

# The Roundup

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

### Watford City Highlights of 2022 Special Section pages 8-12



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## Acreage Will Determine The Future For Sidney Sugars & Growers

By Meagan Dotson

Feb. 1, 2023 it will be determined if Sidney Sugars can contract enough acreage to keep the factory open, which would not only affect sugar beet growers and their employees, but the year-round and seasonal employees at Sidney Sugars.

On Dec. 21, 2022 a letter went out to sugar beet growers from Chief Operating Officer, Steve Rosenau,

explaining that Sidney Sugars is requiring approximately 25,000 acres to be contracted for 2023 in order for the factory to continue operations. It is also estimated that 30,000 acres will be required following 2023. Last year, only 18,400 acres were contracted, which was not enough acreage for the factory to be financially sustainable.

"Acreage contracts with our growers take place

each year at this time. The contracted acreage of their sugarbeet crops informs our needs for facility operations planning. The letter dated Dec. 21, 2022, sent to growers of our Sidney, MT district reviews our expectations for the overall contracted acreage targets that keep facility operations sustained and financially viable. American Crystal Sugar leadership reviews annual contracts and makes annual deter-

minations based on that information. Our leadership's next communication will be sent to growers in February 2023," stated Rosenau.

The letter explains that if Sidney Sugars is able to contract enough acreage, they will prepare to process the 2023 crop; if not, it would "lead to decisions about the future of the factory".

Contracting will conclude on Feb. 1, 2023, at which time the exact num-

ber of acres needed will be determined, taking into consideration the sugar market, agri products and energy prices. Additionally, waiting until Feb. 1 will allow time for post campaign equipment inspections to ascertain needed maintenance.

Once contracting has concluded, more information will be available regarding the future for growers and Sidney Sugars.

## McKenzie County Hit & Run Injury Crash

### Highway Patrol Seeking Information

On Monday, Jan. 23, at approximately 6:30 a.m. CST on HWY 85 near mile marker 151 approximately 1 mile west of Arnegard, ND there was a hit and run injury crash.

A 2016 Chevrolet Colorado, driven by a 48-year-old, male, Watford City, ND, was traveling eastbound on Highway 85. An unknown truck hauling a flatbed trailer was traveling westbound and crossed into the eastbound lanes. The unknown truck struck the Chevrolet and continued westbound. The driver of the Chevrolet sustained serious injuries and was transported to the McKenzie County Hospital.

At the time of the crash the road conditions were icy.

The agencies who responded to the crash were North Dakota Highway Patrol, McKenzie County Sheriff's Office, Arnegard Rural Fire Department, Arnegard First Responders, McKenzie County Ambulance North Dakota and Department of Transportation.

The North Dakota Highway Patrol is seeking any information regarding the crash. Please contact 701-328-2447 if you have any information.

## ElectricLand Inc. Has New Owners

By Dianne Swanson

The excellent service and top quality products we have all come to expect from ElectricLand Inc. in Sidney will continue under the new ownership of Tom and Chrissy Quigley. The couple purchased the business Jan. 1, 2023 and have plans to relocate and expand. In 2011, Tom moved to Sidney from Rochester, NY with his now wife, Chrissy, who is a Sidney native. With over 20 years' experience as an installation technician, he immediately started work at ElectricLand, providing design, bidding, and comple-

tion of low voltage systems including audio, video, security, fire systems and more.

March 1, Quigleys will be relocating the business just down the block to the former Fastenal building at 205 2nd Ave. NE where they plan to expand the retail space and products. ElectricLand is your local source for TVs, computers, laptops, home stereo systems, portable speakers, cell phones boosters, and all the essentials such as batteries and cables. They also handle Dish Network. Low voltage systems, security cameras, access controls and mon-

itored security, sales and installation will also be a top priority.

Raleigh Peck opened ElectricLand in the current LinCare building July 10, 2000 after he purchased the Radio Shack portion from Leif Anderson. He then moved the business to the Village Square Mall for nine years, the Shops at Fox Run for 5 years and finally the current location for four years. He has seen a lot of changes over the years. "That's electronics," he said referring to the enormous changes the industry has seen. He started with great ambitions of selling VCRs and tube TVs and ended up with flat screens, DVRs and streaming. He also experienced the evolution from bag phones to cell phones and analog to digital among many others. ElectricLand in little old Sidney, MT was in the Top 5 Radio Shack dealers in the country before Radio Shack went bankrupt. When that happened, Peck found new suppliers and kept on selling and servicing the products his customers needed and wanted. Initially focused heavily on retail, Raleigh gradually shifted the focus more to custom

Continued on page 2A.

## Brewer Receives 100 Year Sentence in Wetzstein Homicide



Lyndsee Colette Brewer (purple shirt) sits with public defenders Hailey Forcella and Michael Haase during sentencing. (Photo by Robyn Heck)

By Robyn Heck

On Jan. 23, Judge Katherine Bidegaray sentenced Lyndsee Brewer to 100 years in the Montana women's correctional facility, with 30 suspended.

On Saturday, Jan. 28, 2022, Sidney Police Department found Christopher A. Wetzstein, 50, deceased at the 900 block of 3rd St. NW. He was in his bed and had a gunshot wound to his head. Wetzstein was discovered after police were asked to perform a welfare check because he hadn't shown up for work.

His autopsy ruled his death a homicide. On April 26, 2022 Lyndsee Colette Brewer, 51, was arrested in Miles City.

Continued on page 2A.

## Richland County Fair Cattle Barn To Be Utilized As Indoor Sports Complex

By Robin Heck

Terry Roth is a volunteer for the high school softball program and he has led the community in building an indoor sports complex. Roth is the board of directors chairman and Travis Rosaaen is the secretary. Rosaaen is a volunteer for the summer softball league and also umpires high school softball games. "Initially plans were to get together a youth organization to find a spot to build indoor batting cages. With high school baseball starting up in Sidney this year, we were aware they also needed space", said Roth. He continued, "We all need a place for off-season work, as well as a place to hold clinics and workshops. On our board we have members from youth softball and baseball, as well as high school coaching staff." Roth tried to get this going by himself but as we know you need help. "The group effort is amazing", said Roth. "Our goal is to be able to provide indoor facilities for other sports with a more permanent venue, as we continue

to raise funds. We know it's important to start small and work up from there. Our main goal is to have a safe space for kids to practice". Rosaaen added, "Watford, Williston, all of our larger size, local communities have their own indoor practice space. We've been getting out played by Williston and Watford because they have all-year practice facilities and can take advantage of camps and clinics. That's what we want." The building will be at the Richland Coun-

ty Fairgrounds and hopes to open by the end of February. "It's also a spot for adults to utilize for their adult softball league practice. We are collecting money for operating expenses and expansion. If you would like to help, please join the Facebook page called Richland County sports complex. The fairgrounds personal have been so accommodating to us. Everybody in this process has just been great."

Jodi Oakland, 406 Orthopedic & Sports Physical

Therapy owner, states, "This will be a great addition to our community and especially our student athletes!" Her business goal is to assist clients in living an active and pain-free life. She is also happy to be a resource for community, coaches, athletes, and trainers.

Currently, this complex will help Legion baseball, high school baseball, high school softball, summer league softball, and youth program softball as well as the adult league softball

programs. "It's great to teach our kids that softball can be a lifelong sport. I'm over 60 and still playing. Thank you to the Sidney community. All

of the positive feedback and help is going to get us to the next step." explained Roth.



The new cattle barn building at the Richland County Fairgrounds will be used for the indoor sports complex.



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# Thank You

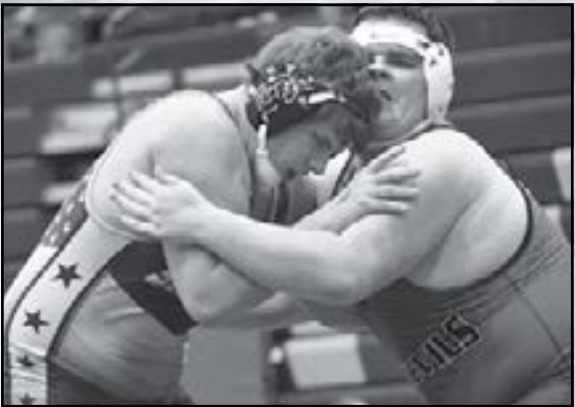


Thank you to everyone that helped me celebrate my 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. If you sent a card, gave me a call or stopped by for cake, I appreciate it. It was the “Best Birthday Ever.”

– **Monica Zoanni**

## SIDNEY EAGLE

### WRESTLER OF THE WEEK



**CALEB KLEINKE 285#**

Caleb wrestled well at the Montana Class A Duals in Lewistown last weekend. He placed 4th at the Cowboy Invitational in Miles City.

**Congratulations, Caleb.**

**You are the Sidney Eagle Wrestler of the week!**

This week sponsored by MonDak API

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# DRIVER WANTED

The Roundup is looking for a delivery driver to pick up newspapers in Minot once a week. Must be able to lift 80lbs, have a valid driver's license (CDL not required) & clean driving record. Call 406-433-3306 for questions. **Apply at Sidney Job Service.**



# STATISTICS

## LAKE WATER LEVEL REPORT

**Sakakawea**

Current Elevation.....	1829.2
Last Week's Elev. ....	1829.3
One Year Ago .....	1827.9
Release For Day (C.F.S.) .....	23,500

## SIDNEY WEATHER DATA

Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Jan. 16 .....	25	21	0.003
Jan. 17 .....	31	23	0.001
Jan. 18 .....	30	12	0.002
Jan. 19 .....	28	13	0.014
Jan. 20 .....	32	14	0.002
Jan. 21 .....	38	10	0.000
Jan. 22 .....	33	22	0.025
Total 2022 YTD Precipitation.....	0.116		

# Families & Legacies: Challenging Decisions

## Estate Planning Workshops To Be Held Feb. 7-8

MSU Extension Family Economics Specialist Dr. Marsha Goetting will be offering estate planning workshops in Roosevelt, Daniels, Sheridan, and Richland counties. If you think estate planning is a boring topic, then you haven't been to one of Marsha Goetting's educational sessions. She has a reputation for her ability to make presentations interesting and useful to participants. She will keep you actively involved by having you answer questions with a response clicker. For example, if a widow dies without a written will and has two children that preceeded her in death, what fraction do the grandchildren receive, if any? Suppose a husband dies first in an accident and the wife dies three days later? If they don't have a written will or children, whose relatives receive the property?

Plan to attend one of the following sessions:  
Tuesday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m., RC Complex Meeting Room, 307 Broadway, Culbertson  
Tuesday, Feb. 7, 5:30 p.m., Nemont Friendship Room, 61 Hwy 13 S., Scobey  
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 10 a.m., Cousins Family Restaurant, 118 S. Main St., Plentywood  
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 6 p.m., Meadowlark Upstairs Room, 117 S. Central Ave., Sidney  
You will also discover how title to property has an impact on who receives it when you pass away. You will learn when a will or trust has control over your property and when neither one does. You will find out how you can avoid probate with payable on death (POD) designations, transfer on death (TOD) registrations and transfer on death deed (TODD) for an interest in Montana real property to one or more designated beneficiaries. She will also highlight two Montana statutes that allow you to save money on your state income taxes. Don't miss this opportunity to attend a presentation that is not only enlightening, but also fun!

The meetings are being sponsored by MSU Extension in Roosevelt, Daniels, Sheridan, and Richland counties, the Montana Community Foundation, and local Community Foundations.

For more information, contact your local MSU Extension office. Roosevelt, 406-787-5312; Daniels, 406-478-2861; Sheridan, 406-765-3406; and Richland, 406-433-1206.

# MDHC to Host 16th Annual Celebrating Chocolate Event

Submitted by Nikki Bailey,  
MonDak Heritage Center Executive Director

Celebrating Chocolate returns to the MonDak Heritage Center on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. This year's Celebrating Chocolate theme will bring attendees back to the 1960s and 1970s. Throughout the evening, guests will be able to groove to live music from "A Band Called Honalee", a modern day trio inspired by the legacy of Peter, Paul & Mary.

The night will feature delicious chocolate treats and fun era inspired appetizers. In addition to the great music and food, guests will be able to bid on silent auction items and enter for a chance to win luxurious bottles of wine in the wine pull. This year, guests also will have the opportunity to win a diamond package donated by Sugar Plum Fine Jewelry which includes a diamond, free design consultation, and \$100 towards a setting for the stone!

The evening's entertainment, "A Band Called Honalee" draws inspiration from the Mamas & Papas, Simon & Garfunkel, the Beatles, Bob Dylan, the Byrds and other legends of 1960s folk-rock. By reinvigorating their iconic songs with fresh harmonies, "A Band Called Honalee" brings this vital American music back to life once more. Musically accomplished, interactive and energetic, "A Band Called Honalee" believes the melodies and messages of the 1960s folk and folk/rock era are just as relevant today as they were when they were first sung. Their mission is to share this uniquely American music with new audiences, while rekindling the passion of long-time fans.

Celebrating Chocolate at MDHC is sponsored by Stockman Bank, Prairie Electric, and Boss Office Supplies. Proceeds from this fundraising event help to ensure the future of live music, exhibits, and events at MDHC.

Call the MonDak Heritage Center at 406-433-3500 or stop in to purchase tickets. You can also purchase tickets online at [www.mondakheritagecenter.org](http://www.mondakheritagecenter.org). Ticket prices for Celebrating Chocolate are: \$60 per person or \$50 for MDHC Members (you can join at the time of your purchase). You must be 21 to attend.

The MonDak Heritage Center is located at 120 3rd Ave SE, Sidney and is open Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday 1-4 p.m.

Admission to the MonDak Heritage Center is free. For more information call 406-433-3500 or e-mail [mdhc@richland.org](mailto:mdhc@richland.org).

# Brewer Receives Sentence...

Continued from page 1A.

Brewer had been a person of interest from the beginning, as a friend and business associate. She also matched the general description of a person of interest from surveillance video from the apartment building.

Sidney Police Department executed several search warrants, including Brewer's home in Forsyth, MT. The state crime lab determined that the fatal bullet was shot from a 9mm handgun found at the Forsyth home.

On Friday, Jan. 6, 2023, the prosecutor announced that Lyndsee Brewer had accepted a plea deal. Brewer had originally plead not guilty, but changed her plea to guilty on Oct. 12, 2022.

# ElectricLand Inc...

Continued from page 1A.

installation with Quigley as his lead installation tech. "He's the perfect fit to take over," Peck stated. ElectricLand still has everything it ever had, except cell phones.

Peck expressed his deepest gratitude to all his loyal customers and assures everyone that Tom and Chrissy will take good care of them with the same great attention ElectricLand is famous for. Peck isn't leaving the area and will still be around to help when needed.

Peck has no big plans for his retirement but is taking a well-deserved vacation soon! Knowing that he was going to sell the business, Peck accepted the position of second vice district governor of the Sidney Lions Club and will keep busy visiting other clubs in his area. "It's a whole new learning experience," he explained. Pecks also have kids and grandkids scattered throughout the country and are looking forward to having more time to enjoy them.

ElectricLand is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at 225 2nd Ave. NE, Sidney. They will be closed Feb. 25 -28 to make the move to 205 2nd Ave. NE and reopen there March 1. Stop by or call 406-433-4370; Tom and Chrissy will be delighted to serve you.

# EVENTS

SEND US YOUR EVENTS!

THE ROUNDUP: PO Box 1207 • 111 West Main • Sidney, MT  
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## RICHLAND COUNTY

Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT.

**Wed., Jan. 25**  
**WAM Exhibition** - Featuring many beautiful works of art that span multiple medias from watercolor to acrylic. Through Jan. 28 - **Phyllis Sederquest Art Exhibition** - Phyllis is a self-taught artist & likes painting a variety of subjects & using different mediums. Through Feb. 4. - MonDak Heritage Center, Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. For more info call 406-433-3500, e-mail [mdhc@richland.org](mailto:mdhc@richland.org).  
**Wed., Jan. 25**, 1-4 p.m.; **Thurs., Jan. 26**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; **Fri., Jan. 27**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
**Senior Commodity Distribution:** Richland County Aging Services & Transit Center, 2190 W. Holly. For more information visit <https://www.richland.org/577/Commodity-Supplemental-Food-Program>.  
**Thurs., Feb. 9**  
10 a.m. - **Partnership For Promise Coalition Meeting** - Everyone welcome. Boys & Girls Club. For more info visit the Partnership For Promise Facebook page. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month.  
**Fri., Feb. 10**  
7 p.m. - **2022-23 Big Sky Concert Series - A Band Called Honalee** - A musically accomplished, interactive, & energetic trio. MonDak Heritage Center. Season tickets can be purchased at the door: adults \$60, senior \$55, & students \$35. For concert info contact MonDak Heritage Center at 406-433-3500, Jill Wagner 406-489-4304, or Candy Markwald 406-488-4155.  
**Sat., Feb. 11**  
7 p.m. - **The MonDak Heritage Center Celebrating Chocolate** - Enjoy and evening of food, chocolate & 60 & 70's era music. \$50 for members, \$60 for not yet members. (Must be 21+ to attend) MonDak Heritage Center, For more info call 406-433-3500, e-mail [mdhc@richland.org](mailto:mdhc@richland.org).

## McKENZIE COUNTY

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT.

**Thurs., Jan. 26**  
2-4 p.m. - **Food Giveaway** - First Presbyterian Church, 316 4th Ave. NE.  
**Thurs., Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23**  
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. - **Story Time** - A craft is provided to each child for the event. McKenzie County Library. (Every week on Thursday)  
**Fri., Jan. 27**  
5 p.m. - **Cowgirls 'N Conversation by McKenzie County Soil Conservation District** - This year's theme is "Grandma tell me 'bout the good old days" Tickets \$30. Rough Rider Center.  
**Sat., Feb. 11**  
1-5 p.m. - **Nerf Wars** - Ages 6 & up, \$5 person. Bring your own gun, ammo will be provided. A limited number of Nerf guns can be provided. Pre-registration available as well as day of registration. Rough Rider Center.  
**Tues., Feb. 14**  
11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. - **Soil Health Summit Presented by McKenzie County Soil Conservation District** - Featuring Shane New (stockman, entrepreneur & partner with Understanding Ag, LLC) & Burke Teichert (grazing land consultant with Understanding Ag, LLC). Lunch will be provided, no registration fee to attend. RSVP by Feb. 7, 701-842-3628 ext. 3. Rough Rider Center.  
**Sat., Feb. 25, 2023**  
7 p.m. - **Parallel Exit** - Watford City Concert Series - Mixing song & dance with slapstick physical comedy. Watford City High School Theater Auditorium. Concert series membership or \$30 per adult. For more info call 701-770-8659 or [longxart@gmail.com](mailto:longxart@gmail.com).

## WILLIAMS COUNTY

Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT.

**Fri., Jan. 27**  
3-5 p.m. - **\$5 Friday** - Stop by anytime pay at the door, & do a craft with your kiddo. An instructor will be available. Projects announced monthly. No age restriction. James Memorial Art Center; \$5 per project (cash or check only).  
5:30-9 p.m. - **Annual Chamber Awards Banquet** - Local businesses & community members are recognized with prestigious awards for their dedication to the Williston Community. Entertainment, dinner, drinks, networking & silent auction. Old Armory, 320 1st Ave. E. For more info visit <https://www.willistonchamber.com/annual-awards>.  
**Wed., Feb. 1**  
8 a.m.-8 p.m. - **70th Annual National Hard Spring Wheat Show** - 7 a.m. Ag Appreciation Breakfast; 8 a.m. Speakers start. The Grand Williston Hotel & Conference Center. For more info visit <https://www.ndsu.edu/agriculture/extension/events/70th-annual-national-hard-spring-wheat-show>.  
**Sat., Feb. 4**  
5:30 p.m. - **All Fur Love MonDak Animal Rescue Fundraiser** - Dinner, silent auction, live auction, live entertainment from Josey and The Whalers. Something new this year People's Choice Award For Best Decorated Cake. Submit your entry with your business card by Feb. 4. All cakes will be auctioned off in the live auction. Grand Williston Hotel & Conference Center. For more info or to get tickets call 701-577-7387 or email [MonDakAnimalRescue](mailto:MonDakAnimalRescue).  
**Fri., Feb. 10**  
6-8 p.m. - **Mom Son Date Night** - Ages 2+. Come dance the night away, along with food, drinks, selfie station, photos & games. New this year, a Grand March. Raymond Family Community Center. Tickets are \$40 a couple, \$20 siblings. Register at [www.willistonparks.com](http://www.willistonparks.com).  
**Sat., Feb. 11**  
**Daddy Daughter Dance** - 1-3 p.m. - **Butterfly Ball** (Ages 2-6) - 5-8 p.m. **Princess Premiere** (Ages 5-12) - Food, Grand March, dancing. Raymond Family Community Center. Butterfly ball tickets: \$40 couple, \$20 siblings. Princess Premiere tickets: \$50 couple, \$25 siblings. Register at [www.willistonparks.com](http://www.willistonparks.com).  
7-11 p.m. - **Death By Chocolate Fundraiser** - This event will showcase chocolate dessert samples from at least 15 local chefs & restaurants. Event is 21+ with a cash bar for wine & drink pairings available. Silent auction for full size desserts & more! James Memorial Art Center. Tickets available for purchase at TrainND Northwest, \$100/couple or \$60/single. For more info contact Tara Erickstad at 701-580-9367 or [tara.erickstad@willistonstate.edu](mailto:tara.erickstad@willistonstate.edu). Proceeds will benefit the TrainND Foundation Scholarship Program.

## DAWSON COUNTY

Events in Glendive unless otherwise listed. MT

**Sat., Feb. 4**  
5:30-9 p.m. - **Glendive Ducks Unlimited Banquet** - Gunners Ridge at the Elks Club For more info contact Glendive: MT0009@ducks.org or visit <https://www.fieldpost.com/eventdetail/glendive-ducks-unlimited-banquet/27588/>.  
**Sat., Feb. 18**  
5-10 p.m. - **Badlands Bruisers Chapter Banquet** - EPEC, 313 S. Merrill Ave. For more info contact Chris Fortune, 406-360-1020 or [chris@muledeer.org](mailto:chris@muledeer.org).





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## East Fairview School Hosts An Artist In Residence & Art Show

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
East Fairview School had professional artist, Nicole Gagner, as an Artist-in-Residence, Jan. 16-19. East Fairview School is an elementary school on the North Dakota side of Fairview.

Gagner was there from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. each day and taught a one-hour session for each grade in the cafeteria. Kindergarteners to eighth graders enjoyed learning from her expertise. The school held an Art Show Open House in their cafeteria on Thursday from 4-6 p.m. to showcase the student's resulting artwork. Students enjoyed sharing their new pieces of art with parents, grandparents, and community members. According to Melissa Elletson, East Fairview School business manager, "This is a great program partially funded by the North Dakota Council on the Arts. We are thankful to have been awarded the Artist in Residence Grant again this year. Our students and staff have



**The students in K-8<sup>th</sup> worked with watercolor paint for the animals, night sky and tree paintings. Then they also used crayons on black construction paper for the geometric creations. (Photos submitted)**

really enjoyed this week. The best part of the program is seeing students excited to learn and experience new techniques." According to the North Dakota Council on the Arts website, [www.arts.nd.gov](http://www.arts.nd.gov), Gagner is a professional painter from Bismarck. She believes that art can and should be accessible to everyone, especially

children. She participates in the Artist in Residence Program offered by the North Dakota Council on the Arts. In order for her to come the staff of East Fairview had to apply for a grant through the council for this event.

The council's website says, "The North Dakota Council on the Arts is a service and program agency



of the state, established in 1967 by state Legislature to 'ensure that the role of the arts in the life of our communities will continue to grow

and will play an ever more significant part in the welfare and educational experience of our citizens.' Our purpose is to bring that commitment

to life." As of late September 2022, over \$900,000 was awarded by the Council in ten different grant programs in just that year.

## Share Your Fairview Bridge Story!

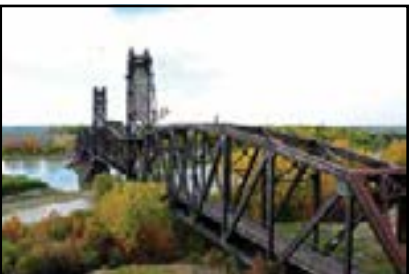
**By Dianne Swanson**  
The Fairview Chamber of Commerce and Friends of the Fairview Bridge are compiling a booklet of historical and personal stories and photos to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the historic Fairview Bridge. Comprised of 110 stories, the booklet will provide a look into the significance of the bridge to the residents of this area and beyond. Photos are also encouraged.

Did you, or someone you know, ride the famous Galloping Goose? Are you one of many who walked the tracks while the trains were still operating? Do you know of someone who worked on the bridge or for the railroad?

Are you someone who enjoys the quiet beauty of an afternoon in Sundheim Park with the bridge as your background? Whatever your connection to the bridge, the Chamber wants your story.

The booklet is the brain child of Chamber member Jeremy Deaan Kreiger who explained, "We want to keep history alive. We want to publish these stories while we still can."

Please email your story to [fairviewmtchamber@gmail.com](mailto:fairviewmtchamber@gmail.com) or mail it to the



**Photo by Judd Burman Photography**

## Partnership For Promise Promotes Life-Long Learning

**Submitted by Ray Trumpower**  
Partnership for promise strives to promote life-long learning in our community. The philosophy is implemented from birth and the Sidney-Richland County Library encourages this in many of its programs.

With the support of the Family Resource Center, the library has been able to offer Early Learning backpacks for area families and child-care providers to check out. The backpacks include fun activities to stimulate children and help them to learn about a variety of subjects in exciting ways.

The Family Resource

Center purchased seven backpacks and they have been in high demand. They covered such subjects as the alphabet, numbers, colors and nutrition.

"I think the backpacks are a great addition to the plethora of family support materials already available at the Library, as well as expanding the library's efforts to increase educational opportunities for patrons of all ages," Nicole Hackley, Family Resource Center coordinator, said.

With the growing demand for Early Learning backpacks, the library faced the challenge of meeting the demand. In May, 2013

the library was awarded a \$750 grant from the Foundation for Community Care to purchase more backpacks. The Foundation for Community Care established this Endowment Grant to fund projects that contribute positively to the health of our community. The library is grateful to the Foundation for providing the monies necessary to meet this growing need.

The new Early Learning backpacks are available for checkout and include such subjects as: seasons/ weather, social/emotional, movement/music, insects, and space.

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# MCHS Welcomes First Baby Of 2023

**By Meagan Dotson**  
 McKenzie County Healthcare Systems, Inc. (MCHS) welcomed their first baby of the New Year! Isael Eliseo Florentino Hernandez was born Jan. 4, 2023, weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. The baby boy was born to Katerina Garcia and Jose Hernandez.  
 "I am very honored to have been part of such an amazing team. Dr. Newton and all the staff have been amazing and super helpful. I'm very thrilled to have been the first patient to deliver here at this hospital, and excited to have the first baby of the year here in Watford City," Garcia commented.  
 According to Cheryl Faulkner, MCHS Director of Nursing, the last baby born at a McKenzie County Medical facility was during the summer of 1997. Faulkner stated, "As I recall it was a slow trickle effect of OB services after Dr. Ebel retired in 1995. Maternity services ended around the summer of 1997 along with our last delivery. It was primarily related to not having the staffing or provider for the services."  
 "I couldn't be more proud of the MCHS team for this huge accomplishment. Having OB services available locally, coupled with great healthcare and schools, as well as a welcoming and supportive community, should help attract and retain growing families. Not only will this help build a sustainable workforce, it also strengthens the community as a whole. I'd also like to recognize Great Plains Women's Health Center for the ground work they laid prior to my arrival,

which helped bring our OB service line to fruition. They also referred Dr. Newton to us, who is now our primary OBGYN provider," stated Pete Edis, MCHS CEO.  
 MCHS was formed July 1, 2004 and was a merger of McKenzie County Hospital, McKenzie County Rural Health Clinic, Good Shepherd Home, Horizon Assisted Living, and the Connie Wold Wellness Center. The facility began offering maternity, labor and delivery services Dec. 6, 2022. Dr. Yolanda Newton joined MCHS Oct. 31, 2022 and Dr. Jennifer Arnhold began Jan. 6, 2023; both OBGYNs provide women's health care, prenatal, and labor and delivery services.  
 "It was a goal to provide labor & delivery services following construction and opening of the new healthcare facility as an obstetric wing was established as part of the new construction. Later, a c-section surgical suite was added to the wing with support from McKenzie County," commented Lynn Welker, Chief of Communications, Marketing, Strategy and Innovation.  
 The accomplishment was not without its challenges, the biggest being able to obtain commitments for additional units of blood, which are needed for an OB department.  
 Labor shortages were another obstacle and a "hard to fill" policy had to be developed and implemented, offering incentives such as sign-on bonuses, relocation assistance, and housing as part of the recruitment package to help draw medical professionals to the rural area.



Proud parents Katerina Garcia and Jose Hernandez are pictured here with baby Isael. (Photo provided by McKenzie County Healthcare Systems' Facebook Page)



## Sidney Chamber Honors Outstanding Citizens

The Sidney Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture awarded designated Sidney citizens at their annual 2022 banquet Jan. 17. Shown (L to R) are: Shadd Cullinan Ranger Lounge Casino and Eatery, Excellence in Business; Josh MaGahan, Emerging Leader; Justine Klempel, Educator of the Year; Chip Gifford, Past Chamber President. The Chamber also honored a Business Showcase of Sidney businesses including: Double Dogs, Wealth Management, Liv Tinted, The Parlour, Bright Skin Beauty Bar, Health Is Wellness, Nationhaul Transport, B Home Design, Wick Kid Repair, Executive by Stephanie, Sidney Strength, PCS Insulation, Mountain Health Co-op, ProactiveTech Wiz, 406 Orthopedic, All Check Medical, Blend, Rhodes Society, Lucky Design & Event Planning, Farmers Insurance-Rachel Leininger, Great Northern Development, and Big Sky Duct Cleaning.

## The MonDak Ag Research Summit, A Collaboration Between Three Research Stations



**Austin Link, Sustainable Oils agronomy manager, did a presentation during lunch on what they do and what they need from the Ag Industry at the MonDak Ag Research Summit. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)**  
**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
 The MonDak Ag Research Summit was held Thursday, Jan. 19, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Richland County Event Center.  
 Researchers from the Eastern Ag Research Center and USDA-ARS in Sidney, as well as the Williston Research Extension Center again came together in a joint event to discuss topics of current interest to growers in the MonDak region. Several researchers from the three research centers each had a poster on display featuring additional research topics. Along with the tables put up by the USDA-ARS, MSU, and NDSU Extension offices, a company called Sustainable Oils also had a table for information and literature. During the second

half of the day, five different presentations were available for Montana producers to gain up to three private applicator pesticide points. While 22 speakers were scheduled to speak, three were not able to attend and did their presentations remotely. Lunch was catered by Famous Dave's, Williston, where Austin Link, Sustainable Oils Agronomy manager, gave a presentation on the focus of the company. The entire summit was completely free to the public. The summit was attended by 113 farmers, ranchers, researchers, and others with an interest in ag research in the Mondak area to teach, learn, and network.  
 The MonDak Ag Research Summit is an annual event that was started in

2017. For more information on past and future ag summits visit the event website at [www.ars.usda.gov/pa/npar/agsummit](http://www.ars.usda.gov/pa/npar/agsummit).

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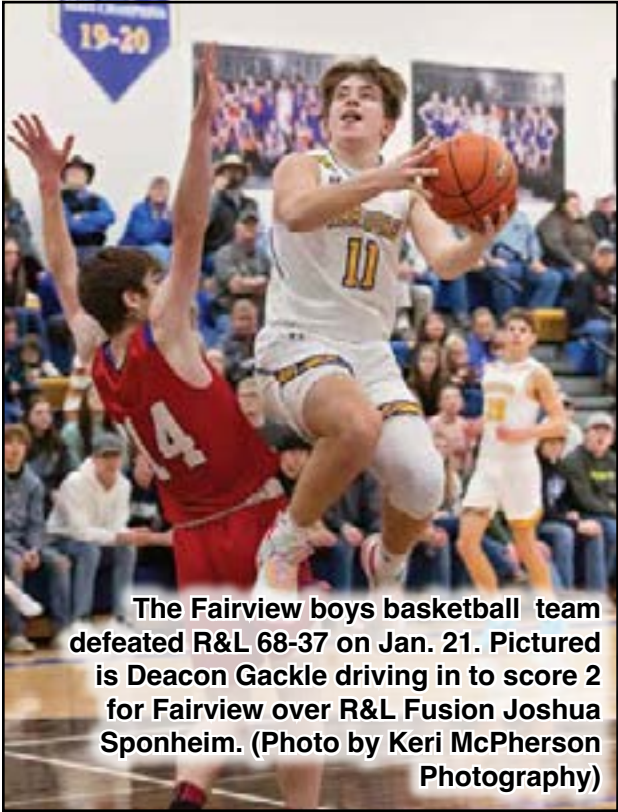
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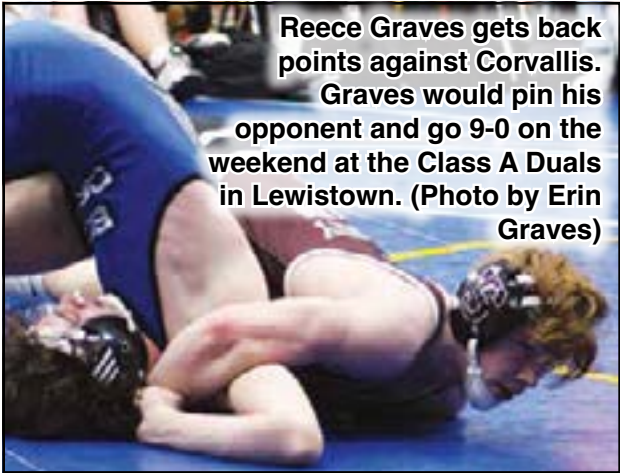
Area Sports Action



The Fairview boys basketball team defeated R&L 68-37 on Jan. 21. Pictured is Deacon Gackle driving in to score 2 for Fairview over R&L Fusion Joshua Sponheim. (Photo by Keri McPherson Photography)



The Fairview girls basketball team defeated R&L 40-26 on Jan. 21. Pictured is Fairview's Aubree Johnson looking to pass over R&L Fusions Keira Rains. (Photo by Keri McPherson Photography)



Reece Graves gets back points against Corvallis. Graves would pin his opponent and go 9-0 on the weekend at the Class A Duals in Lewistown. (Photo by Erin Graves)



Sidney's 113 pounder, Carson Propp, scores back points on his Browning opponent at the Class A Duals in Lewistown. Sidney defeated Browning 63-12. Visit Roundupweb.com for scores from all Sidney duals. (Photo by Erin Graves)



The Sidney girls basketball team played in Glasgow on Jan. 20. Pictured is Sophie Peters shooting a 3-pointer. The girls won 54-49. (Photo by Tonya Schoepp)



The Sidney boys basketball team played in Glasgow on Jan. 20. Pictured is Braylon DiFonzo for the block on the 3-point shot and Sidney fell to Glasgow 55-45. (Photo by Tonya Schoepp)

Community Enhancement Grant Applications Are Now Being Accepted

The Watford City Roughrider Fund Committee is now accepting grant applications for its Community Enhancement Grant program for special projects and events in the communities of Watford City, Alexander, Arnegard, Grassy Butte, Mandaree and Keene. Applications can be picked up at the Watford City City Hall or can be found online at [cityofwatfordcity.com](http://cityofwatfordcity.com). Applications must be returned by Feb. 7, 2023, to the Watford City City Hall. Any questions, please call Brianna at 701-444-2533.

Would You Notice These Symptoms Of Cervical Cancer?



It may be hard to tell that these symptoms are a sign of this disease.

Submitted by Sidney Health Center

Cervical cancer is no longer one of the more common cancers in American women, thanks to Pap and HPV tests. These screenings make it less likely that women will develop cervical cancer. They can identify when a woman is at increased risk of developing cancer, making it possible to monitor or treat pre-cancerous conditions before cancer develops. It is however, still possible to develop cervical cancer, so here's what to look for and how to lower your risk.

Cervical Cancer Symptoms

Early stages of cervical cancer typically produce no symptoms, but these symptoms may be noticed in more advanced stages of the disease:

- Vaginal bleeding following sexual intercourse, between periods or after menopause
- Heavier than usual menstrual bleeding
- Increased vaginal discharge that may have a foul odor
- Pain during sexual intercourse
- Persistent pelvic or back pain

If you have any of these symptoms, especially if you have not recently been screened for cervical cancer or HPV, see a doctor. These symptoms may be a sign of other conditions, but a quick screening test can help rule out or confirm whether it is cervical cancer.

Cervical Cancer Prevention

Since most cervical cancers are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV), one of the best ways to reduce your risk of developing this cancer is to get vaccinated against HPV. The HPV vaccine is recommended for girls and boys beginning at 9-12 years of age. If you did not receive the vaccine at that age, it is recommended that you get vaccinated if you are age 40 or younger. If you are older than 40 and have not been vaccinated for HPV, talk to your doctor about whether vaccination is right for you.

The HPV vaccine works best when given before any possible HPV exposure. Most sexually active adults have already been exposed to HPV, although they may not have been exposed to the types of the HPV that are most likely to cause cervical cancer. This is why vaccination may still be recommended.

Another effective way to prevent cervical cancer is to have routine Pap tests and/or HPV tests. Pap tests can find pre-cancerous changes in the cervix that can be addressed before they become cancerous. HPV tests can identify high-risk types of the human papillomavirus, which may cause cervical cancer in the future.

Practicing safe sex can also reduce your risk of developing cervical cancer because it makes it less likely you'll contract a type of human papillomavirus that may cause cervical cancer. Safe sex practices include using a condom every time you have sex and limiting the number of sexual partners you have. These practices generally prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The Sidney Health Center OB/GYN Care Team offers a wide variety of services to keep women vibrant and healthy. Don't delay your women's health exams. We have openings available. Call the OB/GYN Clinic at 406-488-2577 to schedule an appointment. Visit us online at [SidneyHealth.org](http://SidneyHealth.org).

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Lunch Menus!

<b>Sidney School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Toasted cheese, tomato soup, pears, cookies. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> No school. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Hot dogs, macaroni & cheese, steamed broccoli, clementines. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Tony's pizza, tossed salad, pineapple, pudding. <b>Wed., Feb. 1:</b> Tater tot hotdish, green beans, pears, hot rolls. <b>Savage School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Spaghetti. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> No school. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Chicken strips. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Chicken fried steak. <b>Rau School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Tacos, vegetable, fruit, salad bar. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> No school. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Pulled pork, vegetable, fruit, salad bar. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Country fried chicken, vegetable, fruit, salad bar. <b>Wed., Feb. 1:</b> Taco haystacks, vegetable, fruit, salad bar. <b>Froid School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Taco soup, corn chips, cheese, fruit. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> Pork chop Johns, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies, fruit. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Pulled pork, macaroni & cheese casserole, buns, veggies, fruit. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Pizza burgers, lettuce mix, fruit. <b>Bainville School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Burgers, French fries, topping bar, apples. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> Cheeseburgers, macaroni & cheese, green beans, grapes. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Chicken tenders, smiley fries, pineapple. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Super nachos, topping bar, mixed fruit. <b>Richey School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Hot dog bar, green beans, cake.	<b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> No school. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Enchilada casserole, corn, brownies. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Cheeseburger bake, mixed veggies, cookies. <b>Culbertson School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Buffalo noodle soup, turkey cheese sandwiches, pears. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, salad. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Mexican tortilla soup, tortilla shells, fruit. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Cheeseburgers, fries, fruit. <b>Lambert School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Buffalo chicken bake, peas, fruit. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> Spaghetti, corn, garlic bread, fruit. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Popcorn chicken, fries, fruit. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, fruit. <b>Fairview School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Chicken alfredo, broccoli, garlic breadsticks, fruit. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> No school. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Cheeseburger macaroni, corn, fruit. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Rice oriental (hamburger hotdish) sesame soy green beans, fruit. <b>Alexander School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Soup & sandwich bar, fruit & vegetable bar. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> No school. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Corn dogs, chips & cheese, fruit & vegetable bar. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Orange or teriyaki chicken, fried rice, spring rolls, fortune cookie, fruit & vegetable bar. <b>Watford City School</b> <b>Thurs., Jan. 26:</b> Chicken fingers, waffle fries, bananas. <b>Fri., Jan. 27:</b> Chicken dumpling soup, crackers, celery sticks, wow butter apples. <b>Mon., Jan. 30:</b> Cheese quesadillas, corn, fruit mix. <b>Tues., Jan. 31:</b> Pulled pork sandwiches, 5 way veggies, pineapple.
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Tester To VA: Deploy Mobile Vet Center to Support Veterans In Eastern Montana

Chairman pushes VA to deliver stronger mental health care and life-saving assistance to veterans in rural Montana

(U.S. Senate) – Following his recent Montana trip with Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Under Secretary for Health Dr. Shereef Elnahal, U.S. Senator Jon Tester is calling on the Department to deploy a Mobile Vet Center to provide critical mental health services and outreach to veterans living in the eastern part of the state, including in rural areas and on tribal lands.

“During VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Shereef Elnahal’s visit in December, we heard firsthand from veterans and local providers about the lack of access to in-person mental health care,” the Senator wrote in a letter to VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “...Deploying a Mobile Vet Center to communities around Eastern Montana could strengthen VA’s relationship with Montana veterans, better inform them of their earned care and benefits, and strengthen suicide prevention efforts... Vet Centers provide invaluable care and assistance to many veterans across Montana, and I request the Department expand this focus to reach our Eastern Montanan veterans.”

The Senator also urged VA to “expeditiously” utilize the \$13.9 billion in funding he secured for veterans’ mental health in the federal funding bill last month to help improve VA’s mental health care services and suicide prevention efforts. Tester further pushed for swift implementation of legislation he authored and secured in the bill, including his American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans Mental Health Act, and emphasized the need to increase outreach to ensure Native veterans gain access to earned VA care and benefits.

He continued, “My American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans Mental Health Act requires VA medical centers to consult with local tribes and deliver tailored outreach and culturally competent mental health care to Native veterans. I request the Department provide me with a detailed time line for implementation of this law and compliance with these new requirements. In the meantime, VA should undertake a coordinated, collaborative effort to proactively share outreach materials and resources with Native veterans.”

As Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee chairman and a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the Senator secured two additional bills to improve mental health care resources and suicide prevention efforts at VA in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023—including his Post-9/11 Veterans’ Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2021 to strengthen VA’s mental health care work force and Revising and Expediting Actions for the Crisis Hotline (REACH) for Veterans Act to improve the Veterans Crisis Line’s staff training, management, and response to veteran callers at risk of suicide.

Read the Senator’s full letter <https://www.veterans.senate.gov/services/files/EBBCFBCB-65CB-4B64-B24B-932A5AB07674>.



# Letter To The Editor

## The Doctor’s Rebuttal

I am a physician who has worked in this region since 1986. I look at the local newspapers, browse the headlines, but admit that I do not read the details of most articles. After I read a prominently featured submission, entitled “Middle-class politeness” in the Sidney Herald newspaper (dated 1/22/23), however, I felt compelled to respond.

It irritated me that Jim Elliott (from the far western part of Montana), the author of that article, took former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich’s words from 1978 completely out of context. The author repeatedly said that Republicans “demonize the opposition” and have waged war on middle class politeness. Elliott’s criticism of Gingrich, and presumably the 50% of Americans who vote for conservatives in elections, is yet another example of the divisiveness in the media and the political class. I presume the goal of this is to maintain power. These policies and practices are certainly not in the best interests of America.

I do not believe this piece represents the views of eastern Montana or western North Dakota. Conservatives are not “evil,” as the article implies, but labelling them as such is evil indeed. There is obviously plenty of nastiness on both sides of the political aisle. It should be noted, however, that 83% of people from Richland County voted Republican in the 2020 presidential election. Maybe our local newspaper should stick to matters of local interest.

Compromise in politics seems to be a thing of the past, but there have been a few situations when the opposing parties debated and resolved issues. For example, Newt Gingrich and Bill

Clinton disagreed on many things – but to their credit they joined hands in the “Personal Responsibility and Work Act” of 1996. Democrats and Republicans seem to only cooperate during national crises. I believe the time is now for our political leaders to have civil debate and come up with meaningful solutions for our country’s many current problems.

Democrat party attacks on Republicans have been rampant. I offer a few examples: Liberals shamelessly attacked conservative-leaning Supreme Court justices during the confirmation hearings for Clarence Thomas, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett. The confirmation process for newly appointed Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, in comparison, was quite civil. And when Hillary Rodham Clinton was running for the presidency, she referred to Republicans as a “basket of deplorables.” And don’t forget when Joe Biden famously said to a reporter: “If you have a problem figuring out whether you’re for me or Trump, then you ain’t black.” Comments like these try to exploit identity politics to win votes, and they tear America apart. This politicking ignores the fact that our country is evenly divided between conservatives and liberals, and these contrasting viewpoints often correlates with whether people live in rural versus urban areas.

I was born and raised in the Minneapolis area, which has been a site of great political turmoil in recent years. I supported the DFL political party in my youth. I thought Senators Humphrey and Mondale were great people, although I didn’t agree with their “tax and spend” agendas. I am from a lower middle-class

background. Dad had to work 4 jobs to keep food on the table. I was brought up to believe that commitment to old-fashioned values (God, Family, Country, and Hard Work) were the best way to overcome personal and universal challenges. I was liberal with conservative leanings at that time. I now regard myself as a “compassionate conservative,” and I try to adhere to that credo.

I do not think progressive liberals should use scare tactics. For example, the “Earth Day” predictions of 1970 said that civilization would end in 15-30 years, 100-200 million people per year would die of starvation, and that there would be a new ice age by the year 2000. That obviously did not happen. I also remember that Al Gore made predictions in 2006 that the polar ice cap would be completely gone by 2013, and that he believed “humanity may have only 10 years left to save the planet from turning into a total frying pan.” His movie, An Inconvenient Truth, won him an Oscar and a Nobel Prize for saying that. His grandiose and erroneous comments have made Al Gore millions of dollars.

In a related way, the tendency for liberals to label America as a racist country has entirely backfired. About one-third of Americans thought racism was a problem in our country before Barack Obama became president. Eight years later polls said that two-thirds said it was a problem. The “Woke Movement,” as it is called, claims to “be awake” to everything that is terrible in the world. People who are “woke” not only say that America is racist – they also criticize the economic, scientific, biological, societal, and the Judeo-Christian fabric of

our society.

Many discoveries were made, and movements occurred, before true critical thinking was abandoned. The Civil Rights and Women’s Rights movements of the 1960s were obviously good things. Saying everyone is racist and sexist is simply not true. Cynicism permeates every aspect of our lives. Everything we used to value (God, Science, and the American way of life) is evil and should be rejected. I invite people to read Cynical Theories, copyright 2020, written by Helen Pluck and James Lindsay, for a thorough discussion of these issues.

Where will all this negativity lead us? Pray and work for an end to the division in our society. This has been a great country. I believe it still is. I hope it will remain so for the sake of my grandchildren.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry “Doc” Kessler

## ROUNDUP, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023 7A

### Guest Opinion: Legislative Report

Greetings from Helena!

There was a lot of activity at the capitol this week. I saw a few people from eastern Montana. It is fun to have you stop and see us if you are in Helena.

One important bill that is coming up soon in Judiciary committee is SB99. This bill prohibits kids under 18 years old from receiving surgery to alter their anatomy in an attempt to change their gender. I have received a lot of mail on this subject, much of it is hard to understand, but it has not changed my mind.

SB58, my Block Management bill, has passed out of the floor and is headed to Senate Finance and Claims. I will present SB42, Revise Laws Related to Easements On State Lands, this week. There are several moving parts in the legislature, and it can be quite a juggling act to be in the right place at the right time.

Another hearing that was in Senate Business and Labor Committee was the Convention of States (SJ2), carried by Senator McGillvary. One of the proponents of SJ2, was Former US Senator Rick Santorum from Pennsylvania. Beth and I had a chance to visit with Senator Santorum for a little while. Another dignitary we had a chance to be with this week was Congressman Rosendale. Congressman Rosendale helped us kick off our Freedom Caucus Event, where we had over 200 enthusiastic supporters of freedom.

If you want to look up the text of a bill you can find it at <https://leg.mt.gov>.

For Freedom, Senator Steve Hinebauch



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# WATFORD CITY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

## Construction Begins For Bakken Area Skills Center

**By Anna Garcia**  
Construction for the Bakken Area Skills Center kicked off with a groundbreaking ceremony July 18. This is a big step for the center as it has been in the works since 2016.

Construction is anticipated to be finished by late 2023. The center will be located near Watford City High School, across from the Rough Rider Center's baseball field.

Once the project is completed, this one-of-a-kind facility will "up-skill" area employers' current workforce, create more opportunities for students, and provide a variety of services to the area.

The school district, economic development, and local business and industry plan on collaborating to prepare students for post-secondary experiences as well as provide employer-specific training to assist with

workforce needs across the region.

Three major areas identified are healthcare, building trades, and automation. These will be the major areas covered; each of these fields will have a lab/shop and classroom space.

Students will be able to take courses and learn more about careers that are currently available and learn directly from industry experts that are currently in the field.

"I am excited to be able to get students matched up with careers that will fill a need in our community. We can serve the student by finding their interests, providing some training and access to companies that have positions to fill," Watford City High School Principal Jim Green said.

The benefits of the facility would serve more than just the Watford City area, serving as a Career and Technology Education Re-



Officials kicking off the ground breaking ceremony. (Photo submitted)

gional Center. That means that the courses will be offered online to all schools in the northwest.

Several entities have been making financial contributions to the project including North Dakota Career and Technical Education, McKenzie County Economic Development, McKenzie County School District #1, ONEOK, Stenehjem Holdings, Titan Energy Services, City of Watford City, Fort Union Masonic Lodge #128, Chord Energy, Northern States Fishing Tools, ConocoPhillips, Marathon, Carl E Rogan Post 29 American Legion, and Grayson Mill Energy. "This has been a long-awaited project," McKenzie County Public School District #1 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Steven Holen explained. "We appreciate

all the support of our local and regional partners, including Williston State College and TrainND, to create a vision for the Center and to provide opportunities to K-12 and adult learners in our region."

## Watford City's Inn At Hunters Run Gets New Upgrade

**By Anna Garcia**  
The Inn at Hunters Run in Watford City held a grand opening and ribbon cutting on July 20 to celebrate its newly renovated space. The hotel upgraded its internet services and renovated public spaces, making them more functional for their guests. The renovations took place in February 2021 and wrapped around the end of February 2022.

"We needed to upgrade to bring the hotel up to optimal functionality. Reopening the hotel was a vision to bring additional rooms back

into Watford City in preparation for the next oil boom. Giving the guest a home away from home, with the extended stay amenities in all of our rooms," said Jamer Samonte, regional vice president of operations-Prism Hotels & Resorts.

The Inn at Hunters Run is just minutes from Highway 23 and a short drive from local restaurants, activities, and companies that do business in town. The hotel offers free WiFi in every guest room, flat-screen TV, and a well-equipped kitchenette comes standard in all of its

rooms. They also have guest laundry facilities, pet-friendly policies, and a fitness center on site.

"We offer great customer service, clean and fresh rooms, an atmosphere of relaxation, kitchenettes in each room, complimentary hot breakfast, and evening reception," added Samonte. "We love offering a great product that meets the transient customer to the extended stay customer."

For more information on the Inn at Hunters Run, visit their website at, <https://innathuntersrun.com>.



### Inn at Hunters Run Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting

Inn at Hunters Run in Watford City held a grand opening and ribbon cutting on July 20. The newly renovated hotel is located at 3617 6th Ave NE across from Corner Post Truck Stop. Pictured center with the scissors is owner John Veno, to his right is Area Sales Manager Denise Olvera, to Veno's left is VP of Sales Beth Mahony and Regional VP of Operations Jamer Samonte.



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# WATFORD CITY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

## McKenzie County Healthcare Systems Welcomes New CEO

McKenzie County Healthcare Systems (MCHS) in Watford City has welcomed a new CEO following the departure of Dr. Dan Kelly, Peter Edis. Edis previously was vice president at Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center in Salida, CO.

Changes in the Salida community due to the pandemic prompted Edis to look elsewhere for opportunities. "I felt like I had accomplished a lot at Heart of the Rockies Medical Center and had reached a level in my career

where I didn't really have more movement," he said. "The community was not the same community I moved into seven and a half years ago. It's a great community. I had a great job. I worked with some great providers and staff. The board couldn't have been more supportive. Everything was good, so I decided to give it all up and move here."

Edis was convinced the move was for him after meeting with the MCHS board. "I came out and interviewed and the board, everyone

was welcoming. The opportunity seemed to align with my skills and experience. So here I am," he stated.

Shortly after arriving at MCHS at the beginning of the year Edis got his feet wet, literally. "That first week we had three broken pipes here. Including a flood in the kitchen," he said. Edis personally helped the staff with the clean up. "It gave me an opportunity to go in to meet the staff and bond with them. I helped push some of the water into the drains. Crises either drive people

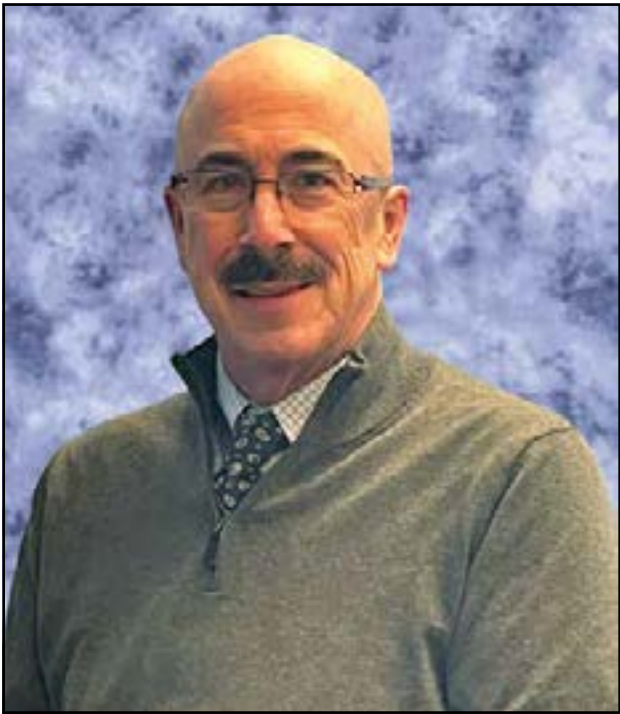
apart or they bring people together."

Since his arrival, Edis has been meeting with board members, providers and staff to get a good feel for the vision for the future of MCHS. He is examining the strengths and looking for places to improve. "There is a need to put some systems in place to develop a strategic plan," he said.

Edis will be leading MCHS during a challenging time for the entire healthcare industry. The pandemic and staffing issues are a few of the greatest issues. "People that are here are very committed. They are committed to the organization; they are committed to the community. They get along with each other. They are fun to be around. They have great ideas," he stated.

"I'm really happy to be here. I think we've got a great team. This organization has a lot of potential," stated Edis.

In recent months MCHS has added new providers in pediatrics and urology. They are currently in the process of constructing an obstetrics service line. "We've got some great providers between our family practice providers, our urologist, general surgery and of course our fantastic orthopedics."



Peter Edis. (Photo submitted)

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

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

Watford 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 assumed his 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.



Men and women of all ages and abilities participated in the trap shoot and awards presentation as part of the McKenzie County Sportsman's Club's Grand Opening on Saturday, Aug. 30. Jason Leiseth, far left, recognized the adjacent land owners from left, Lonnie Hoffman, Karen Broderson, and Nancy Broderson whose families allowed the approach to the club cross over their land during the presentation on the indoor archery range. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)

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# WATFORD CITY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS



**Food Truck Rodeo Held in Watford City**  
The Food Truck Rodeo was held at the McKenzie County Fairgrounds June 3-5. Many people sampled food from trucks from around the state. Above left is Delia Ortiz from Rock N Roll Tacos making a mango on a stick for a customer.

## Outsiders Bar & Grill Celebrates 10 Years Of Being In Business



**By Anna Garcia**  
The year 2022 marked 10 years of successful business for Watford City's Outsiders Bar & Grill.  
In 2012, Watford City natives, Cary and Darlene Garmann opened the restaurant in hopes of it serving as a welcoming place for everyone to enjoy a meal. Ten years later, it still serves that same purpose.  
It took a lot of hard work to get the restaurant off the ground. Outsiders was a year in the making for the Garmanns. "Our town needed another place to sit down and have a good meal," said Cary.  
Prior to opening Outsiders, Darlene had several years of experience in the restaurant and bar industry. After opening the restaurant, Cary continues to work in the oilfield. "I go to work in the oilfield to get some rest," he said jokingly.  
"During Watford City's oil boom, Outsiders Bar & Grill was excited to meet all the new people coming into our town. Now that things are winding down, we have become a place for locals and visitors to gather for a family-friendly meal or an evening at our bar," said Darlene, Outsiders' co-owner.  
Outsiders has a menu filled with a variety of meals such as burgers, wraps, wings, and sandwiches. It also has a full bar, 3 pool tables, game room for kids, and a patio. "Outsiders is known for its great food. We are always revamping our menu and we have all of our specials that you won't find on our menu."  
People from around the area come to enjoy the food and lively atmosphere. "It seems like everyone in the area is from somewhere else, hence the name Outsiders," said Darlene. "Our atmosphere is for everyone."  
Over the years, the restaurant has had challenges, Darlene explained that they have experienced trouble finding extra help. "The biggest thing is that we can't get anybody. We have made changes to our hours and discontinued breakfast because we can't get the help we need."  
She explained that the pandemic also brought about challenges for the business, but Outsiders pulled through and is staying busy.  
We are pretty proud of the fact that we pulled through and continue to be very successful," added Darlene.  
Outsiders Bar and Grill is located at 905 3rd Ave. SW, Watford City, at the intersection of 10th St. and 3rd Ave. by the grain elevators. Their hours are from 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Monday-Sunday. For more information on the restaurant call 701-842-2693.

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# WATFORD CITY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

## Twist 2.0 Grand Opening, July 22

### Farmers Union Oil Brings Back Watford City Favorite

**By Anna Garcia**  
Watford City's Twist 2.0 had a grand opening Friday, July 22 from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. CT.  
Located at 501 6th Ave SE, Watford City, the event had several prizes including Twist 2.0 tank tops, t-shirts, and gift cards. The restaurant will be offering some different specials including slushies, appetizers, sandwiches, and a variety of ice-cream toppings.  
"We are excited for people to come in and enjoy the new atmosphere and ice-cream," said Julie Grotte, Twist 2.0 manager.  
"Everyone in the area is just so excited to have the Twist back." The restaurant was known to be a local favorite since the 1980s but closed around 10 years ago.  
The Farmers Union Oil Company, Watford City, brought back the Twist as the "Twist 2.0" on June 1, 2022. Its menu is almost spot on to the original menu featuring shakes, malts, the famous Twist burger, and much more.  
"We are known for the twist burger, but we don't stop there."  
Since its opening, the restaurant has hired around 20 people.  
"It has been very suc-

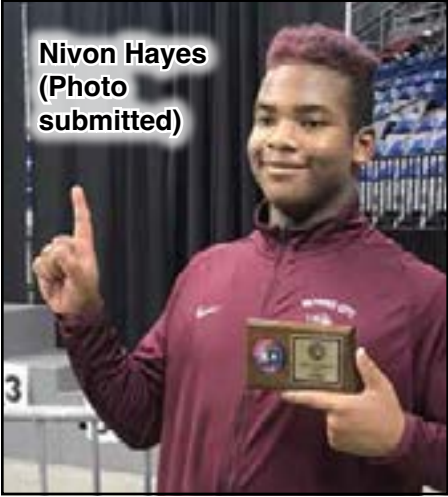
cessful. We are lucky to have hired 18 to 23 people, all of which are still with us," added Grotte.  
The restaurant hopes to incorporate some new soups and sandwiches in the fall and winter. They will also have their drive thru operational in the near future.  
For more information on their specials and the grand opening, visit the Twist 2.0 Facebook page.



(L-R) Kaylee Mocho, Alexis Norftill and Chasity Tonkins are ready to serve tasty treats at Twist 2.0 located in Farmers Union Oil, Watford City.

## WCHS Wrestler Hayes Captures NDHSA Heavyweight Championship

Nivon Hayes, Watford City High School, captured the North Dakota High School Wrestling Association's heavyweight title at the Fargodome. This was the first time the Wolves have had a champion since joining Class A.  
Hayes is a junior at Watford City High School in his second year of wrestling. Last year, he was only able to win two matches, but he stays in shape throwing the discus in track and playing football for the Wolves.  
He came into the tournament with a 23-12 ranking. He first pinned Fargo South's Cayden Nielson in 3:11 in his first match. He went on to pin Jamestown's Dalton Darby in 2:43. to move into the quarterfinals. He next secured a pin against Breckenridge/Wahpeton's Jackson Burchell in 1:02 to advance to the championship round where he met Fargo Davies's Dylan Carlquist with a record of 43-4, but because of his conditioning with his three coaches he was able to turn Carlquist's 9-2 advantage to out wrestle him into a pin in 3:36 for the championship.



Nivon Hayes (Photo submitted)

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# WATFORD CITY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

## McKenzie County 4-Hers Win State Judging Contest



Front from left, Gavyn Darrington, Tylee Thorne and Gracyn Darrington; back, Jacob Rink, Nicholas Ellis, Jaden Darrington, Kyle Best, Gwen Signalness and Marcia Hellandsaas, McKenzie County NDSU Extension Agent. (Submitted photo)

**Submitted by Marcia Hellandsaas, McKenzie County NDSU Extension Agent**  
McKenzie County participated in the State 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest held on July 26 at the ND State Fair, Minot, and came home with top honors. The Junior Team of Kyle Best, son of Vawnita and Pete Best, Watford City; Jaden Murphy, son of Kim and Lee Murphy, Fairview, MT; Gracyn Darrington, daughter of Nikki and Partrick Darrington, Arnegard; and Gwen Signalness, daughter of Wade and Katie Signalness, Watford

City; captured 1st place. Individually, Gracyn was honored with 9th placing, Gwen placed 11th, Jaden 28th, and Kyle 29th. A second McKenzie County junior team of Gavyn Darrington, daughter of Nikki and Patrick Darlington, Arnegard; Jacob Rink, son of Shaun and Mandy Rink, Watford City; Nicholas Ellis, son of Chelsey and Chad Ellis, Arnegard; and Tylee Thorne, daughter of Calli and CJ Thorne, Watford City, received 5th place. Individually these judges placed as follows: Gavyn was recognized with a 2nd overall placing, Jacob

placed 14th, Nicholas 23rd and Tylee 38th. Fifty-one 4-Hers on 17 teams from across North Dakota participated in the contest. 4-H Consumer Decision Making judging activities are designed to help youth develop decision making skills. Their ability to observe and evaluate written materials as well as reciting oral reasons to justify their decisions determines their success in judging events. For more information, please contact NDSU Extension in McKenzie County at 701-444-3451.

## Community Celebrates Watford City Municipal Airport's New Extended Runway



Families tour a plane during the event. (Photo by Kathy Taylor)

**By Anna Garcia**  
On Saturday, July 16, community members gathered to see and use the Watford City Municipal Airport's new extended runway. The event celebrated the two-year project with a ribbon cutting, free airplane rides, BBQ, and aircrafts. The new extended runway measures 6,550-feet long by 75-feet wide and allows the airport the ability to welcome bigger airplanes to the area.

The old runway, measuring 4,400-feet long by 60 feet wide, has long awaited renovations. The area has been wanting to extend the runway for the past ten years. "When we started looking at what we were going to do with the runway, the oil boom was in full swing and there were a lot of airplanes

that wanted to come but couldn't because the runway wasn't long enough," said Luke Taylor, Watford City Municipal Airport manager. There were several reasons as to why the airport needed a new runway. "The old one was in poor condition and needed a major reconstruction to maintain it. We also were in jeopardy of losing 500 feet of runway because of penetration of the Runway Protection Zone," said Taylor. The project started in 2020 with dirt work and closed for six months after April 2021. It opened back up as a finished project on Oct. 1, 2021. During the renovation, 200 acres of land was disturbed, 800,000 cubic yards of dirt was moved, 18 acres of concrete was poured (equivalent to 74 miles of

sidewalk), and over 22 miles of electrical cable was installed. The total cost for the project was around \$30 million for the entire project planning through closeout (\$17 million federal, \$6 million state, and \$7 million local). Now with the longer runway, the airport can accommodate larger airplanes for a multitude of purposes including crop dusting, pilot training, and flying in personnel from oil and gas companies. "I am really happy about the ability to get larger airplanes in and out and the safety aspect of having the parallel taxiway." For more information on the Watford City Municipal Airport, visit their website at [www.wcairport.net](http://www.wcairport.net).

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