

# The Roundup

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Wednesday, April 19, 2023

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**HEALTH AND SAFETY**  
*Special Section*  
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Roundup  
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## Ace Hardware Coming To Sidney

After being empty for years, the building at the end of Fox Run that was once an ALCO and a Shopko will now be home to Sidney's new Ace Hardware. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)



By Jaymi Mozeak

After a 1½ years of extensive repairs, the building that once housed ALCO and Sidney's North Shopko will soon house an Ace Hardware store.

In 2015, Skip King, an owner of seven different Ace Hardware stores in the state of Montana, set his eyes on Sidney as a place for another store. He has four stores in Billings, one in Columbus, Laurel, and Lockwood. He has owned Ace Hardware stores for 37 years and they are part of a second-generation family business. According to King, he wanted

to bring a store to Sidney but at the time eastern Montana was still experiencing the effects of the oil boom. The plan did not seem feasible but times were changing. In late 2021, he was finally able to purchase the building out of the Sheriff's auction and repaired it. He also bought the lot on the north end of it.

It is 27,000 sq. ft. King said, "It was the only spot in Sidney that I could put a store in without building a building someplace. I wanted to be next to Reynolds. I think it's a draw, the center's a draw for the community and the surrounding area."

The Sidney Ace Hardware will be a full-line hardware store. They will carry products from tools and hardware to riding lawn mowers and even plan on holding a garden center in the lot, north of the building. They will carry many popular brands like Benjamin Moore paint, Honda and Toro Stihl lawn equipment, Milwaukee tools, Traeger grills, and a lot more. They will even have a toy section and try their best to keep popular toys like Legos on hand.

The Sidney Ace Hardware is scheduled to open in mid-May 2023. Reese

Gairrett, a transplant from Joliet, was hired as the head manager. So far, 12 people have been hired but King expects to have 20-25 employees to start. King's other stores already serve their communities by helping the local Rotary Club, Children's Miracle Network, and 4-H troops. Gairrett is already applying to join the Kiwanis Club. He and the rest of his crew will be honored to serve Sidney and the surrounding area through the store.



Pictured (L-R) Head Manager Reese Gairrett and Owner Skip King are looking forward to bringing Ace Hardware to Sidney and the surrounding community. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)

## A Celebration Of The Music Of Chicago Coming To Watford City May 2

Submitted by Jessie Veeder Scofield  
"Beginnings" – A Celebration of the Music of Chicago is coming to the Watford City Rough Rider Center Convention Hall on Tuesday, May 2 at 7 p.m. Beginnings is a tightly woven structure of musical talent that brings to life the original and glorious music of Chicago. They are the ultimate Chicago tribute band. Guitar riffs, hopped-up vocal melodies, and the famous brass section all make for American music that stands the test of time.

Beginnings is a band of great musicians who grew up listening to Chicago and developed a love for bringing that music to life for themselves and Chicago fans everywhere! The band transports audiences through more than five decades of Chicago's extensive catalog of gold and platinum recordings. This is family-friendly entertainment for music lovers of all ages. Be captivated by the incredible catalog of hits such as "You're the Inspiration", "25 or 6 to 4", "Saturday in the Park", "Hard to Say I'm Sorry", and much



Photo submitted

more!

Concert goers are in for a lively and memorable performance special. A cash bar will be available for the evening to support the Watford City Park Board.

"Beginnings" appearance is part of the Watford City Area Concert Series, where members have access to five-concerts in Watford City as well as reciprocal

ity with additional communities throughout the year. Non-concert series members can purchase "Beginnings" tickets for \$30 at the door or online at longxarts.com. This is the last concert for the 2022-23 season. The 2023-24 season begins on Sept. 23, 2023 with the West Coast 11-piece "little-big-band" Phat Cat Swinger. Memberships for the 2023-

24 Watford City Area Concert Series season can be purchased the night of the concert or online at longxarts.com/concert-series.

Concert series memberships are \$50 for an adult, \$150 for a family and \$25 for students.

Questions, contact Jessie Scofield at 701-770-8659 or email longxart@gmail.com.



### Fairview Prom Royalty

Fairview School held their prom on April 14. Pictured (L-R) Chase Poulsen, prince; Walker Whitmus, king; Aubree Johnson, queen; and Princess Emma Karren, princess. (Photo by Keri McPherson Photography)



### Lambert Prom

Lambert High School held their prom on April 15. Pictured are queen Piper Carter and king Layne Herman. (Photo by Bethany Wells)

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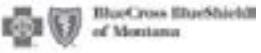


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**AREA RECOVERY GROUPS**

**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.....1826.9  
Last Week's Elev. ....1824.8  
One Year Ago .....1827.6  
Release For Day (C.F.S.) .....17,000

**SIDNEY WEATHER DATA**

Source: MSU Eastern Agricultural Research Center

Date	High	Low	Precip.
April 10.....	74	32	0.000
April 11.....	85	38	0.000
April 12.....	57	39	0.050
April 13.....	42	36	0.020
April 14.....	44	32	0.000
April 15.....	53	30	0.000
April 16.....	61	26	0.000
Total 2022 YTD Precipitation.....	0.624		

# Talk Trashy To Me, May 12

The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting “The Beautification of Downtown Sidney Friday, May 12, 9 a.m.-12 p.m..

The goal is to clean up specific blocks in designated areas and also challenge businesses to spring clean their store fronts.

The theme of the event is “Talk Trashy to Me!” There will be a contest in two categories which consist of, Biggest Crew and Best Results.

The community will be asked to help decide the winner of the Best Results, as they will be voted online, with photo submission from the team and businesses via Facebook.

To get you started for this event meet at Veteran’s Memorial Park for coffee and donuts; then pick up your supplies and map.

To participate in this event or donate to it, contact the Sidney Chamber of Commerce, 406-433-1916, by April 21 or visit the chamber website, <http://sidneymt.com/news-events>.

# St. Matthew’s Spring Fling, Sidney, May 6

The St. Matthew’s Spring Fling will take place Saturday, May 6 from 7-11 p.m. for Grades 6-8, and open to all area youth. This semi-formal dance will take place at St. Matthew’s Parish Center, Sidney.

The admission is \$10 per person, and boys are asked to not wear blue jeans, shorts or T-shirts and the girls should not wear shorts or pants but modest dresses are encouraged.

There will be DJ music by Midnight Express.

For more information contact Colleen Haralson, 406-482-2680.

# Selecting Transplants & The Sidney Community Garden

**By Marley Manoukian**  
**MSU Richland County Extension**

Many gardeners use transplants to give long-season plants time to reach maturity. If you are purchasing transplants, here are a few tips on characteristics you want to select.

Transplants of vegetables should be stocky plants between 6”-8” tall. They should have a good root system and be healthy, without any bottom leaves that are yellow. Transplants should not be too mature, and they should not yet have any flowers or fruits. If they have flowers or fruit, the plant will limit vegetative and structural growth to continue supporting flowering. If your transplants do have flowers or fruit, it is best to prune them out to help encourage this vegetative growth.

If you do not have a garden space of your own, but are interested in gardening, there are raised beds available for rent in the Sidney Community Garden. The beds are 4’ x 8’ in size. If you are interested in renting a bed, please contact the MSU Richland County Extension Office at 406-433-1206 or email [marley.manoukian@montana.edu](mailto:marley.manoukian@montana.edu).

# Partnership For Promise Hosts “Photo Voice”

**By Dianne Swanson**

Pictures provide a powerful voice, creating a visual expression of something that may be hard to put into words. To enhance the voices of Richland County, particularly kids, Partnership For Promise is sponsoring Photo Voice encouraging kids, or adults, to take a picture of something in the community that they are proud of, or something of concern.

Partnership For Promise explains the five basic concepts behind the Photo Voice project as follows. Images teach; pictures can influence policy; community members ought to participate in creating and defining the images that shape healthful public policy; the process requires that, from the outset, planners bring policy makers and other influential people to the table to serve as an audience; Photo Voice emphasizes individual and community action.

To submit your photos, email them to [partnership-4promise@gmail.com](mailto:partnership-4promise@gmail.com).

In 1997, a President’s Summit was held in Washington, DC laying the groundwork for what would become America’s Promise Alliance For Youth program, with the goal of improving the lives and future of America’s youth.

Partnership For Promise began in 1998 following the Governor’s Summit on Youth for Montana’s Promise. It is the youth-based coalition part of Communities in Action and operates on five promises to children and youth: caring adults, safe places, healthy start, marketable skills and opportunities to serve. It also partners with other programs that focus on drug, alcohol and tobacco prevention, bullying availability and quality of preschools and family engagement programs such as Parenting Montana.

The oldest group in Communities in Action, the coalition has been very productive over the years. It was instrumental in bringing the Boys and Girls Club to Richland County, helped with the creation of Sidney’s skate park, has facilitated some after school projects and provided early learning backpacks through the Family Resource Council, just to name a few.

This is your opportunity to serve, and help create the kind of community you want to live in. Use your Photo Voice and share your opinions with pictures!

**EVENTS**

**SEND US YOUR EVENTS!**

THE ROUNDUP: PO Box 1207 •111 West Main • Sidney, MT  
406-433-3306 • Fax: 406-433-4114 • Email: [classads@esidney.com](mailto:classads@esidney.com)

**RICHLAND COUNTY**

**Events in Sidney unless otherwise listed. MT.**

**Wed., April 19**  
10 a.m.-4 p.m. - **2023 Youth Art Show** - On display through April 29 - **Dave Torrence Exhibition** - On display through May 3. - **Linda Olson - Museum Inspiration Exhibition** - Ceramics that span a wide variety of styles, shapes & techniques. On display through May 6. - MonDak Heritage Center, Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. For more info, 406-433-3500, or [mdhc@richland.org](mailto:mdhc@richland.org).

**Wed., April 19 & 26**  
10:30 a.m. - **Storytime** - Ages 4-5. Songs, fingerplays, stories & a craft. Sidney/Richland County Library.

**Thurs., April 20**  
4-6 p.m. - **Business After Hours Sidney City Hall Open House** - Sidney City Hall will be remodeled in the next year, preview the architects plans for the remodel, learn about new infrastructure projects & get the chance to visit with some of the city officials. Kids are welcome & activities will be provided.

**Fri., April 21**  
6 p.m. - **Paint & Sip with Penny Filler** - MonDak Heritage Center, \$35 for members; \$45 for non members, Limited space, call to reserve your spot 406-433-3500.

**Fri., April 21, & Sat., April 22**  
**Richland County Jaycees Sunrise Dart Tournament** - Action packed dart competition with 301 & Cricket format. Fri. signups 6 p.m., play at 7 p.m. Sat. signups 11 a.m., play at 12 p.m.. Food & alcohol available, spectators welcome to attend. Richland County Event Center.

**Mon., April 24**  
4 p.m. - **Lego Club** - Children in grades Kindergarten-5. Sidney-Richland County Library.

**Tues., April 25**  
4 p.m. - **Adult Craft** - Hand stamped cards, limited space. Make fun do it yourself crafts & take home items. Sidney/Richland County Library.

**Fri., April 28, Sun., April 30**  
**Cornerstone Pentecostal Church Revival Services** - April 28, 7 a.m. Service; April 29, Ladies Luncheon, 11 a.m. & Services 7 p.m.; April 30, Sunday School 10:30 a.m., service 11 a.m. Guest Speaker, Brother Jeff Priessler. On April 29 11 a.m. Guest Speaker, Sister Tulla Priessler. 2301 3rd St. SW. For more info call 406-480-7550.

**Sat., April 29**  
11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. (2 class times) - **Wine Bottle Wind Chimes with Tammy Venne** - MonDak Heritage Center. Limited space, call 406-433-3500, stop by or register online. Members \$40, Not Yet Members: \$50.

**Sat., May 6**  
7-11 p.m. - **St. Matthew's Spring Fling** - For grades 6-8 & open to all area youth. Semi-formal dance at St. Matthew’s Parish Center. Admission \$10 per person. DJ music by Midnight Express. For more info call Colleen Haralson, 406-482-2680.

**Sun., May 7**  
11 a.m. - **Fairview Community Foundation Lunch & Live Auction** - Storage shed across from Senior Center, Fairview, MT. Portable BB hoops, men’s & womens balls, score boards & misc.

**Thursday, May 11**  
6:30 p.m. - **Suicide Prevention Movie Night** - Family movie night for Suicide Prevention. Centre Theatre. Benefiting Eastern Montana Out Of The Darkness Walk.

**McKENZIE COUNTY**

**Events in Watford City unless otherwise listed. CT.**

**Sat., April 22**  
**Chili Cook-Off** - Family friendly, cash & prizes. Eagles Club, 1904 Main St. For more info call 701-842-3340.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. - **Long X Arts Foundation Special Grand Opening & Open House** - Enjoy refreshments & meet artist Morgan Wagner. Special COVID portrait project presentation at 11 a.m. with artists Daphne Johnson-Clark & Jessica Newman. Long X Arts, 100 2nd Ave. SW.

**Tues., April 25**  
4-5 p.m. - **After School Club** - Recommended ages 7-17. Open to all students, no sign up needed. Every other week on Tues.. McKenzie Co. Public Library. For more info visit <https://www.mckenziecountyndlibrary.com/> or call 701-444-3785.

**Tues., May 2, 2023**  
7 p.m. - **Beginnings** - Watford City Concert Series - A celebration of the music of Chicago. Rough Rider Center. Concert series membership or \$30 per adult. For more info call 701-770-8659 or [longxart@gmail.com](mailto:longxart@gmail.com).

**Thurs., May 2, 5-7 p.m.; May 16, 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.

**WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**Events in Williston unless otherwise listed. CT.**

**Fri., April 21 & Sat., April 22**  
7:30 p.m. nightly - **Wild West Days 2023 Extreme** - Bull riding, mutton busting, candy scramble, live auction, giveaways & more. Adults \$25; kids \$15, Friday night is kid’s night- Kids 12 & under are free. Raymond Family Community Center. For more info visit <https://www.facebook.com/willistonbullriding/>.

**Sat., April 29**  
8 a.m.-12 p.m. - **Clean Williston** - Williston Public Works, located at 1121 5th St E, meet in south parking lot. Volunteers will receive a free Clean Williston T-shirt (limited quantities & sizing), a light breakfast & lunch afterwards. Public Works will provide garbage bags, gloves, safety vests & garbage pickup.

**Fri., May 5, 7 p.m., Sat., May 6 & Sun., May 7, 2 p.m.; Thur., May 11, Fri., May 12 & Sat., May 13, 7 p.m.**  
Williston High School Drama Club presents Disney “Frozen” The Broadway Musical - For more info or tickets visit <https://williston.ludus.com>.

**Sat., May 6**  
5:30 p.m. Social Hour - **The Boots & Brews** - 6:30 p.m. dinner. BBQ dinner, dancing, cash prizes, raffles, live & silent auctions & more. Live music by Josh Kehr. Raymond Center Arena, Williston. Benefiting the Coyote Wrestling Club. \$40 a ticket admits 2.

**DAWSON COUNTY**

**Events in Glendive unless otherwise listed. MT**

**Thurs., April 20**  
6 p.m. - **Brains & Brews Trivia** - Cross Country Brewing. You can have up to 4 people per team, & entry fee is \$10, or be your own team for \$3 per player entry fee. The entry fee, along with \$1 per pint of beer sold, will be donated to the Friends of the Library.

**Sat., April 22**  
5 p.m. Doors Open - **Friends of NRA Banquet & Auction** - Games 5:30 p.m., dinner 6:45 p.m. Raffles & door prizes. EPEC building, 313 S. Merrill. Dinner ticket contacts: Jesse Gillespie, 406-939-3546; Alan McRae 406-687-3606; Rob Titus 406-939-1324; Guns & Things, 306-377-3969 or online at [friendsofnra.org](http://friendsofnra.org).



# Richland Rangers Peewee Team Wins Big Sky State Games

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
The Montana Magicians, the Richland Rangers peewee team won the Big Sky State Games held March 24-26 on the Richland Ranger's home ice in Sidney.

The State Games are a 3 on 3 team tournament. Each game has 25 minutes of run-time with cross-ice because during if two games were played at the same time. The teams were smaller in number than the usual games and the kids set up the members of the team to play. It was their job to figure out who would be best to play. They were allowed seven skaters and one goalie per team. The tournament started with pool play to see whether they would be seated in the bracket. There were five teams in the

Peewees division, so they played four games on the first day. They won all four games on Saturday, which put them in first position. The bracket games were played on Sunday morning and they played the Dickinson Night Kings. It was a very close game, and they ended up defeating the Night Kings 4-3 in the last few minutes. They then had to play the Williston Polar Bears for the championship. The game was another close one and they won 6-4.

There is no qualifying for the Big Sky State Games. It is a competition where anyone can sign up to compete in the games. The Pee-wee level team, the Montana Magicians is comprised of kids aged 11-13. Typically, parents pay for the travel and expenses for games but

ones at home help a lot with expenses. The teams are not allowed to use their regular season Richland Rangers team name or jerseys, so they have to create a team name and find jerseys for the team. Some teams get sponsorships from local businesses to help pay for the cost of jerseys or the team entry fee. Parents were asked to help work concessions, clean, run the scoreboards, and do any other things it takes to keep the tournament running.

According to Jessica Price, one of the parents, most of the kids that were in the Magicians this year will move up to the next level of Bantams in the next season. She said, "It was so exciting to see these kids work so hard together and get this win."



The Richland Rangers Peewee team played as the Montana Magicians in the Big Sky State Games March 24-26 and won. Pictured, front, Paxton Berry; back (L-R) Coach Josh O'Donnell, Hitch Horsburgh, Loghan Leatherman, Dresden Wesley, Jake Schlothauer, Conner Price, Wyatt Conn, and Aspy Jackson. (Picture from Richland Rangers Youth Hockey Facebook page)

## Sunrise Women's Clinic Quilt & Pie Auction, Sidney, April 23



**By Robyn Heck**  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church invites you to join them for Sunday dinner, at noon, followed by the Sunrise Women's Clinic Quilt and Pie Auction, Sunday, April 23.

The cost of the dinner is a free will offering and will consist of mashed potatoes with meatball gravy, corn, coleslaw, and dinner rolls.

The auction will begin at 1 p.m. and will feature machine quilted quilts, homemade pies as well as a dozen smiley-faced cookies.

Stacy McNally, Sunrise Women's Clinic, said, "Shepherd of the Valley is doing this for us. They are very generous to our ministry and are always trying to find ways to help us at Sunrise to carry out our mission! We are very grateful."

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church is located at 211 E. Holly St., Sidney.

Pastor David Huskamp, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, with the quilts that will be auctioned for the Sunrise Women's Clinic, Sunday, April 23. (Photo by Robyn Heck)



### 2023 Leadership Graduation

The 2023 Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Leadership Class chose a project honoring Jeremy Norby, the essence of leadership and a community builder. Thank you Seitz Insurance Agency and Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home for making this possible. Pictured from left, Mary Hagler, Chelsie Knight, Abbe Baisch, Zach Sverdrup, Morgan Taylor, Jeana Cotter, Malorie Peterson and Ashley Tanner. (Photo submitted)

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Monday, May 15, 2023. Bids will be opened at 3:00pm on May 15th. Richland County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

**MNAXLP**  
(Publish April 19 & 26, 2023)

Robert J. Savage  
THE SAVAGE LAW FIRM  
116 3rd Ave. SW  
PO Box 1105  
Sidney, Montana 59270  
Telephone: (406) 433-9770  
Fax: (406) 433-9771  
Attorneys for Personal Representative

MONTANA SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, RICHLAND COUNTY  
PROBATE NO. DP-22-59  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANTONETTE EBERLING, Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within (4) four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to MICHAEL EBERLING, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested at The Savage Law Firm, PO Box 1105, Sidney, Montana 59270 or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. DATED this 11th day of April, 2023.

MICHAEL EBERLING,  
Personal Representative

**MNAXLP**  
(Publish April 19, 26, and May 3, 2023.)

**NOTICE OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION ELECTION**  
Notice is hereby given that in Richland County, on May 2, 2023, a political subdivision election will be for the Following Purpose: School District 2, 7J,

17C, 17J, 78J. Said political subdivision election will be conducted by: Mail Ballot: Richey School District. Polling place: Savage School District, Culbertson School District (if applicable) The polls will be at 12:00 noon, and continue to be open until 8:00 pm, on election day. Dated this 4th day of April, 2023. Stephanie Verhasselt Election Administrator Richland County

**MNAXLP**  
(Publish April 12, 19 & 26, 2023)

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned Clerk of Richland County, State of Montana that the Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at the following polling place(s): **Savage Public School District 7J & 2 Poll Election** Electors will consider the following issues at the election: • (3) Trustee(s) to be elected; (2) three year term, (1) one year term • Voting on Elementary and High School General Funds, Building Reserve and Technology Funds. **Culbertson School District 17J & 17C Poll Election** • (2) Trustees to three-year term • Levy for operation & Maintenance of Elementary & High School General Fund The polls will be open between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

A qualified registered elector who will be unable to go to the polls on the day of election may request an Application for Absentee Voter's Ballot from the school district clerk/election administrator's office located at: Savage Schools: 368 Mesa Street Savage MT Culbertson Schools: 423 First Ave West Culbertson, MT **Richey Public Schools District 78J Mail Ballot Election** Ballots may be picked up and returned to Richey School 2020

Royal Ave W Richey, MT If you miss this regular registration deadline (30 days prior to the election), you may still register for the election by showing up at the county election office by noon on the day before election day. The late registration certificate may be exchanged for a ballot at the school election administrator's office until the close of polls on election day. The county election office is located at: 201 W Main Sidney, MT A late registrant may obtain a ballot on election day at the following location: Savage Schools: 368 Mesa Street Savage MT Culbertson Schools: 423 First Ave West Culbertson, MT Richey Schools: 202 Royal Ave W Richey, MT DATED this 4 day of April, 2023 Stephanie Verhasselt Election Administrator Richland County

**MNAXLP**  
(Publish April 12, 19 & 26, 2023)

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS:**

Bids will be received by the Owner's Construction Manager, B&B Builders Inc., for the Fairview High School Concession and Cafeteria Remodel in Fairview, Montana until 2:00 PM (Mountain Time), on Wednesday April 26, 2023. **The bids are to be delivered to the B&B Builders, Inc. office at 108 2nd St NE, Sidney, MT 59270 or emailed to [admin@bbbbuildersinc.com](mailto:admin@bbbbuildersinc.com).** Please reference the Instructions to Bidders for further instructions. Bids will be received for the Fairview High School Concessions and Cafeteria in accordance with the Specifications and other

Contract Documents prepared by B&B Builders Inc. There will be a **MANDATORY PRE-BID WALK THROUGH on THURSDAY APRIL 13 AT 2:00 PM (MOUNTAIN TIME). STATE AND FEDERAL STATUTE COMPLIANCE:** Each bidder will comply with all fair labor practices and state statutes. This project has 2023 MT Prevailing Wage Rates. Also, the Montana 1% Contractor Gross Receipts Tax does apply. **ADA/EEO:** Request accommodation or additional information from, Construction Manager, B & B Builders, Inc., 108 2nd Street NE, Sidney, Montana 59270, 406- 482-4401 (voice), or 406- 482-9023 (fax), or by e-mail at [admin@bbbbuildersinc.com](mailto:admin@bbbbuildersinc.com). Alternative accessible formats of this notice are available upon request. **CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:** Drawings and Specifications, including Bidding Documents and Conditions of the Agreement, may be examined at the office of B & B Builders, Inc., 108 2nd Street NE, Sidney, Montana; or are available at our website [www.bbbbuildersmt.com](http://www.bbbbuildersmt.com). **WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS:** No Bidder may withdraw their Bid for at least THIRTY (30) days after the scheduled time for receipt of bids, except as noted in the Instructions to Bidders.

**MNAXLP**  
(Publish April 5, 12 & 19 2023)

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## Senior Center Events

**Congregate Meals:**  
**Fairview:** Mon. & Wed., 11:30 a.m., 217 5th St. West, 406-742-5050  
**Sidney:** Tues. & Fri., 11:30 a.m., 813 3rd St. NE, 406-433-8077  
**Savage:** Thurs., 12 p.m., 178 E Main St., 406-776-9980  
**Lambert:** Tues., 12 p.m., Fox Lake Sr. Center, 406-774-3439

**Activities/Cards**  
**Fairview: Men/Cards,** Mon.-Fri. daily at 12:30 p.m.; **Women's Cards:** Wed. at 12:30 p.m.; 217 5th St. West, 406-742-5050  
**Sidney:** Cards Thurs., 1 p.m.; 813 3rd St. NE, 406-433-8077  
**Lambert:** Cards, Tues., 1 p.m.; Fox Lake Sr. Center, 406-774-3439

**Senior Commodity Distribution**  
2190 W Holly St., 406-433-3701; the last full Wed., 1-4 p.m.; Thurs., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; & Fri., 9 a.m.-12 p.m. of each month



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Full-time and part-time summer student employment is available at MSU Eastern Ag Research Center (EARC) working for the Agronomy or the Plant Pathology Research Programs. Wage starts at \$14.00/hour depending on experience & education. Schedule: Now through October. Mon-Fri 7am- 4pm. Must be 16 years of age & older. Applications are available at EARC located 1 mile N of Sidney on Hwy 200 at 1501 N Central Ave., calling 433- 2208 or emailing [cherie.gatzke@montana.edu](mailto:cherie.gatzke@montana.edu). Application deadline is April 30, 2023. MSU-Bozeman is an AA/ADA/EEO/Vet Pref Employer.

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## Lunch Menus

**Sidney School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Hot ham & cheese, cheesy potatoes, mixed fruit, cookies.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** No school.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Hot dogs, French fries, strawberry cups.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Orange chicken, steamed rice, Normandy veggies, apple-sauce.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Finger steaks, potatoes, gravy, mandarin oranges, dinner rolls.

**Savage School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Chicken nuggets.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** No school.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Lasagna.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Chicken fried steak.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Chicken strips.

**Rau School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Breakfast for lunch, vegetable, fruit, salad bar.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** No school.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Chicken fried steak, vegetable, fruit, salad bar.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Sliders, vegetable, fruit, salad bar.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Hot dogs, vegetable, fruit salad, bar.

**Froid School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, buns, veggies, fruit, salad bar.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** Hamburgers on buns, fries, veggies, fruit, salad bar.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Chicken patties on buns, rice pilaf, veggies, fruit, salad bar.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Breakfast burritos, hash browns, go-gurts, fruit, salad bar.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** French dip sandwiches, sweet potato fries, bananas, cheesecake, salad bar.

**Bainville School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Adrian Anderson day! Ham & cheese sliders, peaches, cheese-cake.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** Spaghetti, carroteenies, pineapple.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Chicken drumsticks, green beans, mixed fruit.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Taco in a bag, topping bar, fruit cocktail.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Popcorn chicken bowl, corn, pears.

**Richey School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Enchilada casserole, veggies, cake, fruit, salad bar.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** No school.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Corn dogs, fries, carrots, cookies, fruit, salad bar.

**Tues., Apr. 25:** Lasagna, cheesy garlic bread, corn, bars, fruit, salad bar.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Cheese-burgers, fries, veggies, brownies, fruit, salad bar.

**Culbertson School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** BBQ chicken pizza, salad, pineapple. 2 p.m. out.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** No school.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Fish, crinkle cup fries, coleslaw.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Chicken pot pie, soup, biscuits, peach-es.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Ham slices, rice pilaf, carrots.

**Lambert School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Italian dunkers, corn, fruit.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** Taco in a bag, fresh veggies, fruit.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Hot ham & cheese, chips, fruit.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Nick's lunch. Chicken, macaroni & cheese, watermelon, fruit.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Scalloped potatoes & ham, corn, fruit.

**Fairview School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Big Mac salad, pickle, sesame seed croutons, ice cream cups, fresh garden bar.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** Corn dogs, homemade cheesy shells & cheese, peas, fruit, fresh garden bar.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Taco in a bag, Mexi corn, fruit, fresh garden bar.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** NEW! Beef Philly hoagie, fruit, veggie, fresh garden bar.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Homemade pizza, veggie, fresh garden bar.

**Alexander School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Slush-burgers, sun chips, fruit, vegetable bar.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** No school.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Taco in a bag, fruit, vegetable bar.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Hot dogs or brats, macaroni & cheese, fruit, vegetable bar.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Wings, fries, fruit, vegetable bar.

**Watford City School**  
**Thurs., Apr. 20:** Popcorn chicken, waffle fries, fruit, vegetables, salad bar.  
**Fri., Apr. 21:** Macaroni & cheese, ham patties, fruit, vegetables, salad bar.  
**Mon., Apr. 24:** Chicken fries, fries, fruit, vegetables, salad bar.  
**Tues., Apr. 25:** Two chicken fajitas with fajita veggies, fruit, vegetables, salad bar.  
**Wed., Apr. 26:** Grilled cheese, tomato soup, crack-ers, fruit, vegetables, salad bar.



### Spring Classes Open For Registration

For details and to register, visit [handyandysnursery.com](http://handyandysnursery.com) or our Facebook page

April 22 .....	Spring In A Bucket
April 29 & May 2 .....	Spring Pots
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# MonDak Heritage Center 2023 Youth Art Show Runs Through April 29

**Submitted by Nikki Bailey, MonDak Heritage Center Executive Director**

The 2023 Youth Art Show is currently on display at the MonDak Heritage Center and runs through April 29. The artwork features pieces from 7th-12th grade students from area schools in a variety of mediums that include paintings, drawings, mixed media and more.

The artwork has been evaluated by our expert judges and awards have been given in each age category for 1st -3rd place

and honorable mentions. However, we still need your help! As you marvel at the artistic talents of the local youth, you will have the opportunity to vote for the People's Choice Award in each age category.

This year's annual Youth Art Show features over 545 pieces of art from eight MonDak area schools. Stop by the MDHC to view the outstanding work of local youth and vote on your favorite pieces for the People's Choice Award!

The 2023 Youth Art Show is sponsored by Edward Jones Financial Advisors: Jerry Hughes, Jamie Malsam, Nick Lonski, Lauren Sukut and Jace Johnson.

The MonDak Heritage Center is open Tuesday-Fri-

day 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](mailto:mdhc@richland.org).



3D art first place winner. (Photo submitted)

LARSEN

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# April 22, 2023

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The mixed media and colorworks category works on display. (Photo submitted)

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## Richland County Food Bank Donation

The JCI Richland County Jaycee's and the local fire and police department donated \$500 to the Richland County food bank from the proceeds raised from the Gun's and Hose's trilogy we hosted in 2022. Picured (L-R) Adam Smith, Travis Rosaaen, Duane Pust, Harleigh Manley, Greg Qunell, Candy Markwald and Larry Garmen. (Submitted photo)





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# Aging Unbound May 12

By Jodi Berry,  
Commission on Aging

Growing older doesn't mean you have to be old. The long, cold winter has kept many of us cooped up for way too long, but we are finally seeing new leaves on the trees, flowers in the ground and all the other things that put a spring in our step. Why not let all that newness around you be your inspiration to fill your life with something new as well?

May has long been recognized as Older American's Month and this year's theme is "Aging Unbound". The idea centers around four main topics to help you find the youthfulness of your age.

1. Embrace the opportunity to change; find a new passion, go on an adventure and push boundaries by not letting age define your limits.
2. Explore the rewards of growing older; with age comes knowledge which provides insight and the confidence to understand and experience the world more deeply.
3. Stay engaged in your community; everyone benefits when everyone is connected and involved.
4. Form relationships; enhance your well-being and quality of life by introducing new ideas and unique perspectives.

The Richland County Commission on Aging is celebrating "Aging Unbound" by hosting a fun-filled afternoon for area seniors on May 12, at 2190 W. Holly St., Sidney. The event will take place from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. starting with a picnic style lunch and root beer floats followed by a number of activities that relate to each of the four areas of this year's theme.

If you want to "Embrace the opportunity to change" the event will have plenty for you to try. Pick up a paddle and learn how to play pickleball, get in the game with virtual bowling, darts, or even volleyball or grab some friends for a friendly game of beanbag toss. If games are not your style, sit back and learn something new; Mid-Rivers will be joining us to teach you all about "streaming" as an alternative to cable TV.

To "Explore the rewards of getting older" we'll have all the information you need to use your knowledge to enhance your life. Learn about all the things going on at your local senior center. From book clubs, technology classes, crafts, cards and coffee you're sure to find at least one item to spark your interest.



Last year, Richland County Commission on Aging held the "Staying Healthy and Active For Life" event. People enjoyed a meal and played different activities like pickleball, bean bag toss and virtual bowling on the Kinect, which will all be included at the "Aging Unbound" event for this year. (Photo submitted)

If you are looking for ways to "Stay engaged in your community" we will have information, sign ups, and opportunities for you to make a difference. You might enjoy becoming a Senior Companion or joining Volunteers in Action. Staying involved not only helps you stay connected but can also make a huge impact to those who are no longer able to do it themselves. Stop by both

booths to see what they're all about.

The entire day is designed to help you "Form relationships" which has a positive impact on everyone. This is a great opportunity to get in touch with old friends or make some new ones. Come and share a laugh with other seniors who are determined to remain "Aging Unbound" on May 12th from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

## Sidney Basketball Annual Awards Banquet



The Sidney High School basketball coaches held the annual awards banquet on Monday, April 10. Coach Quilling brought up each player and discussed their strengths and their goals for next season. Academic All-State GPA awards were presented to (L-R) Gradin Sukut, Braden Harris, Cayden Heck, Cooper McNally, and Aren Larson. (Photo by Robyn Heck)

## Sidney Baseball 1st Ever Double Header

By Robyn Heck

The SHS baseball team was scheduled to travel to Butte for baseball on Friday, April 14, but due to snow on the field in Butte, games were played in Columbus.

Sidney pulled out their 1st ever double header victory! The first game was 7-6. The score of the 2nd game was 11-1.

This Saturday, April 22, will be the first home game against Watford City at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The MonDak Grace fund is selling Sidney Eagle baseball gear. Hats are \$20, t-shirts are \$16 and up. For preorders email [robynheck@hotmail.com](mailto:robynheck@hotmail.com).

Let's pack Moose Park and show our boys and coaches how proud of them we are.



Ryder Hansen pitches. (Photo by Robyn Heck)

## Stockman Bank Named One Of World's Best Banks By Forbes For 2nd Year

Stockman Bank has been honored by Forbes on its list of the World's Best Banks for 2023. This is the second consecutive year Stockman has been recognized by Forbes.

"2023 marks our 70th anniversary of serving the people, businesses and communities of Montana. This award is particularly special as it reflects the trust our customers have put in us to meet their financial needs," said Bill Coffee, Stockman Bank CEO. "Montana remains our only focus, backed by a commitment to local management and decision making. We are proud to be recognized for the outstanding service we provide to our customers and communities."

To rank the World's Best Banks, Forbes partnered with market research firm Statista to survey more than 48,000 customers in 32 countries for their opinions on their current and former banking relationships. Banks were rated on general satisfaction (30% of the final score) and whether they would recommend the bank (30%). The final 40% came from customer ratings in five key areas: trust, terms and conditions, digital services, customer services and financial advice.



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SELLER: Mike Bliss, Hettinger, ND LOCATION: Hettinger, ND

DIRECTIONS FROM HETTINGER, ND: At East end of Hettinger, turn South off Hwy 12 at Ag Pro Machinery. Go to stop sign and turn East. Follow blacktop for 3-miles to sign that says "Blacktop ends". Go East on gravel road for 2-miles and turn South. Continue South for 4 miles to 103rd St. Go East on 103rd St for 1.5-miles to auction.

DIRECTIONS FROM LEMMON, SD: Take Hwy 12 West out of Lemmon 9 miles to White Butte Rd. Turn South on White Butte for 1.3 miles to 102nd St. Turn West on 102nd St. for 4 miles & turn South at the "T". Go 7/10 miles South to 103rd St & turn West for 3.5 miles to auction.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mike at 605-564-2607

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2006 Honda Rincon 700 4-wheeler (5900 miles)  
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For more pictures, visit [weishaarauctions.com](http://weishaarauctions.com)



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### Material Girls

On Friday, April 14, Addison Hill, Analise Stearns and Emj Shomer performed their routine to “Material Girl” during the Watford City Figure Skating Show April 14-15 at the Rough Rider Center in Watford City. (Photo by Kathy Taylor)

# What are you waiting for?

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# OBITUARIES

## Doris Larsen, 90 Sidney, MT

A Celebration of Life service for Doris Larsen, 90, Sidney, MT, will be held 10 a.m., Saturday, April 22, 2023 at Pella Lutheran Church, Sidney, MT, with Pastor Barb Haugerud officiating.

A luncheon will follow for a time of fellowship and sharing.

Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT is assisting the family.

Condolences may be left on our funeral home website at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com)

Doris Larsen, Sidney, MT, passed away peacefully at her home with her family at her side on Sunday, Dec.11, 2022.

## Duane Johnson, 87 Lambert, MT

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Friday, May 12, 2023 at Lonsdale United Methodist Church, Sidney, MT, with Pastor Sione Fungalei officiating.

A luncheon will follow at the Moose Lodge, Sidney, MT, for a time of fellowship and sharing.

Visitation will be Thursday, May 11, 2023 from 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. at Fulkerson-Stevenson Memorial Chapel, Sidney, MT.

Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT, is assisting the family.

Remembrances, condolences, and pictures may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

Duane Johnson, 87, Lambert, MT, passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 9, 2023 at St. Vincent's Health Care, Billings, MT, with family by his side.

## Frank Kelsey, 96 Sidney/Poplar, MT

Celebration of Life services were held Saturday April 15, 2023, 10 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, Poplar, MT, with Pastor Sam Samuelson officiating. Remembrances, condolences, and pictures may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com). Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT, is assisting the family.

Frank Alexander Kelsey was born on June 8, 1926, in Poplar, MT, to Albert Eugene Kelsey (A.E Kelsey) and Cecilia Young Kelsey. Frank spent his boyhood days in Poplar where he was the sixth of seven children. After graduating high school, he helped his father run one of his several successful businesses in the area, before eventually joining the army.

He was enlisted from 1947 to 1948 where he served as a typist and helped with security as a military police officer. On his return home from serving, he joined his father and brother with their business, Kelsey Transfer. After time, Frank and his brother Warren eventually took over the family business and renamed it Kelsey Ready Mix.

He was a jack of all trades in his time. As well as running his concrete business, he also cut fence posts, was a heavy equipment operator, and eventually became a custodian for the Poplar School System. He worked with the school from 1984 until he was forced into retirement at the age of 80.

Frank eventually went on to meet Viola (Vi), the love of his life, and from their union three children were born; Tana, David, and James, who joined their four older siblings from Vi's previous marriage; Veda, Joseph, Patrick and Ronald.

Frank was definitely one of a kind. He had quite the sweet tooth, which he liked to contribute to his longevity. His favorite snack was peanut butter and honey on crackers, but he didn't discriminate against anything that was considered a treat.

Many people in Poplar can probably recount seeing Frank driving around town with one of his furry friends in the back of his truck bed. He never went far without one of his dogs. He always had a joke handy, whether it was verbal or one of the little clippets he had saved in his wallet for decades. He had several jokes about "WOMAN DRIVERS" ... or, just woman in general. We like to say it was all in fun and not at all chauvinistic, but only Frank and God know the truth in that (Wink). He may have come off as being ornery, but people soon learned his bark was much bigger than his bite - and his heart was even bigger than both.

He was also an avid gardener. He and Vi spent countless hours outside nurturing their beautiful yard and large garden. They had apple trees and chokecherry trees that the kids were tasked with picking. They climbed ladders while carrying their ice cream buckets to pick the fruits to be turned into jams, jellies, and wine.

Their home was always bustling, even after their own children were grown and gone, they were then blessed with grandchildren to keep their house busy. The kids all loved spending time in their beautiful back yard, playing in the large sandbox made by Frank, swinging on the swing set, climbing the apple trees, playing hide and seek in the trove of hiding places, and running through tree rows and bushes while the adults sat at the picnic table under one of the giant shade trees in the middle of the yard, sipping coffee and talking the day away. He also kept a supply of salt water taffy in his shirt pocket and would always give them out to the grandkids as they were passing by.

He was a long-time member of the Presbyterian Church and had an extraordinarily strong faith in our Lord. You could always count on him for a life lesson straight from the Bible. He always had his Bible open reading the scripture. He prayed over every meal and never ended the day without giving his thanks for all the blessings the Lord had given him. His favorite daily affirmations were "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it," and "Tide and time wait for no man... and FEW women."

Frank passed away on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at the Eastern Montana Veterans Home, Glendive, MT.

Frank was the last surviving member of his immediate family and is preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Cecilia Kelsey; the love of his life, Viola; brothers Howard and Warren' sisters Cecilia, Elinor, Charlotte, and Jocelyn (Jolly); his son Ronald LaRoche; grandsons Raymond LaRoche, Chad LaRoche, Hunter Dehner; and great grandson, Grady Sunwall.

He is survived by his children Tana (Gary) Lee, Williston, ND; David Kelsey, Sidney, MT; James (Liz) Kelsey, Savage, MT; Veda (Darrell) Azure, Sidney, MT; Joe (Colleen) LaRoche, Poplar, MT; Pat (Wanda) LaRoche, Bozeman MT; daughter-in-law Diane LaRoche, Poplar, MT; wife of his late son, Ronald; and his nieces, nephews, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Frank Kelsey

## Francis “Frank” Reed, 90 Savage, MT

Mass of the Christian Burial for Francis “Frank” Reed, 90, Savage, MT, are at 11 a.m., Thursday, April 20, 2023, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, Sidney, MT, with Father Jim O'Neil as presider. A luncheon will follow the services at Ned Shinnick Hall. Wake Services are at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at the St. Matthew's Catholic Church, Sidney, MT. Visitation is on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. to at the funeral home and one hour before services at the church. Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT is assisting the family. Remembrances, condolences, and pictures may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

Frank Reed left this world on April 5, 2023 to join his beloved wife for their 70th wedding anniversary, celebrating with his savior Jesus Christ, his parents and all his siblings who had passed before him. Frank was residing at the Eastern Montana Veterans Home, Glendive, MT, at the time of his passing.

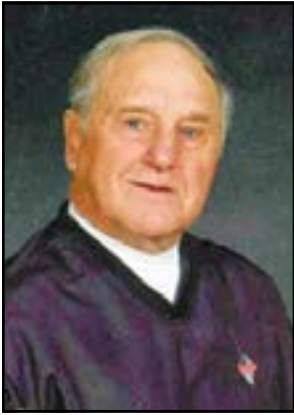
Francis Mark Reed was born Oct. 5, 1932, in Mankato, MN, to Fred and Mae (Gettis) Reed. He grew up on his family's farm until he was 16 and then worked for various farmers in Minnesota. He met and married his beautiful wife, Vivian Thomas, on April 28, 1953.

Frank joined the Navy in 1952. He was stationed on the USS Wasp; he made a trip around the world while he was on the ship and was discharged in 1956. He served during the Korean conflict.

Frank and Vivian later settled in Savage where they raised their 10 children. They were members of St. Michael's Catholic Church, Savage, MT. Frank and Vivian ran their own business leveling land for the Yellowstone Valley's farmers; many who became dear friends. They spent some time living in British Columbia which became a family adventure full of wonderful memories. They enjoyed horse racing and ventured into owning and training thoroughbreds in Montana and Canada.

Frank is survived by his children, Greg (Kris), Tony (Chris), Pat (Georgeline), Ron (Jackie), Fred (Debbie), Doug, Chery Schmidt (Dean), Ryan, Bruce (Jody) and the "baby" Mary Quiroz (Tom). There are countless grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren to carry on his name.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial to St. Michael's Catholic Church, PO Box 95, Savage, MT 59262.



Francis “Frank” Reed

## James “Jim” Tibbits, 79 Sidney, MT

Funeral services were held on Saturday April 15, 2023 at the Pella Lutheran Church, Sidney, MT, at 10 a.m. with Pastor Barb Haugerud officiating. Military Honors were presented by the VFW Post #4099, Sidney, MT, and the Army National Guard. Visitation was Friday April 14, 2023 at Fulkerson-Stevenson Memorial Chapel from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sidney, MT. Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT, is assisting the family. Remembrances, condolences, and pictures may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

James “Jim” Tibbits was born on Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1943 to parents Park and Bessie (Johnson) Tibbits in Williston, ND. He grew up on a farm 18 miles SW of Williston in McKenzie County. In the fall of 1949, he started school at Indian Hill School, seven miles east of the farm. In 1956, Corps of Engineers bought the farm to build Garrison Dam, and the Tibbits moved to Sidney, MT, where his dad purchased a machine shop. He attended Sidney Middle School at that time, which was 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades. His first job was delivering the Billings Gazette every morning before school and on weekends. Jim also worked at the bowling alley as a pin setter and Safeway.

On Aug. 7, 1961, Jim went into the army at Fort Ord, Monterey, CA. He joined A Company 8th Battalion Group 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade for basic training. He graduated Sept. 30, 1961, and went on to Fort Bliss, TX, for training for Hercules Missiles at A Battery for eight weeks, then went to C Battery 5<sup>th</sup> Guided Missile Battalion at Ft. Bliss. In July, he shipped out to Okinawa to the 30<sup>th</sup> Artillery Brigade, then to Ishikawa Beach, Okinawa, Battery C 61st Artillery Second Missile Battalion in January 1962. He returned stateside in July 1963, and discharged honorably in 1967.

Once back in Williston, he started work on the farm, which his uncle rented back from the government. He then worked for Richard Heir, Lloyd Butka, Alvin Vader, and his dad's machine shop, then Halliburton as a truck driver. He married his wife, Linda Selle, on June 13, 1965.

In February 1966, Jim and Linda moved to Seattle, WA, where he worked for Boeing Plant 2. They welcomed daughter, Ronda, in 1966, while Jim worked at the new plant in Auburn, WA, then daughter, Trina, in July 1967. They lived in Washington until 1970, when they moved back to Sidney, MT, and Jim resumed working with his dad at the machine shop. That same year, Linda and Jim welcomed their son Jeff. Eventually, Jim's dad sold the shop to him, and Jim ran it until he sold it and retired in 2012.

After retirement, Jim enjoyed life to the fullest with his many hobbies and activities. He adored playing guitar and making music, hiking in Medora and north unit with friends and family, playing cards and board games, shooting, camping, and relaxing around a backyard campfire with his loved ones. He was a great golf caddy for his son-in-law, Jeff, and often played cornhole tournaments with his family. When needed, he helped at Tim & Marilyn's farm, fencing, hauling hay, welding, and assisting with harvest.

Jim unexpectedly passed away on Friday April 7, 2023, at the Sidney Health Center. He will be dearly missed by all who loved him.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Tibbits; three children, Ronda (Jeff) Votava, Trina Miller, and Jeff (Heather) Tibbits; grandchildren, Chelsie, Zach, Kyler, Natalie, Lindsay, Brianna (Brian Meyer), Hailee (LT Richmond), Kaitlyn (Kade Swisse), Andrew, Hunter, and Derrek (Kristy); great-grandchildren, Owen and Noah; sister, Linda (Jerry) Anthony; brothers-in-law, Tim (Marilyn) Selle and Steve (Dora) Selle; and sister-in-law, Emily (Frank) Miller.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Park and Bessie; stepmother Elsie; grandson, Skyler; and nephew, Mike.



James “Jim” Tibbits

## Ian Matteo Garcia Turcios, 6, Watford City, ND

A Funeral Mass for Ian Matteo Garcia Turcios, 6, Watford City, ND, was held at 10 a.m., Monday, April 17, 2023, at the Epiphany Catholic Church, Watford City, ND. Matteo was laid to rest at Schafer Cemetery, Watford City, ND.

Visitation was held on Sunday, April 16, 2023, from 3-6 p.m., at Epiphany Catholic Church, Watford City, ND. Following the interment ceremony there was a luncheon at the Civic Center, Watford City, ND. Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Watford City, ND, is assisting the family. The Funeral Mass will be livestreamed and can be viewed on [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

Ian Matteo Garcia passed away Saturday, April 8, 2023, at the age of 6, in a tragic accident.

Matteo was born in Guatemala on Sept. 12, 2016 to his parents, Herla Turcios and Juan de Dios Garcia. He was by nature the happiest child full of joy for life who loved music, dancing and playing with his cousins. Two of his favorite things about Guatemala were visiting his great-grandmother at the farm “El Caracol” and playing with his dog Rintin. In 2021, Matteo and his family moved to the United States in pursuit of a better future. He loved going to school, his favorite subject was math, and playing at recess with his friends. Matteo loved to travel and always packed his own luggage, a very independent and organized boy. Like any typical young brother, Matteo admired his older brother, Juan de Dios, and wanted to be exactly like him and with the arrival of his newborn brother he was extremely excited to be a big brother! Matteo loved to pray and thank God for his blessings like the sun, flowers, his home, bed, toys, family, and his friends. His favorite prayers were ‘The Lord’s Prayer and Hail Mary’.

Although Matteo was small in stature, he had a huge love for the Lord, his family and all those who came in contact with him.

Tough his life was brief; his memory lives on in his family and friends. Matteo is survived by his parents Herla and Juan de Dios Garcia, his two brothers Juan de Dios and Vincent, and grandparents Juan Jose Turcios, Maria de Jesus Samayoa, Luvia Najera and Guillermo Garcia, aunts, uncles and many cousins.

## Rex Renstrom, 70 Sidney, MT

Memorial services for Rex Renstrom, 70, Sidney, MT, are at 2 p.m., Thursday April 20, 2023, at Richland Opportunities, 1101 Silurian Lane, Sidney, MT, with Pastor Tim O'Shields officiating. Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home, Sidney, MT, is assisting the family.

In lieu of flowers memorial may be made in Rex's name to the ROI Foundation or a charity of one's choice. Remembrances, condolences, and pictures may be shared with the family at [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com).

Rex Allen Renstrom was born on Sept. 23, 1952, St. Paul, MN, to Robert and Alice (Sanders) Remstrom. He grew up and attended schools in Minnesota. Dale Rongstad became Rex's friend and in 1992, they moved to Sidney, MT. Dale was moving back to Minnesota, but Rex had made his home Sidney, MT, so he wanted to stay. Dale's sister, Avis Hansen, became Rex's guardian. In April 1993, Rex became a part of the ROI family. While at ROI, Rex worked in the recycling and janitorial job crew for area businesses. Rex worked for many years for Raleigh Peck at Radio Shack/ ElectricLand. Rex really enjoyed his independence. He was very proud of his home and liked to show it off.

Rex enjoyed riding his bike all over town (and sometimes out of town!), going to the casinos and gambling, and spending time with his cats. He also really enjoyed interacting with the ROI's staff's children.

Rex was a funny man with a great sense of humor. He liked to make people laugh. He enjoyed coloring his hair and getting perms. A good friend of his called him “Sexy Remy” and told him he looked even sexier with bright red hair.

He was a man with strong opinions and was not afraid to state them to anyone that would listen.

Rex passed away on Monday April 10, 2023, at the Sidney Health Center, Sidney, MT with friends by his side.

Surviving him are his ROI family, his Extended Care family, and his many friends.

Preceded in death by his parents; his siblings; his friend Dale Rongstad and Avis Hansen.



Ian Matteo Garcia Turcios



Rex Renstrom

## Sidney Senior Scavenger Hunt May 21

The Sidney High School Seniors graduate on Sunday, May 21 and a group of junior parents are putting together an event for the senior class from 9 p.m.-dawn.

Students will scavenger hunt around town for prizes and “money”. At dawn they will have a Chinese style action for prizes.

Organizer Robyn Heck said, “If it keeps one person from drinking on graduation night, it will be worth it.”

Heck and her committee are collecting donations and funds for the event. If you would like to contribute with a donation or be open to participate in the event, please contact Robyn Heck at 406-480-0704, [robynheck@hotmail.com](mailto:robynheck@hotmail.com), or send a Facebook message.

Let's gift this graduating class with a positive memory they will never forget.

## Sidney Wrestlers Place 5th In Iowa

The Sidney wrestling team competed in Des Moines, IA, April 1-2 coming home with 5th place.

They wrestled teams from Nebraska, Tennessee, South Dakota, Iowa, and Wyoming.

Individual results are as follows: Bodee Bright, 4-4; Gordan Knapp, 7-1; Eli Lonski, 2-6; Carson Propp, 2-6; Brenner Mullin, 4-4; Brody Keysor, 7-1; Aaron Schmitz, 7-1; Aaron See, 3-6; Ty Schepens, 6-2; Thor Fulgham, 4-4; Cooper Fulgham, 3-6.



2023 Richland County Spelling Bee



1<sup>st</sup> Grade winners (L-R): 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kylie Cheek, Sidney; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Liam Kuylen, Savage; 3rd Place: Hadley Rosaaen, Sidney



2nd Grade winners (L-R): 1st Place: Cash Copple, Sidney; 2nd Place: Ryder Simard-Fitzgerald, Rau; 3rd Place: Kree McNally, Rau



3rd Grade winners (L-R): 1st Place: Landon Uran, Sidney; 2nd Place: R. J Saenz (Rubin), Sidney; 3rd Place: Rosalie Stevenson, Brorson



The Richland County grade school spelling bee was held April 15 at West Side Elementary in Sidney. Pictured are 4th Grade winners (L-R): 1st Place: Jazmyne Klein, Sidney; 2nd Place: Marrett Haralson, Sidney; 3rd Place: Revel Goss, Lambert



5th Grade winners (L-R): 1st Place: Kenzley VanEvery, Sidney; 2nd Place: Josey Harrell, Fairview; 3rd Place: Allvia McClearen, Sidney



6th Place winners (L-R): 1st Place: Henry Truax, Sidney; 2nd Place: Jacob Barnett, Sidney; 3rd Place: Garrett Partin, Sidney

NDHSA To Set New Basketball Classifications

By Robyn Heck

The North Dakota High School Association (NDHSA) approved an updated draft for a 3rd division of basketball classification, Feb. 8, 2023,

The new classification system will be as follows: Class AA will have a high school enrollment above 650, Class A can have an enrollment of 162.5-649, and Class B will have below 162.5 students. This will be implemented the 2023-2024 school year.

Alexander will remain class B and will now be District 7, and Region 4,” said, A.J. Allard, Alexander high school boys basketball coach and elementary principal. “Our new district will now include District 8 which includes 11 schools from around the Minot area. There is a challenge opportunity at the region tournament to make the state tournament. Each region will now take two teams, instead of one. However, the setup is different from what Montana currently does. Our challenge game will involve challenging a team from another region.”

Alexander is excited to see what the new system brings as a competitive stance. “We look forward to playing some new teams around the region,” said Coach Allard.

Terrille Jacobson, Alexander athletic director and 4th grade teacher, was a member of the NDHSA planning committee. “I was asked last spring to represent northwest North Dakota as well as Class B, on the 3-class system focus group. There were 12 from around the state that got together 2-3 times per month for Zoom meetings. We did 1 in-person meeting last fall. The most challenging aspect of the plan, that was adjusted many times, was the cutoff numbers between the classes. We also had to take into account co-ops that currently existed and we tried to foresee the impact the suggested plan would have on them,” said Jacobson.

Once they established an outlined plan, they were happy with, they needed support from other schools within the state. Each school was asked to submit a letter of support or denial to the focus group by the end of October. “We fortunately got the number of letters we needed to approach NDHSA with our proposal. It then was in their court to decide if their board would vote to implement the 3-class plan,” said Jacobson.

The decision was made to go with the plan (with a few modifications to our original proposal), with next year’s basketball season being the start of this pilot program. “I grew up in Montana, and since our new Class B format now allowed two teams to advance to the state tournament rather than one as we currently do, I pushed for the elimination setup that MHSAs uses. After much discussion, we did opt for a challenge game, even though we kept the current North Dakota format of first round, single elimination. One of the modifications NDHSA made was to not have that challenge game involve the 2nd and 3rd place finishers from one region, but to cross-over and challenge those from another region.

It is an interesting concept and I look forward to seeing how it plays out. It was a great experience being on this focus group committee. I’m excited to see three classes in North Dakota after all these years,” said Jacobson.

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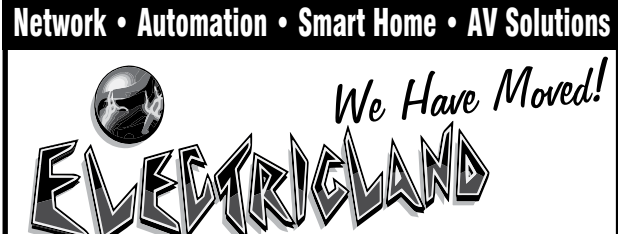
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# HEALTH AND SAFETY *Special Section*

## After Months Of Searching For Good Officers; Sidney Police Department Is Fully Staffed & Ready To Keep The Peace

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
The Sidney Police Department has been serving the City of Sidney since 1915. 108 years later the officers are still protecting the lives and property of the city's citizens.  
According to Chief Mark Kraft, "The fundamental duty of all law enforcement in the state is keeping the peace." This gives them many tasks. Besides the usual traffic control, keeping the peace, and apprehension of criminals, Sidney's officers also do welfare checks and patrols near the schools, businesses, and housing areas during the day and after dark. Since Sidney does not have an animal control separate from the police, they also pick up stray pets and handle other tasks an animal control officer would handle in another town.  
The officers also participate in community outreaches such as the Cool Off

With Cops and Cookies With Cops events put on by Drug-Free Communities and the Richland County Housing Authority. Officers are even asked to do talks in Sidney High School's government class.  
Sidney Police Department is now fully staffed with a force of 12 human officers and one canine officer. They were recently approved by the city council to add a drug task force officer, which will bring the number of human officers to 13. In 2022, they welcomed officers Joel Rosales, Tyler King, James Drager, and K9 Ringo to the force. Future men and women officers are trained in Sidney before going to Helena for the police academy. Ringo, on the other hand, went to a kennel in Pennsylvania with his future partner, Officer Gomke, for his training.  
Chief Kraft does what he can to recognize the offi-

cers under him for the hard work they do. In October 2022, Chief Kraft nominated two of his officers, Brett Norby and Jonathan Ryal, for awards at the Montana Association of Chiefs of Police (MACOP) conference recognizing their performance during events that happened in 2021. Officer Norby was awarded the 2022 MACOP Officer of the Year award and Officer Ryal was awarded the 2022 MACOP Lifesaving Award. In 2023, Chief Kraft awarded Corporal James Fletcher, with the Sidney Police Department Officer of the Year award at the Sidney Chamber Annual Banquet and New Business Showcase in January. Chief Kraft said, "It's an honor to lead the officers that we have and to guide this department in a way that will benefit the Sidney community."



Sidney Police Department is now fully staffed and ready to step in and keep the peace in Sidney. Pictured are, top row (L-R) Chaplain Michael Backhaus, Officer Brett Norby, Lt. Gabe Zeiler and Chaplain Paul Tureck; middle, (L-R) Officer Max Fletcher, Officer Tanner Gomke, Chief Mark Kraft and Corporal James Fletcher; bottom, (L-R) Officer James Drager, Corporal Dan Nieman, and Captain Travis Rosaen. Not pictured is Officer Jonathan Ryal, Officer Tyler King, Officer Joel Rosales and Ringo. (Photo submitted)

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

Special Section

# Sidney Health Center Rehabilitation Services

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
The staff members of the Sidney Health Center

Rehab are all settled in and ready to serve the patients that come to them for re-

habilitation services and cardiac rehabilitation. Sidney Health Center's

Rehabilitation Services currently offer physical, occupational, speech, cardiac,

and pulmonary services. The well-trained staff treats patients with various musculoskeletal, neurological, metabolic, systemic, genetic, integumentary, and general medical problems throughout the lifespan from newborns to geriatric clientele offering physical therapy, occupational therapy, aquatic therapy, cardiac rehab, dry needling, women's health, and lymphedema therapy. In July 2022 they moved from their location on the 14th Ave. side of the campus to the 12th Ave. side behind the medical arts building. This section of the building is newly remodeled and sports a private outside entrance, large windows, and a spacious workout area for patients who have been referred to one of the rehabilitation programs. According to Nicole Keysor, rehabilitation services director, "The staff prides itself on a compassionate and caring approach to patient care while helping clients achieve goals related to optimizing recovery, maximizing functional independence, and enhancing comfort levels." Of those on hand, there are six physical therapists of which one is the director of the department, one rehab aide, one occu-

pational therapist, one cardiopulmonary rehab supervisor, one cardiopulmonary rehab aide, and one office manager totaling 11 staff members. Sidney Health Center is currently looking for a speech-language pathologist and bringing the total to 12. Jennifer Doty, CEO, said, "In line with Sidney Health Center's strategic plan, the need to relocate the rehabilitation services became evident as building improvements and future projects were identified to meet the ever-changing needs of the community. In the last year, the rehabilitation program has continued to grow with the successful recruitment of additional physical therapists and the addition of aquatic therapy services in July 2021. The move not only accommodates the growth of these programs but makes room for expansion in other areas." According to the Sidney Health Center website, [www.sidneyhealth.org](http://www.sidneyhealth.org), Rehabilitation Services can be reached at 406-488-2166. They are open Monday-Friday from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. The inpatient schedule for holidays and weekends varies and special appointments are available upon request.



The Sidney Health Center rehabilitation staff, top row from left, Nicole Keysor, DPT, rehab director; David Laber, DPT, Vince McGothlin, MS OT/L, Kirby Halvorson, DPT, Bess Reid, DPT, Lori Nelson, CNA, physical therapy aide. Middle, Tara Bright, CNA, cardio/pulmonary aide; Brandie Azure, office supervisor; Yin Yu, DPT, and Jace Everett DPT. Lower, Lori Hasselstrom, cardio/pulmonary supervisor, who prides herself on a compassionate and caring approach to patient care. (Submitted photo)

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# Watford City Police Department Is There For The Community, Because Of The Community



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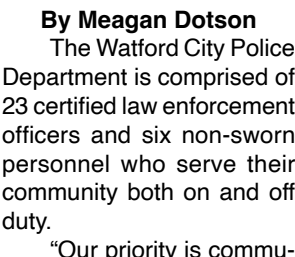
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CSO Bailey Nations



CSO Benjamin Green



**By Meagan Dotson**  
The Watford City Police Department is comprised of 23 certified law enforcement officers and six non-sworn personnel who serve their community both on and off duty.  
“Our priority is community involvement whether it is our community BBQ, National Night Out, the first weekend in August, our car seat checks, and everything in between,” said Jeffrey Jensen, Watford City Police Department public information officer who has been with the department nine of



Executive Assistant Amanda Eisenschenk



Administrative Assistant Ciera Ell



Evidence Technician Addie Magnuson



Administrative Assistant Jana Ratkovich



K9 Kilo

his ten years in law enforcement. “We take the community into consideration with every decision we make.”

One new way the police department will be able to better serve Watford City and the surrounding area is with the recent purchase of a 2023 Polaris Ranger which will be utilized during medical calls that are inaccessible to ambulances, during search and rescue operations, during natural disasters such as snowstorms, and during community events where it is difficult to maneuver a patrol vehicle through crowds.

The need for a utility task vehicle (UTV) became painfully clear after the blizzard that hit the area in April 2022, at which time law enforcement was unable to get an individual to their home due to the amount of snow.

“Officers urged him to stay at a hotel room being provided free of charge, but he was insistent that he go home. Because he was of sound mind, we couldn’t prevent him from leaving. Officers gave him a ride as

close to his home as they could access and he was going to walk the rest of the way, but unfortunately, he didn’t make it,” Jensen sadly recounted. “This fatality and the major storm events showcased the need for our agency to get a UTV.”

City council tasked law enforcement to fundraise for the vehicle, and in less than nine months they raised over \$82,000. The Watford City Police Department is still taking donations to outfit the UTV with necessary search and rescue equipment.

“We were more successful than we ever imagined we would be with fundraising and this is a great addition to the fleet. We have to stay relevant with the times and be able quickly and safely respond to people who are having the worst day of their life,” Jensen explained.


In addition to what law enforcement does on-the-job, many, including Jensen,

are part of the Watford City Police Foundation which is composed of law enforcement officers from every agency. The organization was established in 2016 and took their own spin off ‘Shop with a Cop’ to create the Blue Santa program. Families in need all across McKenzie County receive \$150 worth of necessities such as clothes, as well as something fun for Christmas. This program serves kids from newborns to high school seniors. The Watford City Police Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that is operated solely through fundraising and donations. Their mission is to give back to the youth of the community, which they have successfully done, donating \$20,000-\$30,000 each year to youth and youth programs. For instance, they donated \$1,000 to the Watford City School district and \$1,000 to Alexander for post-prom and post-gradu-

ation activities. They have donated to the non-profit organization “Running Free”, which promotes addiction free living and running. This is the third year they have offered two \$500 scholarships. These scholarships are for students interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, nursing, EMS services, and firefighting.

“We have incredible support from the community and that’s been a phenomenal thing. The Watford City Police Foundation is always looking for businesses and individuals who would like to donate, and the Watford City Police Department is recruiting,” he added.

Anyone interested in donating to the Watford City Police Foundation can email them at [wcpfoundation@hotmail.com](mailto:wcpfoundation@hotmail.com). To make donations to contribute to equipment for the UTV, please contact Officer Jensen at [jjensen@nd.gov](mailto:jjensen@nd.gov).



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# Fairview’s Police Department, Small But Happy to Serve

**By Jaymi Mozeak**  
Being a small town in eastern Montana, Fairview does not need a large police department but the few

officers have worked just as hard as the ones in other departments to protect their town. According to <https://resources.workable.com>, a

police officer “is responsible for law enforcement and public safety. They provide emergency services by responding to calls and investigating crimes.” This gives Fairview officers many tasks. Besides the usual fighting crimes, Fairview’s officers also do welfare checks, bar walk-thrus, and patrols near the schools, businesses, and housing areas during the day and after dark. Since Fairview does not have an animal control separate from the police, they also pick up stray pets and handle other tasks an

animal control officer would handle in another town. The officers also participate in community outreaches such as doing talks at the local schools and the Cookies With Cops event put on by Drug-Free Communities and the Richland County Housing Authority. Fairview just lost its police chief and is looking for a new chief and another part-time officer. Their department would be fully staffed with five officers but currently is composed of two full-time officers and one part-time officer. When former Police Chief Wyatt

Uecker stepped down into a part-time position, Officer Whitney Hergert, who has worked at the Fairview Police Department for 2 ½ years, stepped up and is currently, the Acting Assistant Chief. Acting Assistant Chief Hergert said, “I think I’ve brought a female’s perspective to policing. That is unique in Fairview.” Her

counterpart, full-time Officer Aleacia Braaten, has worked for the Fairview department for seven months. Officer Uecker had been a police officer in Montana for 12 years with 10 of it being in Fairview before he took the Police Chief position in September 2022. All three are happily out on patrol serving their community.



Pictured (L-R) Officer Uecker and Officer Braaten happily passed out candy to Fairview kids during the community Trunk or Treat event. (Facebook picture)



Officer Hergert was asked to visit with Troop 2433 in August to do a talk for the local children. (Facebook picture)

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

Special Section

# Meet McKenzie Health’s Rehabilitation Department Therapists

**By Meagan Dotson**

The McKenzie County Health Center Rehabilitation Department, Watford City, has been an asset to the community since it was established in 1993, starting out with just one physical therapist. Now, as part of McKenzie Health, it has grown to include three physical therapists, one physical therapy assistant, and one occupational therapist.

The Rehabilitation Department can assist patients with an increased range of motion, improved function, pain reduction, proper alignment, post-surgery rehabilitation and more.

Physical therapist, Corey Samuelson, doctor of physical therapy and rehab manager, was born and raised in Watford City and has been a physical therapist for 16 years. He graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2007 with a doctorate in physical therapy and returned to Watford City in 2009.

“I moved back home to raise a family and help grow the rehab department which only employed a traveling physical therapist at the time,” said Samuelson. “I personally went through multiple athletic injuries and orthopedic surgeries starting in high school and through-

out college. Following my surgical procedures, I ended up going through many hours of physical therapy, which ended up sparking my interest in the field.”

Samuelson specializes in orthopedic/athletic injuries, vertigo, custom orthotics, wound care, and aquatic therapy.

When asked if there were any specific challenges finding therapists, Samuelson stated, “Being in a rural community there are always challenges to hiring, from cost of living to housing. But I’ve been very fortunate to hire some great therapists that have been with McKenzie Health for many years and love serving our community.”

Lynly Hebert has been an occupational therapist for just over 11 years and started at McKenzie Health in January 2018. Originally from southwest North Dakota, Hebert was living on the west coast when she decided that she wanted to be closer to family and recalls that Watford City was the first location in North Dakota that really stuck out.

While the objective of physical therapy is to assist with pain relief and restore motion and mobility, the purpose of occupational therapy is to help people live as

independently as possible.

“At McKenzie Health, OT primarily works on maximizing functional independence and safety with activities of daily living,” Hebert explained. “We categorize these as tasks such as dressing, bathing, grooming, work skills, cooking, laundry, etc. I will also work with patients after injuries to the hand, wrist, and elbow.”

Her interest in the field was sparked while visiting family members during their OT appointments.

“I was intrigued by the profession and that is what ultimately led me to apply to OT school,” she stated.

Jessica Robinson has been a physical therapist for 14 years and joined McKenzie Health in 2013 after relocating from northern Minnesota for her husband’s job.

“I knew I wanted to be in the healthcare field. I had wanted to pursue sports medicine but chose physical therapy as the work schedules were more family friendly,” she explained.

Lexyn Walker has been a physical therapist for four years, and is the newest addition to McKenzie Health’s Rehab Department. She joined the team in March of this year.

“I decided to become



Corey Samuelson



Jessica Robinson



Lynly Hebert

a physical therapist when my twin sister tore her ACL in high school and physical therapy helped her get back to playing basketball. I also became interested in this profession by seeing how physical therapy helped to keep my grandparents at home,” said Walker.

Originally from Plevna, MT, she graduated from Rocky Mountain College, Billings, MT. She went on to the University of Mary, Bismarck, ND, for physical therapy school. After living and working in Helena, MT, she spent the next two years as a traveling physical therapist in Montana and North Dakota.

Walker moved to the

area to be closer to family, and recently got engaged, solidifying her decision to become part of the excellent team at McKenzie Health.

“I have my LSVT BIG certification which is a program designed to address the movement disorder and coordination that is a result of Parkinson’s Disease. I have my OCS which is Orthopedic Certified Specialist for improved treatment with orthopedic injuries and sports. I also have taken additional courses in pelvic floor and treat various pelvic floor issues such as incontinence/leakage, pain with intercourse, issues during pregnancy, as well as post-partum. Additionally, I

have my dry needling certification, so I supplement my treatment plan with dry needling to address painful and tight muscles to assist patient’s tolerance to strengthening and return to activities,” she explained. Walker added, “I am excited to be a new addition to McKenzie Health and look forward to helping members of the community return to their activities pain free!”

Residents of Watford City and the surrounding area can rest assured that should they ever need rehabilitation services; they will be in good hands with the experience and expertise of the therapists at McKenzie Health.

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