

# The Roundup

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Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Volume 48 • Number 10

## Omaha District Addressing Lake Sakakawea Low Water Boat Ramp Access Concerns

**By USACE, Omaha District Riverdale, ND**  
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District announced that based on current runoff conditions in the Missouri River Basin, including the lack of plains snowpack, below-average mountain snowpack, and dry upper basin conditions, it has moved forward with plans to facilitate access to Lake Sakakawea.

District personnel began working last year to address the anticipated impacts to recreation around the lake. Measures taken include issuance of a Regional General Regulatory Permit to help expedite regulatory requirements for anticipated work. Last November, Garrison Project personnel surveyed numerous boat ramps expected to be impacted by the lower-than-average forecast and developed site-specific cost estimates for needed repairs to maintain access. Requests for funding were submitted based upon those estimates.

"While challenges with federal budgets have impacted moving forward on some projects, the good news is that much of the infrastructure installed during



Omaha District addressing Lake Sakakawea low water boat ramp access concerns. (Photo submitted)

the drought of the early 2000's remains in place, so USACE and its recreation partners are capitalizing on that work and doing everything they can to ensure

the public has access to Lake Sakakawea," Todd Lindquist, Garrison Project operations project Manager, said. "Currently, low water concrete ramps are

generally in good condition but the access roads and parking lots for these ramps require reconstruction due to erosion from years of higher water levels."

District personnel are currently assisting concessionaires around the lake with submission of their regulatory permit applications

(Continued on page 8)



## Sidney's Bakken Brewfest Set For Friday



**By Anna Dragseth**  
The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its annual Bakken Brewfest at the Richland County Event Center on Friday, April 15, Sidney. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for VIP ticket holders and 7 p.m. for general admission.

This year's Brewfest will have more beers than ever before, featuring over 50 microbrews, ciders, and wines mostly from Montana and North Dakota.

"The Bakken Brewfest has a wonderful reputation for always having a large selection of microbrews from across Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming and this year will be no different. There has been a concentrated effort to expand the selections of Seltzers, Wine and Ciders to make sure that everyone has plenty of things to try and enjoy," said Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce Director of Programs, Katie Dasinger.

The Ranger Lounge will be providing multiple selections of great food to snack on throughout the evening. Brewfest will also have Putt-Putt Golf and the Easter Keg Hunt.

"We have secured multiple golf holes and you can bet your friends (or foes) a free refill for a hole-in-one!"

The Easter Keg Hunt begins at 7 p.m.; there will be around 600 plastic eggs hidden, some in plain sight, with a prize of a can of beer/seltzer to take home with you at the end of the night. There will also be multiple Brew Master rubber duckies in hard-to-find places and each duck is representative of a prize package worth over \$200.

"The Bakken Brewfest is a Chamber favorite. We love seeing all of our friends from across the region gathered in one place to enjoy good food, fantastic brews and wonderful company," added Dasinger.

General admission tickets are \$50 and VIP tickets are \$75. For more information and/or to purchase a ticket, visit the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce website at <https://www.sidneymt.com/news-events/bakken-brew-fest-1>.

## Sidney Young Professionals 4th Annual Candidate Roundtable April 21

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
With the local federal primary elections just eight weeks away, the Sidney Young Professionals are offering a fantastic chance for the community to learn more about the candidates they will have a chance to vote for. They all will have the chance to answer the public's questions face to face.

Thursday, April 21 from 6-8 p.m. at Sidney Elk's Lodge, the Sidney Young Professionals are offering their 4th Annual Candidate Roundtable. As always, this event is free and open to people of all ages. According to Katie Dassingier, when attendees come in they are to pick a table to sit at. There will be one moderator at each table. When the event begins each candidate is to move around the room, spending 15 minutes at every table answering questions asked by the attendees. The questions will be brought up by the attendees and completely unscripted.

There are six candidates expected to attend who will contend for three different offices.

Shane Gorder and Brian Holst are running for Commissioner District 2. Gorder has lived in Richland County all his life and feels

his 12 years of experience serving Richland County as commissioner would be an asset should he be re-elected in 2022. Holst moved here from New Town, ND in 1989. Holst believes the county should be run like a business and believes his 30 years of experience as co-owner of his business would benefit him greatly should he be elected.

Charity McLarty and Layne Johnson are both running for County Attorney. McLarty is from Searcy, AR but moved to eastern Montana in 2011 and Sidney in 2019. She believes her eleven years spent as an attorney, 3 1/2 of which as Richland County's Deputy County Attorney, would be her biggest asset should she be elected as County Attorney. Johnson grew up in Froid. He was born in Sidney, however, and returned to live here two years ago. He believes his desire to give back to the represented communities would be his biggest asset should he be elected as county attorney.

John Dynneson and Shane Kyhl are running for Richland County Sheriff. Dynneson is a Sidney native and still owns and operates a part-time cattle operation on the farm and ranchland he grew up on in Brorson,

north of Sidney. He believes his 38 years of experience in law enforcement, eight years of it as Sheriff, would be a great benefit to his time as Sheriff should he be re-elected. Kyhl was born in Billings, MT. He moved to Richland County almost eight years ago during the Oil Boom. He believes his ability being an effective communicator plus the 20 years of experience in leadership and management he has under his belt to be his greatest assets.

Dasinger said, "The Candidate Roundtable event is one of Sidney Young Professionals' favorite events to host for the community. We believe that educated voters are good voters and that voting is the best way for citizens to have their voice heard in the local government." Sidney Elk's Lodge is located at 123 3rd St SW, Sidney. Young Professionals is a conduit for establishing, enriching, and enhancing young professionals in Richland County through professional development, social networking, and service. More information about Sidney's Young Professionals Branch can be found on their Facebook page or website, [www.sypsidney.com](http://www.sypsidney.com).

### Commissioner District 2



Shane Gorder



Brian Holst

### Richland County Sheriff



John Dynneson



Shane Kyhl

### Richland County Attorney



Charity McLarty



Layne Johnson

## Attention Job Seekers: Richland County Job Fair, April 19

**By Anna Dragseth**  
In an effort to connect job seekers with employers, the Sidney Chamber of Commerce, Sidney Job Service, Sidney-Richland Library, Richland County Fair and Rodeo and Sidney Health Center have collaborated to host a Richland

County Job Fair, April 19 from 3-7 p.m. at the Richland County Event Center.

"Richland County currently has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country at 1.9%, yet there are many jobs needing to be filled and many people looking for new or different

employment opportunities to meet the needs of their lifestyles and families. It was out of these needs that the Richland County Job Fair was created," said Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce Director of Programs, Katie Dasinger.

This is the first year the

organizations have hosted an event like this.

"Job Seekers of all ages are encouraged to attend. We are hopeful the job fair will make a difference and will be something that both employers and potential employees can count on annually in Richland County."

The event is free and open to the public. It features several businesses from around the area. Businesses are able to register for a booth at the job fair until April 13. To register call Katie at the Chamber at 406-433-1916 or send her an email at [admin@sidneymt.com](mailto:admin@sidneymt.com).



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**REGISTRATION**

MCPSD#1 Kindergarten Registration for the 22-23 School Year is now open and we've gone 100% digital! Please visit <https://bit.ly/MCPSD1KinderReg> to complete the Kindergarten registration process for your student. All other grades (new & returning students) will complete the online registration process for the 22-23 school year at a later date. Questions? Give us a call at 701-444-3626.

**WEEKLY FRAUD TIP**  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY  **Stockman Bank**

**Prevent identity thieves by safeguarding your personal information.**

- **Never click** on links in unsolicited emails
- **USE firewalls, anti-spyware, and anti-virus software** to protect your computer
- **Don't use obvious passwords**, such as your birth date, mother's maiden name, last four digits of your SSN, etc.
- **Keep** your personal info in a safe place at home

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**AREA RECOVERY GROUPS**

**MONDAYS:**  
**12 p.m.** — AA Monday Noon Group, Matthew House Office, 416 2nd St. NW, Sidney, MT.  
**1 p.m. - 3 p.m.** — Grief Recovery Support group, First Lutheran Church music room, Watford City.  
**7 p.m.** — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.  
**8 p.m.** — AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

**TUESDAYS:**  
**7 p.m.** — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.  
**7 p.m.** — 24-hour Women's AA group meeting, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.  
**7 p.m.** — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.

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

**THURSDAYS:**  
**7 p.m.** — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.  
**7 p.m.** — Al-Anon Meeting, Presbyterian Church, 316 4th Ave. NE, Watford City, ND.  
**8 p.m.** — AA Group, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Call 770-3603 or 770-2675 for directions or ride. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

**FRIDAYS:**  
**6:30 - p.m.** - 5 Stones - Faith Based Recovery meeting, Sidney First Church of the Nazarene, 606 9th St. SW Back door is open.  
**7 p.m.** — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.  
**7 p.m.** — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.

**SATURDAYS:**  
**7 p.m.** — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.  
**7 p.m.** — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.  
**7 p.m.** — AA 24 group meeting, Northern Pump & Compression, Watford City. Hotline/Info 701-609-8663.

**SUNDAYS:**  
**7 p.m.** — Live Free Narcotics Anonymous, Church of God., 814 6th St. NE, Sidney, MT.  
**7 p.m.** — AA Welcome Home Group, Sunny's Family Restaurant, 102 E. Main St., Sidney, MT, Central Avenue Entrance.

**STATISTICS**

**LAKE WATER LEVEL REPORT**  
**Sakakawea**  
Current Elevation.....1827.7  
Last Week's Elev. ....1827.8  
One Year Ago .....1836.3  
Release For Day (C.F.S.) .....14,500

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

Date	High	Low	Precip.
April 4.....	65	30	0.000
April 5.....	51	37	0.010
April 6.....	50	33	0.020
April 7.....	51	28	0.000
April 8.....	63	20	0.000
April 9.....	59	28	0.000
April 10.....	50	31	0.000
Total 2022 YTD Precipitation.....	0.93		

# OBITUARIES

## Frank M. Heiser Jr., 85 Watford City, ND

Frank M. Heiser Jr., 85, Watford City, ND passed away on Monday, April 4, 2022 at McKenzie County Hospital, Watford City, ND. Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home, Watford City, ND is assisting the family. Condolences may be left on our funeral home website at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

Frank's Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 10 a.m. at Epiphany Catholic Church, Watford City, ND. Father Brian Gross officiated. Frank was laid to rest at Schafer Cemetery, Watford City, ND.

The Funeral Service was live streamed, you can view Frank's service directly on his obituary page on our website [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com)



Frank M. Heiser Jr.

Frank Heiser Jr. was born Nov. 15, 1936 in Dickinson, ND to Frank Sr. and Magdalena (Schwind) Heiser. Frank went to school in Fryberg, ND. He then went to work for his brother and brother-in-law hauling propane. He met the love of his life, Leona Wanner, in Belfield, ND.

Frank was drafted into the Army in 1960 at the age of 24. Frank and Leona were married on July 18, 1960 and moved to Fort Sill, OK for a short time before being stationed in Germany for 18 months. Frank was discharged in 1962 and returned to Belfield to work at Standard Station until moving to Watford City in 1964 where he went to work hauling propane until he retired in 2006.

Frank enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, visiting with all of his customers, and following his children in all of their activities. Later in life, he enjoyed following his grandchildren and great-grandchildren also. Frank was always handy and could fix almost anything in his Grandpa Workshop. He was always up for a cup of coffee with friends.

Frank is survived by his wife Leona, Watford City, ND; son, Roland, Watford City, ND; two daughters, Denise, Watford City, ND and Lynn (Scott) Meuchel, Williston, ND; four grandchildren, Mike (Kelly) Heiser, Idaho, Ashlee (Jared) Schaff, Watford City, ND Beau (Jackie) Heiser, Wyoming, and Ciarra Meuchel, Bismarck, ND; three great-grandchildren, Adilyn, Paxton, and Devyn Schaff, Watford City, ND; one brother, Bob (Pat) Heiser, South Dakota; two sisters, Rose Heiser (Bismarck) Emma Steinmetz, Montana, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, grand-daughter, Billie Jo Heiser; and four sisters Eva, Viola, Maggie, and Marion.

## Youth Movement To Carry Cross From Sidney To Fairview On Good Friday

By Dianne Swanson

The youth of Zion Lutheran Church along with youth from Sidney, Savage and beyond will carry a 12-ft. cross from Pella Lutheran Church in Sidney to Fairview starting at noon on April 15, Good Friday with 14 stops along the way to read Scriptural accounts of the Way of the Cross. The walk will end at Zion Lutheran Church where participants will enjoy an Agape meal and a short Worship Celebration Service. All area youth in Montana and North Dakota, and those young at heart are invited to participate in this walk to give thanks for the Cross and what Jesus Christ did for us on Good Friday.

For more information, please contact Zion Lutheran Church at 406-742-5523 or call Pastor Tim at 303-887-4513.

## Attention 1972 Sidney Graduates!

The Sidney Montana High School Class of 1972 is holding their 50th reunion August 5-6 at the Sidney Country Club. Classmates, please provide your name, email, phone, and mailing address to the following email address [Sidney-72Reunion@gmail.com](mailto:Sidney-72Reunion@gmail.com) or leave a voicemail 515-287-1549.

## Garden Workshop, April 26, Sidney

Submitted by Marley Manoukian, MSU Richland County Extension Agent

MSU Extension – Richland County will be hosting a Garden Workshop 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 26, at the Richland County Extension Office. This workshop will cover the basics of garden soils, garden planning and planting, and common garden pests, among other things. If you are interested in this workshop, please RSVP to the office by Friday, April 22 by calling 406-433-1206 or emailing [marley.manoukian@montana.edu](mailto:marley.manoukian@montana.edu).

## Trades Persons Fair May 4, Fairview

By Dianne Swanson

In an effort to connect high school students and the public with local contacting businesses and tech training programs, the Fairview Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Trades Persons Fair from 9-11 a.m., Wednesday, May 4 at Fairview High School.

Trades people such as plumbers, electricians, equipment operators and more are in high demand. The tech industry is always looking for employees. The fair is an attempt to connect students with local businesses that can best explain the rewards of a career in those fields. It is also designed as a job fair where people seeking work can connect with businesses looking to hire.

There are far more businesses in Fairview than most people realize so the public is encouraged to attend the fair and meet the people who could fix a plumbing or electrical problem, or whatever they may need.

Spaces are free but limited. Anyone wishing to showcase their business and connect with students and potential customers may call Chamber president Ray Trumpower at 406-489-2624 or email him at [trumpwer@midrivers.com](mailto:trumpwer@midrivers.com).

**EVENTS**  
SEND US YOUR EVENTS!  
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**RICHLAND COUNTY**  
**Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT Zone.**  
**Wed., April 13**  
10 a.m.-4 p.m. - **Jennifer and Brian Matthews Perspectives in Nature Exhibit** - On display through April 30. **Youth Art Show** - On display through April 30. MonDak Heritage Center, Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. For more information call 406-433-3500, e-mail [mdhc@richland.org](mailto:mdhc@richland.org) or visit <https://mondakheritagecenter.org/>  
**Fri., April 15**  
12 p.m. noon - **Youth Movement Carrying Cross From Sidney To Fairview** - Youth from Sidney, Savage, & beyond will carry a 12 foot cross from Pella Church, Sidney to Zion Church, Fairview, with 14 stops along the way to read scriptural accounts of the Way of the Cross. All area youth & those young at heart are invited to participate. For more information contact Zion Church, 406-742-5523 or call Pastor Tim, 303-887-4513.  
**6 p.m. VIP Ticket Holders; 7 p.m. general admission - Bakken Brewfest** - Featuring over 50 microbrews, ciders & wines. Great food, putt-putt golf & Easter keg hunt. Richland County Event Center. For more information visit [www.sidneymt.com/news-events/bakken-brew-fest-1](http://www.sidneymt.com/news-events/bakken-brew-fest-1).  
**Mon., April 18 & 25**  
6 p.m. - **Sons of Norway Hardanger Class For Beginners** - Pella Church. For more information contact Becky Kallevig at 406-480-9190 or Lucy Lovec at 406-973-1594.  
**Tues., April 19**  
3-7 p.m. - **Job Fair** - Richland County Event Center. For more information email or call, [admin@sidneymt.com](mailto:admin@sidneymt.com), 406-433-1916.  
**Thurs., April 21**  
11:30 a.m. - **Richland Red Hatters Lunch Meeting** - Gullivers. RSVP by April 19. Call Sylvia, 406-798-3882 or Margaret, 406-488-4613.  
**Sat., April 23**  
5-8 p.m. - **US House District 2 Democratic Candidate Dinner & Forum** - \$15 per person, Sidney Elks Club. Call 406-480-1706 for tickets.  
**Sun., April 24**  
8:30-11:30 a.m. - **Breakfast** - Open to the public. Sidney Moose Lodge.  
1 p.m. - **Bingo** - Open to the public. Sidney Moose Lodge.  
**Tues., April 26**  
6 p.m. - **Garden Workshop** - Will cover the basics of garden soils, garden planning & planting, & common garden pests, plus more. Richland County Extension Office. RSVP by April 22 by calling 406-433-1206 or emailing [marley.manoukian@montana.edu](mailto:marley.manoukian@montana.edu).  
**Sat., April 30**  
11 a.m.-5 p.m. - **Eastern MT Scootfest 2022 - Lower Yellowstone Abate Chapter Bike Show** - Motorcycle & bicycle rodeo, poker walk, vendors booths, food & beverages. Activities for kids & 2 bicycle drawings for ages 12 & under. Admission, \$5 for 13 & up; free for 12 & under. Richland Ranger Arena. For more information call 406-365-2175.  
**Wed., May 4**  
9-11 a.m. - **Fairview Chamber of Commerce Trade Persons Fair** - Connecting students with local businesses such as plumbers, electricians, equipment operators & more & explaining the rewards of a career in these fields. It is also a job fair for people seeking work can connect with businesses looking to hire. Fairview High School. For more information call Ray Trumpower at 406-489-2624 or email [trumpwer@midrivers.com](mailto:trumpwer@midrivers.com).  
**Sat., May 7**  
7-11 p.m. - **St. Matthew's Spring Fling Semi-Formal Dance** - Grades 6th-8th. DJ music by Midnight Express. St. Matthew's Parish Center. \$10 person. Students will only be allowed to leave early if picked up or signed out by a parent. For more information call Colleen Haralson, 406-482-2680.

**McKENZIE COUNTY**  
**Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT Zone**  
**Thurs., April 14 & 28**  
2-4 p.m. - **Food Giveaway** - First Presbyterian Church, 316 4th Ave. NE.  
**Tues., April 19**  
2-4 p.m. - **Food Pantry Handouts** - First Lutheran Church, 212 2nd St. NW. For more information call McKenzie County Extension Office, 701-444-3451 or visit McKenzie County Food Pantry Facebook page for dates, times & updates.  
**Weds., April 20, May 4 & 18, June 1 & 15**  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - **Watford Wednesdays Job Service ND Outreach Program** - JSND staff will present interactive job-related information to the general public, school students, & other community groups. Creative ideas welcome. Rough Rider Center. For more information, feedback/ideas or to schedule: - Employer Hiring Booth/Event - Facebook Live - Presentation Contact JSND-Williston: 701-774-7900 [infojswn@nd.gov](mailto:infojswn@nd.gov).  
**Sat., April 23**  
12-4 p.m. - **Nerf Wars** - Ages 6 & up. \$5 per person. Bring your own gun, ammo provided. (Limited quantity of Nerf guns will be provided.) Rough Rider Center. For more information visit [watfordcityparks.com](http://watfordcityparks.com). Day of registration also available.  
**Tues., April 26, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. & Wed., April 27, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.**  
**2022 Summit On Behavioral Health In Energy County** - Summit hosted by Vision West ND bringing together community leaders & professionals for education, networking & informational sharing. Rough Rider Center. For more information or to register visit <https://bit.ly/SBHECregister>.

**WILLIAMS COUNTY**  
**Events in Williston unless otherwise listed. CT Zone.**  
**Sat., April 16**  
10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. - **Historical Sewing, Textiles, and Projects** - All ages & experience levels welcome to learn historical sewing techniques from Yvette Bachmeier. Bring your own lunch. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. For more information, contact Joe Garcia or Yvette Bachmeier at 701-572-9034.  
**Sun., April 17**  
2-4 p.m. - **Historical Games** - Fort Buford Barracks. Participate in games that may have been played at the fort long ago such as cribbage, cards, and checkers. For more information, contact Joe Garcia or Yvette Bachmeier at 701-572-9034.  
**Thurs., April 21**  
7 p.m. - **Confluence History Book Club** - Join other history buffs for a discussion of this month's book, "Sea of Glory" by Nathaniel Philbrick. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. For more information, contact Joe Garcia or Yvette Bachmeier at 701-572-9034.

**DAWSON COUNTY**  
**Events in Glendive unless otherwise listed. MT Zone**  
**Fri., April 29**  
6:30-8:30 p.m. - **Trauma Informed Care** - Heidi Lester will present an introduction to trauma informed caregiving for parents, caregivers and other community members. Dawson Community College Rm UC102. For more information visit <https://familyconnectionsmt.org/event/introduction-to-trauma-informed-caregiving/>.

Kary Signs with Minot State University



Sidney senior Keela Kary signed a letter of intent to attend Minot State University on April 6. Kary is the first female from Sidney to sign with any college for wrestling. Kary has placed 5th and 2nd at the state level. Wrestling teammates Liz Langwald, Amaiya Kirm, and Assistant Coach Ty Graves are all proud of Keela Kary for her accomplishment. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)

Dakota West Credit Union  
Named on S&P Top 100  
Credit Unions List

**Submitted by  
Brian Smiset**  
Watford City, ND — Dakota West Credit Union (\$299 million) was recently ranked by S&P Global Market Intelligence as one of the top 100 financially stable credit union in the country for 2021. The North Dakota financial institution was measured against 1765 credit unions above \$100 million in assets using five metrics: member growth, average loans per member, net worth as a percentage of total assets, delinquent loans as a percentage of total loans, and return on average assets.

“We are extremely honored to be ranked as one of the top credit unions in the country for financial stability and growth,” said CEO Jeff Meyer. “Being recognized by a well-known organization such as S&P gives me confidence that we’ve have been honoring our purpose, our members and our staff.”

Dakota West Credit Union was the only credit union in North Dakota to make the Top 100 list.

**Purpose Statement:**  
Building Trusted Relationships! Creating Member Value

**About Dakota West Credit Union**

Dakota West Credit Union is dedicated to helping our members grow with comprehensive, competitive financial products partnered with personal, professional service.

It is our vision to deliver consistently the essential financial services in the communities we serve that promote agriculture and commerce while improving the quality of our members’ lives. We offer a full range of services for individuals and businesses including deposit and loan products, debit and credit cards, mortgages, vehicle loans, IRAs, CDs, bill pay, online account access, a mobile app, and a variety of other services for our members. We also support our local communities with donations and sponsorships and by volunteering. We live and work in the same neighborhoods as our members, and we want to do our part to keep our communities growing and thriving.

Our Watford City main office was established in 1941 as McKenzie County Credit Union; in 1991 we merged with Grenora Credit Union. To better reflect our membership, we changed our name from McKenzie County Credit Union to Dakota West Credit Union. We now also have branches in New Town, Turtle Lake, Washburn, Mohall, New England, and Bowman. Each of our branches and its members and employees help grow the Dakota West family with exceptional commitment to building relationships and strengthening communities. For more information visit <https://www.dakotawestcu.com>.

**About S&P Global Market Intelligence**

At S&P Global Market Intelligence, we understand the importance of accurate, deep, and insightful information. We integrate financial and industry data, research and news into tools that help track performance, generate

alpha, identify investment ideas, perform valuations, and assess credit risk. Investment professionals, government agencies, corporations and universities around the world use this essential intelligence to make business and financial decisions with conviction.

S&P Global Market Intelligence is a division of S&P Global (NYSE: SPGI), the world’s foremost provider of credit ratings, benchmarks and analytics in the global capital and commodity markets, offering ESG solutions, deep data, and insights on critical business factors. S&P Global has been providing essential intelligence that unlocks opportunity, fosters growth, and accelerates progress for more than 160 years. For more information, visit [www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence](http://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence).

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Rau  
School  
Student  
Of The  
Third  
Quarter



Jacelyn Johnson

Rau School would like to announce Jacelyn Johnson, daughter of Josh and Jacklyn Johnson, as their student of the third quarter. Jacelyn is a kind and caring student. She shows up everyday with a smile and tries to make everyone at Rau feel included. She is always willing to help out wherever needed. Jacelyn is a hard working student and sets a good example for other students by following the rules. She is polite to staff and students alike. She loves sharing a laugh with anyone she sees. Jacelyn enjoys reading and spending time with her family and friends.

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, April 13th

ALL DAY

Coffee/Donuts ~ 7am until gone  
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- All IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers (TACs) are by appointment only. Don't wait until it's too late to ask questions! However, Most questions can be resolved on the IRS.gov website without visiting a TAC.
- There are tools, filing options and other services and resources available on [www.IRS.gov](http://www.IRS.gov).

Consumer Alerts on Tax Scams

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

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A refundable deposit of \$100.00 is required for each hard copy plan set. **A PRE-BID WALK-THROUGH IS SCHEDULED FOR Wednesday, April 14, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.** Attendees shall meet at 368 Mesa Street, Savage, MT 59262 at the main office entry (north side) of the facility to sign in for the walkthrough. **ATTENDANCE IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.** Bids must be accompanied by a bid security meeting the requirements of the State of Montana in the amount of 10% of the total bid. After award, the successful bidder must furnish an approved Performance Security and a Labor & Material Payment Security each in the amount of 100% of the contract. No bidder may withdraw his bid for at least thirty

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## 🍴 Lunch Menus!

### Sidney School

**Thurs., April 14:** Cheeseburgers, oven wedges, pears, pudding.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** No school.  
**Tues., April 19:** Corn dogs, french fries, peach cups.  
**Wed., April 20:** Hamburger gravy over potatoes, green beans, pears, hot rolls.

### Savage School

**Thurs., April 14:** Sub sandwiches..  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** Meatballs & gravy.  
**Tues., April 19:** Hot dogs.  
**Wed., April 20:** Tater kickers.

### Rau School

**Thurs., April 14:** Chicken fajitas.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** No school.  
**Tues., April 19:** Alfredo & spaghetti.  
**Wed., April 20:** Tater tot casserole.

### Froid School

**Thurs., April 14:** Ham roast, scalloped potatoes, buns, veggies, fruit, jello.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** No school.  
**Tues., April 19:** Breakfast burritos, go-gurts, hash browns, fruit.  
**Wed., April 20:** Mrs. Reiter's Day! Lasagna, garlic bread, broccoli, cheesecake with chocolate drizzle.

### Bainville School

**Thurs., April 14:** No school unless snow day needed.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** No school.  
**Tues., April 19:** Polish dogs, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, mixed fruit.  
**Wed., April 20:** Chicken/ham rice hotdish, broccoli, peaches.

### Richey School

**Thurs., April 14:** Tuna/western casserole, peas, fruit, dessert.

### Fri., April 15:

 No school.  

### Mon., April 18:

 No school.  

### Tues., April 19:

 Finger steaks, mashed potatoes, corn, fruit.  

### Wed., April 20:

 Shepherd's pie, peas, fruit, dessert.

### Culbertson School

**Thurs., April 14 -** No school.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** No school.  
**Tues., April 19:** Mini corn dogs, curly fries, peaches.  
**Wed., April 20:** Ham slices, rice pilaf, carrots.

### Lambert School

**Thurs., April 14:** Popcorn chicken, smiley fries, fruit.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** No school.  
**Tues., April 19:** Enchiladas, fresh veggies, fruit.  
**Wed., April 20:** BBQ pork sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, fruit.

### Fairview School

**Thurs., April 14:** Chicken bacon ranch flatbread.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** Pizza pasta penne.  
**Tues., April 19:** Taco pie.  
**Wed., April 20:** Grilled cheese, tomato or chicken noodle soup.

### Alexander School

**Thurs., April 14:** Popcorn chicken or finger steaks, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** No school.  
**Tues., April 19:** Pizza.  
**Wed., April 20:** Hamburger or chicken stroganoff, green beans, breadsticks.

### Watford City School

**Thurs., April 14:** Ham patties, mashed potatoes, gravy, dinner rolls.  
**Fri., April 15:** No school.  
**Mon., April 18:** Meatloaf, au gratin potatoes, treat.  
**Tues., April 19:** Grilled cheese, fries.  
**Wed., April 20:** Chefs choice.

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# MDU Listening Session Scheduled April 18 In Sidney

The Montana Public Service Commission will hold a public listening session on Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s 2021 Biennial Electric Integrated Resource Plan in Sidney, on April 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Richland County Extension office meeting room, 1499 N. Central Ave.

"Every two years, the Commission requires regulated electric utilities in Montana to comprehensively analyze their operations to facilitate the most reliable and cost-effective energy re-

sources to meet customer demand. The 2021 IRP was filed with the PSC on Sept. 25, 2021. The IRP is a study that looks at the company's anticipated demand growth and highlight the best path forward to set that demand. MDU's IRP centers on four main areas: load forecasting, demand-side analysis, supply-side analysis, and integration and risk analysis. This plan includes a 20-year planning horizon, in this case, including years 2021-2040. MDU projects an average growth rate for sum-

mer peak demand of 0.93% and energy requirements are expected to increase at a rate of 0.84%.

A summary of the 2021 IRP study results: MDU 2021 IRP Vols. I, II, III, and IV pdfs can be found on the MDU website: [www.montana-dakota.com](http://www.montana-dakota.com).

Copies of MDU's four volume IRP can be found at various public libraries throughout MDU's service territory, including: Miles City, Scobey, Glendive, Baker, Terry, Sidney, Wolf Point, Forsyth, Plentywood, and

Wibaux. Copies of the IRP are also available at Rocky Mountain College, Yellowstone Baptist College, Little Big Horn College, Fort Peck Community College, Dawson Community College, Miles Community College, and Montana State University-Billings.

The IRP is also available electronically on the Commission's website at [www.psc.mt.gov](http://www.psc.mt.gov), under docket number 2021.09.117.

# DPHHS To Provide Legal Document Clinics April - September

**By Montana DPHHS**

The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) has announced today its annual Kelly Moose Memorial Legal Document Clinic schedule for 2022 that would include stops in Helena, Frenchtown, Thompson Falls, Butte, and Baker.

The clinics are provided by the DPHHS Legal Services Developer Program, with the first one to be held April 7 in Helena at the Ramada by Wyndham (Jorgenson's).

"This is an excellent opportunity for Montanans to receive free assistance preparing a wide variety of legal documents," said DPHHS Director Adam Meier. "It's crucial to have these documents prepared well ahead of a medical emergency, and to review them on a regular basis to ensure they are kept current."

The DPHHS Legal Services Developer Program serves older adults aged 60 and older, enrolled Tribal members and adults with disabilities. At the clinics, legal professionals volunteer to assist participants in completing their estate planning documents, and assist older adults draft, review, notarize and copy each document.

According to DPHHS experts, a major reason for senior exploitation in Montana is the lack of knowledge of estate planning documents like Powers of Attorney (POAs), guardianships, living wills and health directives.

The clinics are comprised of a one-day training session for community members to learn how to screen for senior exploitation, and, on the second day, a clinic

is held where trained legal professionals assist senior participants in completing their estate planning documents at no cost.

"Those exploiting seniors often use a POA to control a senior's entire life, even though the document does not legally grant them this ability," said Katy Lovell, DPHHS Legal Services Developers Program Director.

In calendar year 2021, a total of 865 cases were opened, involving 2,572 legal issues.

The most legal assistance requested in FY 2021 were: Estate planning, probate, landlord/tenant, exploitation, guardianships, collections/garnishments, contract issues, Medicaid eligibility, property issues and long term care facility issues.

Lovell said estate planning services are also available year round through phone clinics at no cost. In 2021, the program completed over 850 documents through in-person clinics and over the phone.

During the clinics, staff and volunteers not only educate seniors, but also financial, healthcare, and law enforcement professionals on what Powers of Attorney do and do not allow. The clinics present an important opportunity to reach seniors and communities and provide an access point to report and disclose financial exploitation, abuse and neglect. "This is an excellent opportunity to educate the community on such an important issue," Lovell said.

Lovell said financial exploitation of seniors is a major problem in the nation and in Montana, especially when considering the state's

large senior population. At clinics, seniors are able to complete estate planning documents with volunteer legal professionals in collaboration with DPHHS staff.

DPHHS received over 1,986 reports of exploitation in 2021, up from 1,921 in 2020.

The aging demographics for Montana are changing. By 2030 it is expected that Montanans age 60 and older will outpace those individuals under age 18.

"A recent AARP study found that financial exploitation presents a significant threat to older Americans, their families and financial institutions," Lovell said. "Addressing exploitation and preventing it provides benefits to institutions and consumers alike."

The average victim of exploitation loses \$120,000, Lovell said.

"It is important for any-

one who suspects financial exploitation has or is occurring that individuals contact DPHHS - Adult Protective Services (APS) immediately," Lovell said. "APS works to protect the senior from further harm. Often when financial exploitation is occurring, abuse is also present."

To make a report go to [www.aps.mt.gov](http://www.aps.mt.gov) or call 1-844-277-9300.

Space is limited and appointments must be made in advance of the clinics. To register for the in-person clinics, contact Lovell at 406-444-7787 or 1-800-332-2272.

2022 Legal Document Clinic schedule:

April 6-7, Helena  
June 22-23, Frenchtown  
July 27-28, Thompson Falls

Aug. 8-9, Butte  
Sept. 14-15, Baker

Richland County

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Richland County currently has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country at 1.9%, yet there are many jobs needing to be filled. The event is free and open to the public. It will feature several businesses from around the area. Job Seekers of all ages are encouraged to attend.

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# Avian Influenza Reported In Poultry In Judith Basin & Cascade Counties

Helena, MT — On Friday, April 8, the Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL) announced the confirmation of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in two Montana flocks. These are the first cases of HPAI reported in domestic poultry in Montana since 2015. Montana is the 25th state to report cases of HPAI in domestic poultry in 2022.

Avian influenza is an infectious viral disease of birds that can cause high mortality rates in domestic flocks. Migratory waterfowl are the primary source for avian influenza (AI). Wild birds can be infected and appear

healthy but shed virus in the feces, saliva, and respiratory secretions. Domestic poultry become infected through direct contact with infected wild birds, or through contact with contaminated objects, equipment, or the environment.

One of the flocks is a backyard flock in Judith Basin County and the other is a small layer and meat-bird operation in Cascade County. The flocks were reported to MDOL following increased rates of mortality and were confirmed to have the HPAI H5 strain associated with the outbreak occurring in other parts of the country. Samples from both flocks were tested

at the Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (MVDL) that is part of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, and confirmed at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, IA. The capability of the MVDL allows state animal health officials to get a jump start on response while awaiting confirmatory results. Avian influenza is a reportable disease in Montana and the presence of avian influenza in a country or region can have significant impacts on the trade of poultry products.

The affected flocks have been placed under quarantine and are required to

be depopulated to prevent further spread of the disease. Flock owners are eligible to receive indemnity on their birds from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The Montana Department of Livestock is conducting an epidemiological investigation and will be identifying other poultry producers in the area to conduct disease surveillance and to provide educational resources.

As a result of this detection and the scope of the national outbreak, the Department is issuing an Official Order that prohibits all poultry shows, exhibitions, swaps, and public sales for the next 60 days to reduce the risk of exposure to HPAI. Exhibitions are an increased risk of HPAI because animals from multiple sources are concentrated in one area during the event. Cancellation of shows and exhibitions is a proactive step to prevent disease in our domestic poultry population. Depending on disease status in 60 days, this order may be modified or extended. The order does not apply to private, catalog, or retail sale of poultry.

In addition to cancelling shows and exhibitions, poultry producers should implement biosecurity measures including:

- Prevent contact between wild or migratory birds and domestic poultry, including access by wild birds to feed and water sources.
- House birds indoors to the extent possible to limit exposure to wild or migratory birds.
- Limit visitor access to areas where birds are housed.
- Use dedicated clothing and protective footwear when caring for domestic poultry.
- Immediately isolate sick animals and contact your veterinarian or MDOL.

“Exposure to wild birds presents the greatest risk to domestic poultry,” says Dr. Marty Zaluski, State Veterinarian. “Fortunately, reducing this risk can be accomplished with simple changes to biosecurity with minimal financial investment.”

Sick birds can exhibit numerous signs such as swollen eyes, discolored comb and legs, significant drop in egg production or water and feed consumption, or sudden death. MDOL encourages all poultry producers to immediately report sudden onset of illness or high death loss in domestic poultry to their veterinarian or the department at (406-444-2976). If you find sick or dead wild birds that have died from unknown causes, please contact your local FWP Warden, Biologist or Regional office, or call the FWP wildlife veterinarian (406-577-7880).

MDOL emphasizes that existing safeguards to keep food safe and wholesome are sufficient to protect people, and the food supply in the United States is one of the safest in the world. Virus is rarely found in food and is readily destroyed by cooking.

“There is no increased risk to consumption of poultry or poultry products,” Zaluski continued. “Normal food handling and preparation practices that keep food safe are important every day.”

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) considers the risk to people from these HPAI infections in wild birds,

backyard flocks and commercial poultry, to be low. No human infections with the virus have been detected at this time. However, it is recommended that people follow proper sanitary precautions when handling birds. Wear latex or rubber gloves when cleaning birds, washing hands with soapy water after cleaning, clean and disinfect equipment and surfaces that came in contact with the bird, and cook thoroughly before eating the meat. As a reminder, the US Department of Agriculture recommends cooking poultry to 165° Fahrenheit.

The mission of the Montana Department of Livestock is to control and eradicate animal diseases, prevent the transmission of animal diseases to humans, and to protect the livestock industry from theft and predatory animals. For more information on the Montana Department of Livestock, visit [liv.mt.gov/](http://liv.mt.gov/).

For more information on biosecurity, please visit the USDA website at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/defend-the-flock-program/dtf-resources/dtf-resources>.

For more information on national cases of HPAI, please visit the USDA website at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/2022-hpai>.

For information on human health concerns and HPAI, please visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/avian-flu-summary.htm>.

## MFU Announces Congressional Primary Debates

**By Alice Miller**

A series of four Congressional Primary Debates for candidates running for Montana's two seats in the U.S. House of Representatives kicks off April 21 in Miles City.

The debates are co-sponsored by Montana Farmers Union, United States Cattleman's Association, Montana Cattleman's Association and the Northern Plains Resource Council.

“It's our opportunity to put issues that are important to rural Montana and family farms at the forefront of the conversation surrounding the elections,” MFU President Walter Schweitzer said, adding that rural communities are the backbone of Montana.

All debates are open to the public and will be moderated by Jim Sargent.

Times and locations are as follows:

- Republicans, District 2: 7 p.m., April 21, at Miles City Community College;
  - Democrats, District 2: 7 p.m., April 28, at Montana State University-Northern, Havre;
  - Democrats, District 1: 7:30 p.m., May 6, at MSU's Inspiration Hall, Bozeman; and
  - Republicans, District 1: 7 p.m., May 20, at the Whitefish Performing Arts Center, Whitefish.
- Candidates will spar in-person in front of a live audience, and each of the sessions also will be televised on ABC FOX and Northern Ag Network will broadcast the debates.
- This year marks the first time in more than two decades that two Montana representatives will be elected to the U.S. House based on congressional districts

determined by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission last November.

All candidates registered with the Montana Secretary of State have been invited to participate. As of Thursday morning, Republicans Mitch Heuer, Matt Jette, Al “Doc” Olszewski, and Mary Todd and Democrats Cora Neumann, Monica Tranel, and Tom Winter had committed to participating in the District 1 debates, with Republicans Kyle Austin, James Boyette, and Charles Walking Child and Democrats Penny Ronning and Mark Sweeney committing to District 2 debates.

For more information and an updated listing of confirmed candidates who will participate in the debates, visit <https://montanafarmersunion.com/montana-debates/>.



# Alma Cook Announces Her New Oilfield-Themed Song and Music Video, “5000 Candles”



Alma Cook working in the North Dakota oilfield in the "5000 Candles" music video.



Alma Cook singing with a garage band in the "5000 Candles" music video.

LOS ANGELES, March 23, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- “5000 Candles” is the story of an unexpected love for people, place, and industry. Through the song’s playful and affectionate lyrics, singer-songwriter Alma Cook

humanizes the North Dakota oilfield and invites Americans into parts of the country that are typically unnoticed and unappreciated.

A city kid by birth and a musician by trade, Alma is one of many accidental

entrepreneurs in the Bakken oil patch. When she first visited Williston, the epicenter of the Bakken, to take odd jobs at a friend’s company after college, she didn’t know the difference between a drilling rig and

a cell phone tower—something many Americans can relate to! Little by little, she fell in love with the industry, building unlikely friendships and learning that many of her preconceptions about oil and gas were unfounded.

“5000 Candles” was born along the way. Flying into Williston late one night, Alma was struck by a sight that North Dakota locals are all too familiar with: a landscape dotted with hundreds of flickering natural gas flares. She put a pen to paper and tried to capture the beauty she saw—not just the beauty of the glowing landscape, which was a vivid representation of America’s energy dominance, but of the often-maligned oil and gas industry itself. “We don’t think enough about the beauty we make,” sings Alma in the second verse.

The new music video, also released today, features dawn-to-dusk footage of the Bakken oilfield as well as many faces of hardworking locals. At a time when global energy supply is under geopolitical threat, Alma sings of the oilfield, “We’ll let the world judge what they don’t know,” reminding us that the men and women of the energy industry are to be cherished and honored. Their efforts make our lives better and more comfortable.

Alma owns Cook Compliance Solutions, a boutique advisory firm that advises oilfield contractors about safety compliance and supply chain challenges.

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# MSU/Richland County Extension Listening Session April 19

By Carrie Krug, Josie Evenson, Marley Manoukian

Montana State University Extension (MSUE) works to improve the lives of Montana citizens by providing unbiased, researched-based education and information that integrates learning, discovery, and engagement to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of individuals, families, and communities. The main program areas of MSU Extension include 4-H/ Youth Development, Family and Consumer Sciences, Community Development, and Agriculture and Natural Resources. County Extension programs are a cooperation between the land grant university in Montana State University and individual counties. Here in Richland County, there are three County Extension Agents, covering the main program areas, that work with local stakeholders to identify community needs, plan and prioritize work, and create and extend resources to fit those needs.

4-H is the youth development program of MSUE. 4-H is the largest, out-of-school youth development program in the state, reaching nearly 20,000 youth in all 56 counties each year. In 4-H, if you can dream it, you can do it! 4-H offers more than 200 different projects and learning experiences that actively engage youth while having fun. 4-H projects rely on trained adult volunteers who work with youth as partners and a resource for hands-on learning. From learning how to cook or sew, to raising an animal, conservation and robotics. 4-H offers youth a wide range of choices and opportunities

**Tell us**  
**How can MSU Extension**  
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<http://ow.ly/ocmF50HuY7o>

Richland County Extension



for them to learn and grow. Currently in Richland County there are 243 4-H members and 100 certified volunteers who engage in 10 community clubs.

The MSUE Family and Consumer Sciences program is here to assist with questions related to the family and the home. These questions can vary from foods and nutrition, food preservation, human development, financial, estate planning, and more. Some of the services offered in this program area are pressure canner testing, resources on various topics (estate planning, food preservation, parenting, etc.), and others. There are also programs offered throughout the year from parenting education, foods related classes, and others.

The MSUE Agriculture program area is here to assist with all questions and topics related to livestock, forages, crops, rangelands, pest management, agriculture economics, water quality, soil fertility, and all

other areas of agriculture. Services offered include livestock water quality testing, forage nitrate testing, and agricultural equipment rental including hay and soil probes. Other programs offered include the Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage certification and the Private Applicator Training program.

To inform and improve resources, programs, and services to Montanans, MSUE is gathering feedback from local community members in a statewide survey. Scan your smart phone camera over the QR code to be directed to the survey. The MSU Richland County Extension Office also invites you to provide input at our Listening Session on Tuesday, April 19 at 6 p.m. (MDT) in the Meeting Room at the Richland County Extension office, 1499 N Central Ave, Sidney. By gathering local input MSU/Richland County Extension will be able to better assist members of the community. If you have any questions, please contact the office at 406-433-1206.

## 2022 Youth Art Show at the MDHC

Submitted by Joe Bradley, MonDak Heritage Center Board President

The 2022 Youth Art Show is currently on display at the MonDak Heritage Center and runs through April 30. The artwork features pieces from 7th-12th grade students from area schools in a variety of mediums that includes paintings,

drawings, mixed media and more. As you marvel at the artistic talents of the local youth, find the one in each grade division you enjoy the most and vote for the People's Choice Awards for each grade division. This year's Annual Show features 476 pieces from 8 MonDak area schools.

The 2022 Youth Art Show is sponsored by Ed-

ward Jones Financial Advisors: Jerry Hughes, Jamie Malsam, Nick Lonski and Lauren Sukut.

The MonDak Heritage Center is open Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call 406-433-3500 or e-mail mdhc@richland.org.

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-Josh Butterfly  
Prayer Warriors Tribal Council

## “Heart Of Community” Dinner For Savage Band

The Sidney Moose Lodge held a Picnic Dinner Fundraiser for the Savage Music Department on Saturday, April 2. The Lodge presented the Savage Music Department with a check in the amount of \$295. Shown are Sidney Lodge Board members Dean Rehbein, Rita Rehbein, and Mark Peplow presenting the check to Nate Lauisignau and Savage band members who assisted with the dinner. The Sidney Moose Lodge next's "Heart of the Community" fundraiser will be held on Saturday, May 7 with a picnic dinner. The meal will be served from 5:30-7 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to the Sidney Special Olympics. (Submitted by Rita Rehbein)



# Montana Department Of Transportation Issues New Load Postings For 4 Bridges In McCone & Dawson Counties

**Submitted by Ella Currier,  
Public Involvement Lead**  
Circle, MT - The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) recently issued new load postings

for the Cottonwood Creek Bridge, on MT 200, 8 miles northeast of Circle, in McCone County; the Blue Creek Bridge, on MT 200, 14 miles southwest of Richey, in Dawson County; the Skull Creek Bridge, on MT 200, 18 miles west of Brockway, in McCone County; and the Horse Creek Bridge on Horse Creek Road, 1 mile west of Circle, in McCone County. The postings are part of a multi-year effort to update load ratings and postings on Montana bridges as mandated by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The FHWA mandate is in response to changes in the trucking industry over the last decade. Truck manufacturers are building specialized hauling vehicles (SHVs) capable of legally carrying heavier loads than typical vehicles have in the past. SHVs are single-unit, short-wheelbase, multiple-axle trucks commonly used in the construction, waste management, bulk cargo, and commodities hauling industries. Often one or more axles can be raised or lowered as needed to comply with statutory weight limitations.

These SHV configurations concentrate heavy loads over a short length, and they have been found to overstress bridges beyond what was previously modeled by standard commercial vehicles. To account for their increasing presence and ensure safe operation,

FHWA has determined that all states must include these new, short, heavy vehicles when evaluating the safe limits of bridge capacity.

MDT is currently updating load ratings for 4,500 public bridges across the state, including approximately 2,500 owned and maintained by MDT to comply with the mandate. This effort is expected to take about four years to complete.

Bridge weight restrictions are required when the engineering analysis of a bridge, known as a load rating, indicates that it cannot carry standard, legal loads. Load ratings provide information about how much distributed weight can safely pass over a bridge. Load posting signs show maximum weight limits for different vehicle types, depending on their axle configuration. A posted bridge is safe to use, but the weight of certain vehicles must be limited accordingly.

The new postings on these 4 bridges apply to SHVs; they limit the maximum gross vehicle weight of single-unit vehicles with:

- Cottonwood Creek Bridge: 6 or 7 axles to 31 tons
- Bluff Creek Bridge: 5, 6, or 7 axles to 27 tons
- Skull Creek Bridge: 4, 5, 6, or 7 axles to 25 tons
- Horse Creek Bridge: 6 or 7 axles to 31 tons

Further information on understanding and interpreting Montana's weight

limit signs and silhouettes can be found in MDT's load posting brochure, located here:<http://bit.ly/mtbridge-brochure>.

The exact locations of the four bridges are viewable on Google Maps:

- <https://bit.ly/CottonwoodCreekBridge>
- <https://bit.ly/BluffCreek>
- <https://bit.ly/SkullCreekBridge>
- <https://bit.ly/S252HorseCreekBridge>

To assist with public outreach and education about the bridge load posting program, MDT has created an interactive map with statewide load posted bridge locations available at: <http://bit.ly/mtbridgemap>.

For the most up-to-date information and additional resources, visit MDT's Bridge Load Posting Program website at <http://bit.ly/bridgeload>.

For questions about the program or specific bridges, please call the project hotline at 1-888-824-8445 or email [MDTbridgeloadposting@mt.gov](mailto:MDTbridgeloadposting@mt.gov).

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone 406-444-5416 or Montana Relay Service at 711.

# McKenzie Electric Cooperative, Inc. Names Matt Hanson As New CEO

**Submitted by  
Andrew Spratta,  
Member Services  
Coordinator**

Wattford City - The McKenzie Electric Cooperative Board of Directors has announced that Matt Hanson has been appointed the new CEO of the Cooperative. Serving as McKenzie Electric's Chief Operating Officer for the past 22 months, Hanson will assume responsibilities as CEO on April 11, 2022.

Hanson, an Iowa native and second-generation utility employee, graduated from Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Continuing his education, he received his Master of Arts in Business Leadership from

William Penn University. Hanson came to McKenzie Electric with over 15 years of experience in both investor-owned and cooperative utilities including experience in generation and electric distribution. Moving from Pella, IA, Hanson has made Watford City home with his wife Angela and three children.

"I am excited to lead McKenzie Electric in its next chapter during a time of change across our landscape, embracing the cooperative difference to serve our membership and our communities with safe, reliable and affordable electricity," said Hanson.

Hanson succeeds retired CEO John Skurupey. The McKenzie Electric

Board of Directors thank Skurupey for his commitment to the member-owners of the cooperative and his instrumental leadership through one of the largest expansions in cooperative history.

## About McKenzie Electric Cooperative

McKenzie Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit distribution utility that provides service to five counties in western North Dakota and a portion of eastern Montana. The Cooperative's wholesale power supplier is Upper Missouri Power Cooperative, Sidney and their generation and transmission partner is Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bismarck, ND.

## Lake Sakakawea Low Water...

(Continued from  
page 1A)

and providing engineering support on measures needed to maintain boat access.

On March 28, USACE began removing sediment at Government Bay while the reservoir still had solid ice cover and expects to have that, and three other ramps owned and operated by USACE, functional for the beginning of the recreation season. Following completion of Government Bay, work will then begin at the Deepwater Creek low water ramp, which will include access road and parking area improvements and sediment removal. Similar work will be performed at Douglas Bay

and Wolf Creek.

The Corps of Engineers would like to express its appreciation to the many concessionaires and agencies who own and operate recreation facilities around the reservoir who are also pro-actively moving forward with plans to maintain and improve access at main boat ramps, as well as low water ramps where needed. Lindquist says "Despite challenges associated with drought in the basin, reservoir levels are forecast to be more than over 20 feet higher than the record low elevation experienced during the drought of the early 2000's so people can still expect to be able to access this beautiful reser-

voir, and he expects fishing to be good.

Lindquist also wants to remind boaters the importance of protecting this resource and let them know that the Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the North Dakota Game & Fish Department and concessionaires around the reservoir, will be making a concerted effort this year to educate boaters on aquatic nuisance species and the steps they can take to help protect the pristine waters of Lake Sakakawea.

Additional information regarding lake access can be found at: <https://www.nwd-mr.usace.army.mil/rcc/information.html>.

# Spring Classes Open For Registration

For details and to register, visit [handyandynursery.com](http://handyandynursery.com)  
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# Books on Broadway to Hold Book Signing, Williston April 23

Michael Patrick F. Smith will be at Books on Broadway, Williston, Saturday, April 23 from 1-4 p.m. CDT to sign his book “The Good Hand”. There will be paperback and hardcover copies of his book available for signing. If you would like to reserve a copy of this book check with the store, online, or call 701-572-1433.

Smith is a folksinger and playwright currently based in central Kentucky. His plays, including Woody Guthrie Dreams and Ain’t No Sin, have been staged in Baltimore and New York. As a musician, he has shared the stage with folk luminaries such as Ramblin’ Jack Elliott, as well as several prominent indie rock bands. Smith has also worked

as a stage actor, a bartender, junk hauler, furniture mover, book store clerk, contractor, receptionist, event producer, driver, office temp, stage hand, waiter, security guard, set fabricator, legal assistant, grocer, oil field hand, and now writer. “The Good Hand” is his first book. Visit his website at thegoodhand.org.

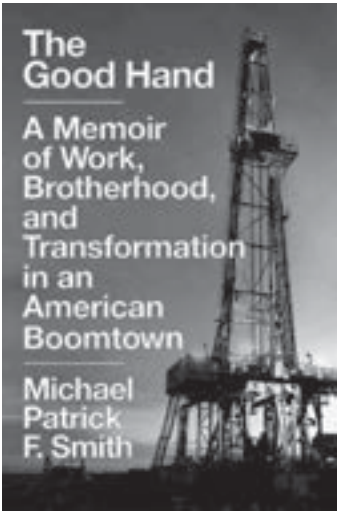
**About the Good Hand**

Like thousands of restless men left unmoored in the wake of the 2008 economic crash, Michael Patrick Smith arrived in the fracking boomtown of Williston, ND five years later homeless, unemployed, and desperate for a job. Renting a mattress on a dirty flophouse floor, he slept boot to beard with migrant men who came from all

across America and as far away as Jamaica, Africa and the Philippines. They ate together, drank together, argued like crows and searched for jobs they couldn’t get back home. Smith’s goal was to find the hardest work he could do—to find out if he could do it. He hired on in the oil patch where he toiled 14 hour shifts from summer’s 100 degree dog days to deep into winter’s bracing whiteouts, all the while wrestling with the demons of a turbulent past, his broken relationships with women, and the haunted memories of a family riven by violence.

“The Good Hand” is a saga of fear, danger, exhaustion, suffering, loneliness, and grit that explores the struggles of America’s mar-

ginalized boomtown workers—the rough-hewn, castoff, seemingly disposable men who do an indispensable job that few would exalt: oil field hands who, in the age of climate change, put the gas in our tanks and the food in our homes. Smith, who had pursued theater and played guitar in New York, observes this world with a critical eye; yet he comes to love his coworkers, forming close bonds with Huck, a goofy giant of a young man whose lead foot and quick fists get him into trouble with the law, and The Wildebeest, a foul-mouthed, dip-spitting truck driver who torments him but also trains him up, and helps Smith “make a hand.”



# Golden Roundup

## For Individuals With Prostate Cancer, “Creating Space” During Radiation Treatment Could Make All The Difference

(BPT) - Three years ago, Alex Lamb, an active retiree just shy of 80 years old, was happily preparing for a big move to be closer to his son. Then he received a prostate cancer diagnosis.

“It was a total shock to me. I found out by going in for a regular check-up,” said Alex, who didn’t experience any symptoms. “I was lucky because otherwise, I may not have found out until my cancer progressed. The news was hard to hear at first, but I didn’t let it get me down. I believed there would be a way forward.”

Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in American men, behind skin cancer.1 Compared with many other cancers, prostate cancer grows slowly and is most often found in early stages. Some cases may not require treatment while others are highly treatable through options such as surgery and/or radiation therapy.2,3 In Alex’s case, his physician felt that his best option was radiation, an approach that more than 60,000 American men opt to treat prostate cancer with every year.4

While the various treatment options have proven to be effective, they can come at a cost to some patients’ quality of life in the form of potentially severe side effects, depending on the dose and the amount of healthy tissue that is exposed to the radiation.5 Due to the prostate’s close proximity to the rectum, radiation therapy can unintentionally cause what’s called rectal toxicity, where patients experience damage to the healthy tissue surrounding the prostate, which can create issues with urinary, sexual and bowel functions.5,6,7

For the growing number of patients who opt for this form of treatment, there is an option that may help reduce the potential damage. SpaceOAR™ Hydrogel is an absorbable gel that creates a temporary space between the prostate and the rectum, and is designed to help reduce the radiation dose to the rectum during radiation therapy. It is inserted via a minimally invasive procedure and is naturally absorbed by the body in about six months.6

SpaceOAR Hydrogel has been shown to reduce grade 1 rectal toxicity by up to 75% in patients at 3 years of follow-up.8 Further, patients who didn’t receive SpaceOAR Hydrogel were also eight times as likely to report a drop in quality of life as a result of their radiation therapy.8,9

“After receiving my cancer diagnosis, I knew I didn’t want to be treated with medication,” said Alex. “I opted for radiation therapy, but after hearing about the potential side effects, I was excited to learn about SpaceOAR Hydrogel from my physician. The procedure to insert the spacer was fairly straightforward. I received it in the morning with general anesthesia and was ready to go home by lunchtime. Within two days, I was back to exercising.”\*

Three years later, Alex has completed his radiation treatments and is considered in remission from prostate cancer. He is now living near his son and daughter-in-law, and says he feels as healthy as ever. He credits his care team with helping him recover from prostate cancer and is grateful that his post-treatment symptoms have been minimal.

“It’s so important to get regularly screened for prostate cancer and for those who are diagnosed to know that they have a path forward,” said Alex. “If I hadn’t gone in for a screening, and if my doctor hadn’t recommended SpaceOAR Hydrogel, I might be in a very different position today. I would recommend you talk to your doctor, explore your options and find the treatment plan that works best for you.”

To learn more about the importance of early detection for prostate cancer and to talk to a local doctor about treatment options, including radiation therapy with the use of SpaceOAR Hydrogel, visit <https://www.spaceoar.com/> or Find a Doctor in your area.

As with any medical treatment, results from case studies like Alex’s are not necessarily predictive of results in other cases. Potential complications associated with SpaceOAR Hydrogel include, but are not limited to, pain or discomfort associated with injection,

needle penetration of the bladder, prostate, rectal wall, rectum or urethra, inflammatory reactions, infection, urinary retention, rectal mucosal damage, ulcers, necrosis, bleeding and rectal urgency.10 Safety information as well as a complete list of potential side effects associated with SpaceOAR Hydrogel can be found online at <https://www.spaceoar.com/risks/>.

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\*Patient experience varies. Speak with your doctor as individual recovery varies. Experience may not be representative of all cases.

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Pictured Alex Lamb. (Photo submitted)

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LONG X ARTS



**Gilbert Honored  
at Walleyes Unlimited Banquet**

The MonDak Chapter of Walleyes Unlimited held their annual banquet on April 2 at the Richland County Events Center in Sidney. This year marked the 25th anniversary for the MonDak Chapter. The chapter honored longtime supporter and state Walleyes Unlimited Hall of Fame Inductee Bob Gilbert with a MonDak Chapter embroidered jacket. Pictured above are (L-R) Justin Jones - MonDak Chapter, Mike Newton - Glendive Chapter and Bob Gilbert.

# Bridge Work To Limit Gartside Access To Walk-In For 2-3 Weeks



**Submitted by Marla Prell, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region 7**

Miles City – A temporary gravel bypass around a bridge on the main road to Gartside Reservoir Fishing Access Site will be removed the week of April 11, and the bridge will be closed for two to three weeks for repairs. To preserve some walk-in access to the reservoir, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks maintenance staff has mowed and set up a temporary parking area off of County Road 115 and placed a sign.

Construction on the bypass, which was built by Richland County crews when a bridge inspection found safety issues, will no longer be needed.

The bypass needs to be taken out before the bridge repairs to allow for priming of the canal for irrigation purposes.


Gartside Reservoir remains open, but the bridge is about a half-mile from the water, and walk-in access from County Road 115 is also some distance.

Gartside is a popular fishing and recreation spot. Bird hunters utilize the surrounding state lands in the fall, and the reservoir sees a lot of ice fishing in the winter. The reservoir offers a diverse fishery, with bluegill, green sunfish, yellow perch, black crappie, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike and channel catfish.


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