into account the whole student – FFA involvement, work experience, supervised agricultural experience (SAE),



Emma Torgerson accepts the DEKALB Ag Accomplishment Award from Ted Fulghan, Sidney High School FFA Advisor (Photo by Aliza Hunter)

community service, leadership skills and academics. More than 1,800 scholarships are available.

Torgerson has been a member of the local FFA chapter for four years, beginning her freshman year of high school. She will be attending North Dakota University in the fall, majoring in Agricultural Education with a minor in Extension. Her goal is to become a 4-H extension agent in Richland County after completing her education. Torgerson has found a love of 4-H after being involved in the program for nine years. Because of her devotion in the agricultural sector, Torgerson was also awarded the Certificate of Agricultural Accomplishment from DEKALB. The DEKALB Ag Accomplishment Award showcases the abilities of outstanding agriculture students. The award is presented annually to one FFA student per chapter, who exemplifies scholarship, commitment and work ethic. DEKALB is pleased to recognize these select students for their hard work, dedication and passion for pursuing a fulfilling career in agriculture. These students demonstrate promising young talent and are the rising stars of agriculture. Students can be nominated to receive this award by their FFA advisors.

Richland County Republicans Host Candidates Forum

The Richland County Republican Central Committee (RCRCC) gathered for a virtual town hall meeting on Thursday, May 7. The event was originally supposed to be scheduled as a debate between HD35 candidate Brandon Ler and HD35 incumbent, Joel Krautter, but when the committee learned that Krautter declined to attend the event they opened it to other area candidates including, Jerry Schillinger, Rhonda Knudsen, Austin Knudsen, Steve Hinebauch, Alan Doane, Bob Phalen, and Loren Young. Richland County Commissioner, Duane Mitchell, moderated the forum.

Thirty questions were chosen to ask the candidates by RCRCC chairwoman Tanya Rost and asked by Mitchell, and the event lasted two hours, with three minutes per answer allotted to the candidates.

Mitchell posed a question to Austin Knudsen about his race for Attorney General, "Many conservatives are not happy about the performance of Tim Fox as Attorney General. If elected, what will you do differently?"

Knudsen (a candidate for Attorney General, Culbertson) answered, "Unfortunately, Tim Fox has been a disappointment." He continued, "The first thing he started doing is increase his budget every session... They've added over 20 million dollars to the Department of Justice Budget in the 7 1/2 he's been there. I don't think conservatives do that."

Knudsen went on to laud both Matt Rosendale in the auditor's office and Corey Stapleton in the Secretary of State's office and said they provided good models for fiscal conservatism. He also spoke extensively about the problem of methamphetamine and his experience as a prosecutor to keep drug-related crimes in check.

Mitchell asked the candidates, "When you are elected, are there any bills or issues you would like to immediately begin working on?"

Ler (HD35, candidate, Savage) answered, "One of the biggest issues around here is property tax. That needs to be addressed. Also, trying to get rid of the regulations that are hampering us in small business, and trying to get worker's comp rates down. It's hard to hire with those rates so high. In my business, fencing, about \$.10 on the dollar goes to worker's comp. That hampers business."

Schillinger (HD37, candidate, Circle) added, "One of my biggest disappointments was the passage of Medicaid Expansion last time, especially as we rejected it so soundly out here in Eastern Montana. And I was very disappointed to see my representative, my opponent, supported it."

Schillinger, whose grandson sat on his lap stoically for the entire forum, said, "If I was elected, one thing that's going to be pretty obvious is that revenue is going to be pretty sketchy, but I'm excited to go serve because we'll have a conservative governor and do some really good things to reduce the expense of government."

Mitchell asked the three current legislators about the Solutions Caucus, with whom Rep. Krautter coalesces in Helena. Mitchell posed the question, "In the legislature, conservatives are often dwarfed by Democrat cross-over voters in the Republican Party called the Solutions Caucus. What do voters need to know about this caucus and what they're about?"

Rhonda Knudsen (incumbent and candidate for HD34, Culbertson) answered, "The thing about the Solutions Caucus that sticks in my mind is that they call themselves pragmatists...In my opinion a pragmatist is just someone without principles." She added, "They refer to us as ex-

tremists. That's because we do have principles and stand by our principles."

Referring to the Solutions Caucus and adding to Knudsen's comments, Doane (incumbent in HD36, Glendive) said, "The extremists are the splinter group that goes off from the Republican Party."

Towards the end of the evening, Mitchell asked three of the current legislators, Doane, Hinebauch, and Rhonda Knudsen, "All of you to one extent or another have served with Representative Krautter but yet support Brandon Ler [for HD35]. Why is that and what words do you have for Brandon should he win the election so he can become a good legislator?"

Hinebauch (incumbent senator in SD18, Glendive) answered matter-of-factly, "Yes, I've served with Representative Krautter and have always been cordial with Joel and listened to his concerns. But the reason I'm supporting Brandon is because Joel is a liberal."

Rhonda Knudsen said, "The reason I'm supporting Brandon is I know he has conservative principles. And I know he's running because he knows Eastern Montana needs a conservative representative."

Doane chimed in, "We have three people representing basically the same group of people but we have one who is so adversely different from the other two it just doesn't work. In Eastern Montana we have to stick together to out-vote Missoula and if we don't stick together it's not going to happen."

Mitchell asked the candidates about the phenomenon of left-leaning politicians running in the Republican Party instead of the Democratic Party in Eastern Montana and the House candidates had something to say about it.

Schillinger said, "We have a RINO in there right now serving House District 37...I am a conservative. I believe in those values. I wouldn't be going to Helena to serve if I didn't believe in these values. As Rhonda said, we're referred to as extremists. But when I was growing up we just called them conservative values."

Ler said, "I was born right the first time. I didn't need an awakening-experience [to become a conservative]. I was born-and-raised conservative. I'm conservative to the core. I make no qualms about it...With [Krautter] voting with the Democrats 200 times or above, I'd just say, 'If a man doesn't stand for something, he'll fall for anything.' You need to know which side a man is going to be on."

Mitchell took the opportunity to ask Austin Knudsen about his role as Attorney General to support gun rights should Trump not be re-elected.

Knudsen answered, "I am very fiercely Second Amendment. When Missoula stepped in to try to pass an illegal and unconstitutional local gun ordinance, I as the Speaker of the House am the one that drug Attorney General Tim Fox into that fight, kicking and screaming I might add...I would be very diligent and very aggressive to defend Montanan's right to defend themselves and bear arms."

This forum had 1100 views and can be seen from the Richland County Republican Central Committee's Facebook page.

Rep. Joel Krautter made the following statement: "I have let the central committee know I look forward to hearing from constituents at the Sidney Chamber and Farm Bureau candidate forum on May 14."

This Year's McKenzie County Fair Canceled Due to COVID-19

By Anna Dragseth

While the county fair is a long-awaited summertime event, this year, the McKenzie County Fair Board decided that it is in everybody's best interest to cancel this year's 2020 McKenzie County Fair.

The fair board met via conference on Monday, May 4, to discuss the McKenzie County Fair, and they concluded that the fair, which was initially scheduled for July 17-20, would be canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The board expressed that it was a tough decision. There will be further discussion about the possibility of holding a rodeo and Demolition Derby at a later date-which will be dependent on how things progress with the COVID-19 situation in McKenzie County.

Candidate's Forum May 14 Sidney

The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture and the Richland County Farm Bureau Federation will hold a candidate's forum with House District 35 candidates Joel Krautter and Brandon Ler starting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 14. The forum will be broadcast on the Chamber's Facebook Live page. Questions can be submitted during the forum on Richland County Farm Bureau Federation's Facebook page or prior to the event by emailing director@sidneymt.com

Fairview Class Of 2020 Drive-By Graduation Party

Come out and show your support for the Fairview graduates, Saturday, May 15, 3-5 p.m. at Sundheim Bridge. The seniors will be scattered along the side of the road through Sundheim Park so that family, friends, teachers and community members can honk and wave at the graduating class of 2020. There will be tables set up and attended at the entrance of the park with a card box for each senior if you'd like to drop off a card or gift. All social distance rules will apply, so please remain at least six feet apart. For more information call Laurie at 406-489-1094.

Garden Seeds Available To Plant Vegetables For Local Food Pantry North Dakota

Submitted by Marcia Hellandsaas

NDSU Extension/McKenzie County is partnering with the North Dakota State University Extension Master Gardener Program and the Fargo Public Library to support food pantries with nutritious, fresh produce.

The Extension Master Gardener Program has distributed garden vegetable seeds to 18 NDSU Extension county offices, including McKenzie County. Avid gardeners and 4-H youth are invited to sow the seeds in home gardens, care for the plants and harvest the fresh vegetables for donation to local food pantries. Food safety protocols will have to be followed to ensure safe harvesting and handling of the produce.

Home gardeners are encouraged to plant an extra row or two of vegetable crops in their garden for donation to local food pantries. If you are a container gardener, you are asked to consider planting an extra container of vegetables. This effort is to help our local unemployed residents, our friends and neighbors.

Fresh produce in most demand at food pantries include beans, peas, beets, carrots, cucumbers, onions, peppers tomatoes and melons.

The Fargo Public Library, who intended to start a seed library for the 2020 growing season to benefit its patrons, provides seed donations. The library, in conjunction with Friends of the Fargo Public Library, acquired the seeds during the winter from reputable seed companies. Extension Master Gardeners in Cass County repackaged the seeds in small envelopes for free distribution through the library system.

However, the libraries closed due to COVID-19, which meant that the public could not access the seed library in time for spring planting. To prevent the vegetable seeds from going to waste during a time of food insecurity, the entire seed library was donated to the NDSU Extension Master Gardener Program to benefit food pantries across the state.

To obtain seed packets for planting in your garden or container, please contact the NDSU Extension Service/McKenzie County at 701-444-3451 or email extension agents marcia.hellandsaas@ndsu.edu or devan.leo@ndsu.edu.



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We would like to assure all of our customers and staff that Model Drive-In Cleaners is taking all necessary steps recommended by our Drycleaners Association and backed by the Centers for Disease Control during the COVID-19 outbreak. This means all items coming in and going out of Model Drive-In Cleaners will be sanitized.

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STATISTICS

LAKE WATER LEVEL REPORT

Sakakawea

Current Elevation.....1840.4
Last Week's Elev.1840.2
One Year Ago1846.5
Release For Day (C.F.S.)24,000

SIDNEY WEATHER DATA

Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low
Precip.		
May 4.....	63	40
May 5.....	61	32
May 6.....	68	34
May 7.....	62	36
May 8.....	67	29
May 9.....	47	33
May 10.....	50	27
Total 2020 YTD Precipitation.....	1.242	

OBITUARIES

Kathryn “Kat” Platz, 35 Sidney, MT

The Lord got a hand-full with the passing of one of the most stubborn, feisty, crazy, funny, loyal and loving individuals ever created.

Kathryn “Kat” LeeAnne Tresa Platz finally tucked out after a year-long war with cancer. Her loving friend Briele, was by her side. She was 35 years old.

Kat was born Nov. 16, 1984 in St. Louis, MO to Jack and Janet Platz. From the very beginning Kathryn left an impression. She was a character for sure with a smile and a laugh that could brighten the darkest days. If you were around her longer than a half hour, you couldn't help but fall in love. She had a way with animals and charmed every single dog she met.

This was especially true for her faithful companion, best friend, always loyal and all around bestest boy, Bentley. Never has a dog been more adored than that yellow Lab.

Kat also had a special gift with children. Her boundless energy, infectious laugh and huge heart made her “Aunt Kat” to quite a few lucky kiddos

Kat made her way to Montana via Big Sky and fell so deeply in love with the Treasure State that she never left, moving from the resort life out west to the oilfield plains in the east.

Kat was an amazing worker and had an array of jobs including waitressing, racing the beverage cart at the Country Club and in the typical Kat fashion, she endured school a second time to earn her welding degree. Wherever she was, she was loved. Kat's friends were very much her family and she was adored by so many. The pioneer of “Sunday Funday” she leaves a legacy that will never be matched.

Kathryn is survived by her parents Jade and Janet, her brother Jeremiah, her maternal grandmother Pauline, and paternal grandmother Viola.

She is also survived by her large family of friends, her special nieces and nephews, brothers and sisters and a few

extra Moms for good measure. Kathryn was so loved; she was a bright spot in so many lives and will be remembered roundly for her spark, her laugh and her heart. She fought with every chip stacked against her and never lost her smile. Special thanks to the Sidney Health Center Cancer Care for their excellent treatment and for their love and support and also the Billings Clinic for their amazing treatment and patience.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the South 40 at a date to be announced after Phase II.

In lieu of flowers, donation to the cancer center or humane society would be appreciated.

Arnold Howard, 87 Rapid City, SD formerly of Fairview, MT

Arnold Howard, 87, of Rapid City, SD formerly of Fairview, MT, passed away on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at Avantara Arrowhead, Rapid City, SD.

Services will be held at a later date, Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT is caring for the family.

Remembrances, condolences and pictures may be shared with the family at www.fulkersons.com.

Luella C. Buxbaum, 82 Sidney, MT

Memorial services for Luella Buxbaum will be held at a later date so family and friends can attend.

Visitation was Wednesday, May 6, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Private family internment took place at Sidney Cemetery under the direction of Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 2 p.m. with Pastor David Meehan officiating.

Remembrances, condolences and pictures may be shared with the family at www.fulkersons.com.

Luella Bauer Buxbaum, 82, went to be with her heavenly father on Monday, May 4, 2020 at home peacefully with her family by her bedside.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am saddened to see politics in Richland County more vicious than I have ever seen it. Based on recent letters to the editor, petty personal attacks cast a cloud on real issues that need to be addressed. We need discussion on how adequate funding for our public schools and rural healthcare can be sustained in the current economic climate.

On a positive note, I met a gentleman the other day from Glendive who is running for Senate District 18, which encompasses Wibaux, Dawson and Richland counties. His name is Pat Mischel and I think he would be a great replacement for our current Senator who I think does not reflect the views of a majority of voters in District 18. We talked about he double whammy of COVID-19 and the collapse of oil to our local economy. Pat is a huge supporter of Public Education and using it to retrain workers who have lost oil related jobs. I think we need someone like Pat with new ideas instead of our current Senator who offers little but the word “No”. The other issue that is near and dear to Pat's heart is access to public lands for hunting, fishing and tourism. He wants to insure that our public lands remain public, so that future generations of Montanans can have the same access that we have today. Pat Mischel is running unopposed in the primary but I encourage you to consider him in the November election

Greg Miller, Sidney

Dear Editor:
Krautter Delivered Results For Area

Two years ago we supported Joel Krautter's campaign to be our area's Representative in Helena. The reasons we did so then were that we believed Joel would go to Helena to find solutions and would keep the needs of our area first, ahead of politics. We also believed Joel would stay informed about the challenges to our area and be a thoughtful, dedicated problem-solver in Helena.

Having spent a legislative session working with Representative Krautter on various legislation and following his votes, we can say that Joel Krautter delivered on all of those things and then some.

Representative Krautter successfully restored a funding stream of oil and gas tax revenue for local cities and towns that had been diverted after the 2017 legislative session. This legislation was a priority for Sidney, Fairview and other eastern Montana communities, as well as counties, whose officials traveled to Helena to support

the legislation.

Joel was also well aware of attempts by other legislators to steal money away from local governments to pay into the state's public defender system. Had this passed it could have resulted in local tax increases to make up for the loss of this revenue to the state. Joel also supported historic investments in infrastructure.

Joel maintained an open line of communication on a daily and weekly basis with local government officials and community leaders on happenings from the Capitol, which we appreciated. Additionally, Joel didn't just show up at the Capitol to vote and go home, he went above-and-beyond to support our agriculture and business communities, receiving recognition by both the Montana Farm Bureau and Montana Chamber of Commerce for his work.

Joel Krautter delivered results for the people of Richland County in Helena in his first term and he has earned our personal support for re-election to House District 35. We know his work at the legislature will continue to benefit all of the residents of Richland County.

Sincerely,
Rick Norby
Brian Bieber
Tami Christensen
Janet Sergent
Kali Godfrey

Dear Editor:

It bothers me that good, old-fashioned common sense is missing from politics on both the state and national level. The ability to find solutions and stay levelheaded, has evolved into name-calling and ineffective governing. The art of working together and finding common ground seems to have completely left the building and the ones left hostage to this type of politics are us, the citizens in every county and state across America.

However, in House District 35 we have a person who is solution minded and result driven and will do what is best for all the residents in our county. That person is Joel Krautter.

Joel Krautter's common sense, conservative leadership style brings results to Richland County and Eastern Montana. He is a good listener and more importantly a learner and a doer. I've watched him lead and listen to many groups, committees and industries in Richland County and all are better from his involvement and leadership. He is focused on building relationships and finding solutions to problems facing Richland County. He sincerely wants to grow our economy and take care of infrastructure needs, schools and hospitals. He did not

abandon his conservative principles during the legislative session but proved he will work to bring results to Richland County. Voting no on every single bill because it doesn't include everything we want does not move this county forward.

The fact that the Montana Stockgrowers and Montana Farm Bureau have endorsed Joel make it clear to me he is the candidate we want in office. Both associations worked extensively with Joel during his first legislative session. He was awarded the Rookie of the Year legislator from the Montana Farm Bureau, as the first-term legislator who went above and beyond in serving agriculture and rural Montana. This is the kind of person I want representing my interests in Helena. The one who will go above and beyond for Montana's number one industry, agriculture!

My family's livelihood is agriculture and I want a Representative who understands and most importantly will learn about the issues facing farmers and ranchers in Eastern Montana. Joel understands the importance of agriculture and has proven he will work hard to make sure our voices are heard. This is the leader I want representing me in Helena.

I strongly support re-electing Joel Krautter for House District 35. Please join me in voting for him on June 2, 2020.

Kristin Larson

Dear Editor:

A political flyer recently arrived in my mailbox entitled Health Care Matters, Now More Than Ever. It was sent by a Republican candidate running for House District 36 (Wibaux/Dawson Co.) and he pledged to support quality Healthcare solutions. The flyer also stated the viability of our local hospitals is dependent upon the Legislature's support of healthcare funding. In House District 35 (Richland Co.) the current Republican legislator voted for extending the Medicaid Expansion Program. It's good to see some Republicans embracing this important program, which benefits eastern Montana, but there are still those who would cut the program entirely. As a candidate for Senate District 18, which encompasses Wibaux, Dawson, and Richland Counties, I want you to know

specifically how and who this program effects, and the true cost. Here are some reasons I will continue to support Medicaid Expansion and work with both parties to make it a better program. Montana residents who earn less than \$16,000 a year or \$33,000 for a family of four need real coverage with benefits like a doctor, access to hospitals and emergency care, adult dental care, mental health and substance abuse treatment, prescription drugs, rehabilitation services and supplies, family planning, and yes, maternity and newborn care. As of March 20, 2020 there are 926 people enrolled in Expanded Medicaid in our three counties. During the current enrollment period there have been 160 breast cancer screenings, 106 colon screenings, 19 cancer conditions averted, 494 outpatient mental health treatments, and 52 inpatient mental health treatments. All this and the above-mentioned services from adult dental to newborn care are paid for by the Medicaid Expansion. Montana Department of Health & Human Services affixes a dollar amount of \$5,754 per member a year, of which the United States DPHHS reimburses Montana 90%.

The end price of this lifesaving program is \$5,328,204, all of which is spent at local hospitals or to private and public health providers. These dollars are well spent compared to the 46 billion the United States spends on foreign aid per year. Access to quality healthcare and preventive care is less expensive than emergency care. One final thought, as we go through this downturn in our economy, many hard working Eastern Montana families who have contributed to build our communities will be laid off and lose their insurance, these people are our friends and neighbors. Medicaid Expansion is a program that can help.

*All facts cited in this letter are available at: www.dphhs.mt.mt.gov/healthcare.

Pat Mischel – Democratic Candidate for Mt. Senate District 18
Glendive, MT

Editor's note: Due to space limitations, Letters to the Editor from people residing outside The Roundup distribution area will appear online and not in this week's print edition.

Statement on Political Content

The Roundup does not endorse or support ANY political candidate and/or political party. The opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor and political ads are that of the authors or organizations making the claims. The Roundup does not investigate the veracity or truthfulness of individuals political opinions and statements. We feel it is important to allow each side of an issue express their opinions so the public can decide which side they support without the opinions of those involved with our publication placing a finger on the scale.

Sidney Chamber Fall Leadership Class Applications Being Accepted

By Bill Vander Weele
Sidney Chamber Executive Director

The 2020-2021 Sidney Area Leadership Program through the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture is being planned to start this fall. Applications are now being accepted. To receive an application, contact the Sidney Chamber at 433-1916 or director@sidneymt.com.

Founded in 1998, the program is designed to develop the leadership potential within our community. The leadership program brings together individuals of diverse backgrounds and experiences with demonstrated talent and commitment. The program offers these selected individuals a unique opportunity to explore the resources of their community and the impact of social and economic change on the Sidney area.

A successful change took place starting with last year's class. Issue Days are now from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. instead of running late into the afternoons.

Topics on Issue Days will include agriculture, business, education, energy, government, health and human services on tourism.



The seven Issue Days take place between September and April.

Tuition is \$250 per participant or \$200 for Chamber members. Deadline to turn in an application is July 31. Forms are available at the Sidney Chamber office. Participants are encouraged to ask their employer to sponsor their tuition fees in return for the skills and knowledge they will bring back to the workplace.

Participants are wel-

come from all aspects of business, manufacturing, government, retail and social services industries. Applicants are chosen based on criteria established by the Sidney Area Leadership Selection Committee.

The 2019-2020 class included Janelle Chamberlain, Kaila Daily, Tonya Schoepp, Nick Kallem, Shay Steinbeisser, Jackie Miller, Bill Vander Weele, JD Mulkey, Kallie Berndt, Amy Bieber, Heidi Moran, Jeri Chapman,

Kathryn Murphy and Erin Lambert. Chamberlain and Murphy will serve as the class representatives on the leadership task force.

Class participants also learn during two or three Skills Development Sessions and other enrichment activities. During the second year of the program, participants will each teach one of the seven Issue Days.

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Sat, May 23 • 9am - 6pm

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- “A” rating from the United Property Owners of Montana
- Voted for balanced budget
- Voted to keep our rural hospitals open

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GRADUATION 2020

Lambert High School Graduation • Sat., May 16 • 7:30 pm • Lambert Sports Complex



Lien Blake



Royce Candee



Colter Carda



Gabe Gonsioroski



Sarah Helmuth



Courtney Herman



Alyssa Hill



Aiden Killick



Lauren Krenning



Quinn Ligon



Mason Mavity



Connor Pflughoft



Ethan Pust



Hunter Watson

Culbertson High School Graduation • May 16th at 2 pm • invitation only



Ashtyn Ator



Kayla Barnett



Victoria Barnhart



Mariah Cathey



Jacob Crowder



Rachael Gilbert



Gabe Granada



Payton Hauge



Ashlin Kirn



Clayton Marchwick



Rylie Northington



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Jerek Summers



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GRADUATION 2020

(Culbertson continued)

Savage High School Graduation • May 16th at 1 pm • on foot ball field



Tyler Wilbanks



Eli Williams



Kelsie Williams



Gage Bloesser



Emily Braden



Haylie Conradsen



Trey Fisher

(Savage)

Froid High School Graduation • July 11th

Richey High School Graduation • May 16th at 2 pm • on foot ball field



Reghan Prevost



Kassidy Kjos



Sydney Labatte



Halle Vareberg



Kodi Bireley



Neale Kelly



Chance Senner

(Richey)

Fairview High School Graduation • July 19th at 3 pm



Peyton Sodt



Cody Asbeck



Rachel Cross



Rebecca Deming



Dylan Elletson



Britnee Gullikson



Nicci Harris



Tanasia Harris



Josh Herron



Madison Johnson



Eddie Joslin



Ashley Karst



Trevor Karst



Lak Kloker



Luke Lebsock



Stephanie Nay



Ethan Neu



Tom Neu



Michael Norby



Will Reiling



Aubree Root



Gabe Schipman



Logan Schipman



Jade Schlothauer



Alex Schriver



Macy Seadeek



Jesse Selting



Jessica Serefini



Hanna Skov



Will Smies



Braiden Taylor



Hunter Whitmus



Allyson Young

**Fairview Class of 2020
Drive-By Graduation
Saturday, May 16 • 3-5 p.m.
Sundheim Bridge
Cartwright, ND**

Bainville High School Graduation • May 16th at 10 am



Victoria Albus



Violet Azure



Kodi Bilquist



Derek Bowker



Karisa Goebel



Chance Horob



Kiylee Kellis

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Congratulations To All Of Our Seniors! - From The Fairview School Board, Administration & Staff



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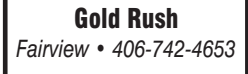
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GRADUATION 2020

Bainville High School Graduation • May 16th at 10 am



Aubrey Picard



Kailin Pippenger



KateLynn South



Natalie Stokke



Carson Ullmer



Med Lake High School Graduation • To Be Announced



Ayden Anderson



Kayla Kidder



Kiyah Meade



Jaret Aisenbrey



Logan Alkire



James Allen



Kade Anderson



Jenna Baxter



John Berger



Samantha Berglund



Bryanna Brakefield



Madison Brost



Talesiya Calton



Hailey Christensen



Cheyenne Christian



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Cierra Erickson



Erin Erickson



Hannah Evans



Derrick Floyd



Jed Fox



Myles Gasmen



Keelen Geiser



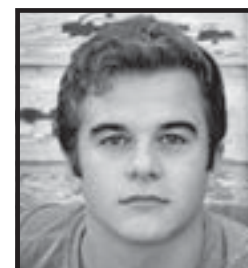
Angeanita Hernandez



Rae Hintz



Ashley Howard



Everett Jensen



Carter Johnson



Jett Jones



Ashlynn Kessel



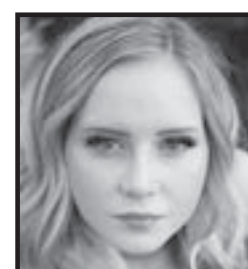
Riley Lander



Cassidy Larson



Cierra Larson



Dani Larson



Ashlee LeFors



Karissa Martinez



Cooper McGlothlin



Ty Metz



Chloe Mills



Maysen Mindt



Shelby Morlock



Zoe Morrill



Lexi Nelson



Samantha Nevels



Shyanne Nice



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GRADUATION 2020

Sidney High School Graduation • May 24th at 2 pm



Elizabeth Reynolds



Shea Roberts



Ximena Rosas



Dillon Scheetz



Sabra Schneider



Kaleb Schrader



Will Steinbeiser



Samuel Stephenson



Riley Thiessen



Emma Torgerson



Nicolas Trevino



Christine Turek



Willam Van Hook



Ben Wenzel



Victoria Whitaker-Gutierrez



Aidan Wiese



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Congratulations Graduates

From Rubbermaid To Old Clunker

By Lois Stephens
I used to be made of rubber: elastic, stretchable, and just about indestructible, or at least that is the way I felt. When I was a child and even still as a young adult, I could leap over tall buildings in a single bound, tumble down stairs, bounce like a rubber ball on the way down, and get up laughing when I hit bottom. I could ride horses all day long, try the preposterous stunts I'd watched cowboys perform on TV, fall with a crash to the ground over and over, but

get up, climb back on, and try the trick all over again. I never did master any of the equestrian feats as seen on TV, of course, but at the end of the day I suffered no ill effects as a result of my antics. Of course, all this has changed drastically through the years, to my bitter chagrin. Nowadays I can't leap over a small pebble without fear of tripping. If I fell down the stairs now, I would likely lay unmoving in a ruinous heap until someone stumbled upon my crushed remains, and I know for a fact


that if I fell off a horse even once, woe is me! It would take at least three weeks before the aches and pains let up enough to allow me to decide that I even wanted to continue living. I speak from bitter experience, here. Crashing my bike is bad enough, but the thought of falling from a horse makes cold chills run up and down my spine. Consequently, I no longer ride horses unless they really like little old ladies and treat them with dignity and respect. The icy days we rou-

tinely seem to experience each winter clearly point out my inadequacies in the agility department. As a kid I delighted in pitting my skill against icy sidewalks and roadways. I'd slide on purpose, having great fun, and if I fell, who cared? I certainly didn't, I just got up and kept going. Unfortunately, however, these days ice makes me cringe. I walk carefully and hope I can keep both feet safely on the ground where they belong. I can hardly bend, flexibility has become a thing of

the past, and I smile ruefully when I remember exercises I used to do with no problems that have now become quite the challenge. Backs freeze up, knees don't respond like they used to, fingers have become stiff and arthritic, and the depressing list of bodily disfunction just keeps on lengthening. Several Decembers ago, I broke my arm when my feet slid out from underneath me and I crashed to the ground with a resounding smash. The following spring, I again slipped on some ice in my backyard and mashed some ribs, muscles, and ligaments. It literally took weeks for the ribs to mend and for my torso to once again feel like a healthy, well-behaved normal body. I then broke an ankle December a year ago, which took several months until I was almost back to the pre-ankle breaking stage. This spring I slipped on ice downtown in Virginia City, and again, it took nearly a month until my ribs and chest felt almost normal. My husband tells me I must enjoy pain; I tell him I am just no longer as sure-footed as I was in my younger years. Truth be told, I am not as sure-footed as I was in middle age, now that I stop to think about it. It really tells me some-


thing unpleasant when I think that I went for a little over six decades without breaking any bone in my body at all, performing some outlandish daredevil acts in the process with no adverse effects, and in the past four plus years I have broken an arm, several ribs, and an ankle while behaving with decorum and sanity. I laugh when I see what the police used to ask a person to do when they stopped a driver for a potential drunk driver charge. Heck, I can't stand on one foot with my eyes closed when I am stone sober. If I got stopped and had to attempt the requirements the police used to ask for during the check for drunk drivers, I would be arrested and tossed in the drunk tank, and I would be perfectly sober. So, in short, instead of my former resiliency which allowed me to smack into large immovable objects with no apparent damage, I now have turned into a relative of the Tin Man: my body squeaks and clanks as I walk, muscles ache when I chop and stack a lot of wood, I am unable to bend much in any direction, and my joints have rusted. Even simple activities like a good stretch can cause body parts to creak, complain, and pop. The world is a danger-

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(Continued from previous page)

ous place. A person faces perils every day: she could get hit on the head by a falling object, choke on a bit of brownie, get struck by a motorist, kicked by a horse, trip over the dog and break a bone, slip on a banana peel, get eaten by a bear, fall into a hole, or catch the Corona virus. The list of possible

dangers we face every day goes on and on.

However, a person can't just stay in bed all day, either. Even bed can be a dangerous place as one ages, as my sister explained to me a year or so ago. She was complaining about a sore back, so I asked her what she had done to herself. She

sheepishly explained that she had had a good night's sleep, woke up, and had a luxurious stretch to start the day. Unfortunately, when she stretched, something popped in her back.

As she ruefully remarked, "You know you're getting old when you can injure yourself lying in bed."

The MDHC Announces Reopening Plans

Submitted by
Joe Bradley

The MonDak Heritage Center is excited to announce that we will be re-opening to the public beginning Tuesday, May 19. We have three new exhibitions ready for viewing and are eager for you to have the opportunity to view them. Social Distancing rules will apply and we will be limiting access at this time.

To visit the MDHC:

Masks/Face coverings are a must. This is for your protection as well as for the safety of other patrons and staff who are also in the building. We are in this together.

Social Distancing rules still apply. Maintain a safe (6 feet minimum) distance from others (if you come in a small group, your group may stay together).

Limiting access. To ensure we are maintaining group control and safe distancing measures, we will only allow 15 people in the MDHC at any given time.

Scheduling your time. Because we have limited access, we ask that everyone schedule their visit to the MDHC until further notice. You may do this by calling 406-322-3500. We request that you schedule your time to visit the MDHC in one-hour time slots, and if you cannot make your appointment, please reschedule. Also, only bring the folks with you that you schedule.

We need your information. Why? Again, out of an abundance of caution, we are requesting that you give us your name, phone number, and email address (and

for each of your guests). We are requesting this to be proactive in case there is a health issue, and we need to notify you of such. Also, we request that if you become ill within 48 hours of your visit to the MDHC that you notify us, so we can alert others (if necessary).

Cleaning. We will do additional cleaning daily, and have high-touch surfaces cleaned on a frequent basis (such as hand rails, door handles, and high-traffic area surfaces).

Be well. We want you to be well, so we can share our exhibits with the public. If you have a fever, cough, runny nose, etc., we ask you to please stay home. We can always reschedule your visit, so please do not put yourself or others in jeopardy at this time. We ask this of our staff, too. We want to open up, and we want to do this in a smart way, so we can stay open. We miss you, too, and we will see you soon. If you have a fever, chills, cough, runny nose — stay home. If you come in and we notice any symptoms, you will be requested to leave. We recommend vulnerable people to continue to follow the stay at home guidelines.

Opening schedule: May 19-22 - open to Members only under the guidelines above. You may join to receive Member access.

May 26- 29 - open to the public under the guidelines above.

Note: Opening schedule is contingent upon statewide phased reopening and subject to change.

At this time we will be open for viewing of exhi-

bitions only, but we look forward to offering Art Classes and Open Studio days beginning in June.

We remain very grateful for your continued support, now more than ever. Over the past several weeks, we have engaged and entertained you on social media. We have continued to research and pursue grant opportunities, and programming ideas and have installed new exhibitions, waiting for the opportunity to reopen and invite you to view them. We have also followed the guidelines given to us by the Governor and the Richland County Commissioners, as well as other health agencies.

Our goal was to remain ready for the moment to reopen the MDHC and welcome you all back. In doing so, we will need your help and enthusiastic support. Schedule your time to visit us. Tell your friends, family, and colleagues about your great experiences here at the MDHC. Your support, along with spreading the word, will help the MDHC to continue to fulfill its mission to "engage, educate, and inspire our community by preserving and contributing to the area's arts, culture, and heritage".

The MonDak Heritage Center is located at 120 3rd Ave. SE, Sidney, MT and is open Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and will be open Saturdays from 1-4 p.m. beginning June 6. Admission is free. For more information call 406-433-3500 or e-mail mdhc@richland.org.



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We will be closed until the end of June due to my daughter's (Kristi Wells-Kuylen) stem cell transplant in Billings on May 15. I will be her caregiver so I will be responsible for her recovery which is estimated to last about a month.

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- Linda Wells

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Paid for by Craig Hystad for McKenzie County Commissioner

Montana FSA: USDA Offers Farm Loans For Farmers And Ranchers Facing Covid-19 Related Challenges

Bozeman, MT - The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers that FSA offers farm ownership and farm operating loans to agricultural producers who may not find success obtaining loans from their traditional financial institutions because

of COVID-19. Farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank can apply for FSA direct or guaranteed loans.

"Farming and ranching is a capital-intensive business and FSA is committed to helping producers maintain their

agricultural operations during this time of crisis," said Mike Foster, FSA state executive director in Montana. "FSA loans are designed to assist beginning and historically underserved farmers and ranchers, as well as those who have suffered financial setbacks from natural disasters or economic downturns. Producers may find that an FSA loan is the best option for them if they cannot qualify for a loan with their traditional financial institutions or other financial institutions because of COVID-19."

USDA offers a variety of loans to meet different production needs. Direct loans are made to applicants by FSA. Guaranteed loans are made by lending institutions who arrange for FSA to guarantee the loan. FSA can guarantee up to 95% of the loss of principal and interest on a loan. The FSA guarantee allows lenders to make agricultural credit available to producers who do not meet the lender's normal underwriting criteria.

The direct and guaranteed loan program offers two types of loans: farm ownership loans and farm operating loans.

Farm ownership loan funds may be used to purchase or enlarge a farm or ranch; purchase easements or rights of way needed in the farm's operation; build or improve buildings such as a dwelling or barn; promote soil and water conservation and development; and pay closing costs.

Farm operating loan funds may be used to purchase

livestock, poultry, farm equipment, fertilizer, and other materials necessary to operate a farm. Operating loan funds can also be used for family living expenses; refinancing debts under certain conditions; paying salaries for hired farm laborers; installing or improving water systems for home, livestock or irrigation use; and other similar improvements.

Repayment terms for direct operating loans are scheduled from one to seven years. Financing for direct farm ownership loans cannot exceed 40 years. Interest rates for direct loans are set periodically according to the government's cost of borrowing. The lender sets guaranteed loan terms and interest rates.

For more information on FSA's farm loan programs, please contact your local FSA office or visit farmers.gov.

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DON'T LET THE DEMOCRAT PARTY FOOL YOU

As has been reported, Democrats are working around the state to infiltrate Republican elections by running THEIR candidates as Republicans, trying to convince you they're conservatives. It's happening in Richland County. Don't be deceived by their tactics!

Conservatives for Richland County is committed to ensuring only REAL Republicans serve as precinct committee people. We sent questionnaires asking precinct candidates where they stood. Based on these results in the following contested races, we endorse:

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Brandon Ler for HD35 • Al Olszewski for Governor • Matt Rosendale for Congress • Steve Daines for U.S. Senate
Austin Knudsen for Attorney General • Scott Sales for Secretary of State • Loren Young for County Commissioner



Paid for by Conservatives United for Richland County

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Mandy Hall, Treasurer



DLI Issues Guidance To Montanans Returning To Work

**Submitted by
Lauren Lewis, Public
Information Officer
Department of Labor &
Industry**

Helena – The Montana Department of Labor & Industry today is issuing guidance to Montanans returning to work during Phase One of the reopening of Montana's economy.

"We at the Department of Labor & Industry have been intently focused on getting benefits to the Montanans who have had their employment affected by COVID-19," Acting Commissioner Brenda Nordlund said. "While we continue to focus on that mission, we also know that many workers and businesses are reopening and returning to work."

DLI has launched a new page on its COVID-19 website focused on providing information to Montana employers and employees on the phased reopening of Montana's economy at dli.

mt.gov/return-to-work. The new page offers information for businesses and workers on the Governor's reopening directive, health and safety, and recruitment and job search tools.

"Returning to work over the coming weeks and months will involve phases and complexities. DLI is here to help businesses and workers navigate this new environment," Nordlund said. "We are all eager to return to a sense of normalcy, and as we begin that process, new questions are emerging related to employees being called back to work."

Returning to work and Unemployment Insurance (UI)

DLI reminds Montanans that employees must have a specified reason for refusing an offer to return to work to remain eligible for unemployment benefits.

"If you have a reason that is related to the COVID-19 pandemic, such

as you need to care for a child who is unable to attend school or their daycare due to a closure, you may continue to be eligible for benefits," Nordlund said.

If an employee refuses available work due to a non-COVID-19 circumstance, such as the amount of benefits they are receiving through unemployment is larger than their former wages, they may not continue to receive UI benefits. Continuing to file for UI when work is available may constitute fraud. For more information on UI fraud, visit uid.dli.mt.gov/report-fraud.

If an individual returns to work, but with reduced hours or wages, they may still be eligible for partial UI benefits.

"As outlined in the Governor's directive, employers are obligated to accommodate their employees and ensure a safe working environment," Nordlund said. "We at DLI can assist you with information on work-

place safety and health."

DLI continues to encourage anyone who believes they may be eligible for UI to file a claim online at MontanaWorks.gov, or at mtpua.mt.gov for those that fall under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance eligibility guidelines. Those with technical, eligibility or benefits questions are encouraged to view the COVID-19 resource website at dli.mt.gov/covid-19. A variety of information for both Montana workers and employers are available, in addition to resources to help claimants navigate the unemployment process.

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Williston Auto Partners Contribute \$15,000 To NWNDCF Relief Fund

**Submitted by Megan
Laudenschlager**

Williston, ND - Williston Auto partners, David Billion and Pat Murphy, have contributed \$15,000 to support recovery and relief efforts in northwest North Dakota through the Northwest North Dakota Community Foundation's (NWNDCF's) Relief Fund. The Relief Fund, established in late March, has already invested over \$65,000 in worthwhile organizations and efforts.

"We believe in supporting the communities in which we work," remarked David Billion. "We are so happy to partner with the Community Foundation as they provide much-needed funding throughout northwest North

Dakota."

Established in late March, the NWNDCF Relief Fund was created to support communities and nonprofits as they deal with the myriad of issues posed by low oil and gas commodity prices and the COVID-19 virus. The Relief Fund is providing support to verified nonprofits, community organizations, and volunteer groups that are directly addressing the needs of those affected including:

- Increasing access to food;
- Supporting human services and healthcare; and
- Catalyzing organizations supporting individuals and families to self-quarantine.

"It is so important that we support individuals and families in need during this unprecedented time," remarked Ward Koeser, NWNDCF board of directors president. "We are incredibly appreciative of the gift from Williston Auto so we can continue to get resources into the hands of organizations doing great work across northwest North Dakota."

Individuals seeking to support the efforts of the NWNDCF Relief Fund can donate online at www.NWNDCFCommunityFoundation.org or by sending a check to: NWNDCF, PO Box 371, Williston, ND 58802-0371. All gifts to the NWNDCF Relief Fund are tax deductible.

Paddlefish Snag-And-Release Season Open May 15-21

A one-week paddlefish snag-and-release season will be open May 15-21 for anglers who hold a valid fishing license, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department announced this week. However, if conditions warrant, Game and Fish may close the season with a 24-hour notice.

Game and Fish announced April 3 that the annual paddlefish snagging harvest season, which was scheduled to open May 1, was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, the agency held open the possibility of a snag-and-release season in mid-May.

Fisheries chief Greg Power said with the state transitioning to North Dakota Smart Restart, snaggers

should have an opportunity to participate in a snag-and-release season.

"Past history has shown that considerably fewer snaggers will participate, but this one-week season provides an opportunity for the avid snaggers," Power said.

As with all outdoor activities, Power said it is still important to follow physical distancing guidelines.

"We will have signs in place at popular snagging areas, but obviously a lot falls on the individual to be smart and considerate," Power said.

Legal snagging hours are from 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Snagging is legal in the Yellowstone River, as well as the area of the Missouri

River lying west of the U.S. Highway 85 bridge to the Montana border, excluding that portion from the pipeline crossing (river mile 1,577) downstream to the upper end of the Lewis and Clark Wildlife Management Area (river mile 1,565).

With fewer dumpsters and functioning rest rooms in place this year, snaggers are reminded to plan accordingly and pack out all trash.

The use of more than one snag hook per line is illegal. Use or possession of gaffs is prohibited.

A paddlefish tag is not required.

Snaggers should be aware that Sundheim Park, located on the Yellowstone River, is open to day-use only activities.

To: Voters of Richland County From: Jim Steinbeisser

Leery of blogs posing as news

You know it's an election year when you see some agents employ underhanded tactics to try to influence our elections by any means.

In Richland County today, we have an individual working to do just that while working in the shadows. His name is Jordan Hall. In March, a group was formed with the state called, "Conservatives United for Richland County." Its president is Jordan Hall. The group's treasurer is his wife.

With such a lofty name, the group sounds like something conservatives can identify with but knowing who is behind it, and being familiar with his history of misguided views and heavy-handed tactics, the group does not reflect the views nor does it have the support of a majority of conservatives or Republicans in Richland County.

Aside from this, he has also recently created the "Montana Daily Gazette" — a blog that circulates around Facebook that by all outward appearances looks like a credible news source but is simply nothing more than his biased and unsubstantiated commentary and opinion. Its goal is to influence the public with a regular stream of personal attacks on members of our community backed not by facts but distortions. Typical of someone not able to debate their views in the open.

I've spoken to many area Republicans over the past few months about what he has been doing with our Republican Central Committee and can say that he doesn't hold the ideals and integrity of the vast majority of area Republicans.

If voters see advertisements or mailers in coming weeks with "Paid for by Conservatives United for Richland County" on it, or from the "Montana Daily Gazette," voters should know who is behind the deceptive organizations, and be very leery of what he puts out.

Jim Steinbeisser

Re-print of Letter to the Editor in The Roundup on May 6, 2020

Paid for by Joel Krautter for House. P.O. Box 1142, Sidney, MT 59270
Melissa Norby Sanders, Treasurer, Republican

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Williston Residents Build Motocross Track

Two longtime motocross riders have teamed up to build a racetrack in their hometown. Joseph Edman and Eric Nelson are seasoned riders who designed De Fort Motocross located on the Nelson Farm 14 miles northeast of Williston.

"The track is just over a mile long, has a 24-gate start with multiple rhythm sections of varying size and several larger features, specifically a step up and a 90' tabletop," explained Edman.

Edman and Nelson met at a few years ago at a race school in Bismarck and their families have become fast friends at the track.

"Our families developed mutual friendships seeing each other at the North Dakota Motocross Association (NDMA) races every weekend," said Edman. "Eric and I both race the same class (Vet A) and so do our sons. We both have daughters that race or participate in the sport as well as very supportive and amazing wives."

Edman brought his love for motocross racing to Williston in 2013 but unfortunately the local track had just closed.

"I think when we drove down there and found out (Sundowners Motocross Track had closed) I almost cried," said Edman. "When Eric (Nelson) mentioned building a track out at their

family farm I was all in!" Nelson said they came up with a name that represented his strong Norwegian heritage.

"De Fort originates from two Norwegian words which translates to "The Fast". I have a very strong Norwegian background," he said. "The De Fort Logo is also built from Norwegian symbols which also represents strength and conquest. A couple of friends of mine Luke and Carter Romo, Bainville area, helped bring this symbol to life."

Edman and Nelson designed and built the new De Fort Motocross. The entire track can be viewed from the south side and has ample space for spectators.

"Motocross is like life, there's risk but also reward and you get out what you put in," said Edman. "It's a family orientated sport and gives you the ability to meet people from all over the state, country and world for that matter," said Edman. "There also aren't many sports that incorporate fitness, camping, racing, cooking, motor-

cycles and everything that go along with that where the whole family can be together. Moto does that."

"It brings children closer to their parents. It brings long lasting friendships together. It brings out some of the most impressive sportsmanship and camaraderie I have ever seen," said Nelson.

The De Fort Motocross is in the midst of the permitting process but is open for practice (check out their Facebook page for dates and times). A motocross school is scheduled in late May and NDMA race in late summer. The free beginner school sponsored by MonDak Sports is sold out on May 22 but there is still space available on May 23 and 24. Click on the link <https://www.sedlakoffroad-school.com/> to register (10 openings).

The track is located at 6421 133rd Ave NW. Drive east of 13 Mile Corner/Pilot Truck stop on US Highway 2. Then drive ¼ mile north on 133rd Ave. It is the second left.

MT 200 – Fairview Project Update

The MT 200 - Fairview road reconstruction project remains on schedule and even ahead of schedule. Crews have finished the city's water line replacement work and are laying moisture barrier fabric in anticipation of concrete paving beginning the morning of Tuesday, May 12. The new storm drain system is expected to be completed next week.

Due to heavy traffic and trucks along MT 200 through Fairview, MDT made the choice to reconstruct just over a mile of the highway (the area with curb and gutter in town) with Portland Cement Concrete Pavement (P.C.C.P). Concrete lasts longer than asphalt and requires less maintenance. Asphalt roadways usually require an overlay sometime within the first 15 years and are more prone to rutting and surface deterioration with heavy loads. The P.C.C.P surface should last much longer (30 to 50 years) with less maintenance over its life.

There are no additional traffic impacts planned for motorists traveling through the area and traffic will remain flowing. Traffic will remain reduced to two-lane, two-way traffic but the highway will remain open to traffic during construction. The traveling public is asked to prepare for occasional delays of up to 15 minutes and is reminded to slow down and watch for work crews and equipment in the construction zone.



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