

2020-2021

# DISCOVERING THE MONDak



**FREE**  
Please  
Take One

*Pictured is the late Russ Wells fishing in the MonDak*

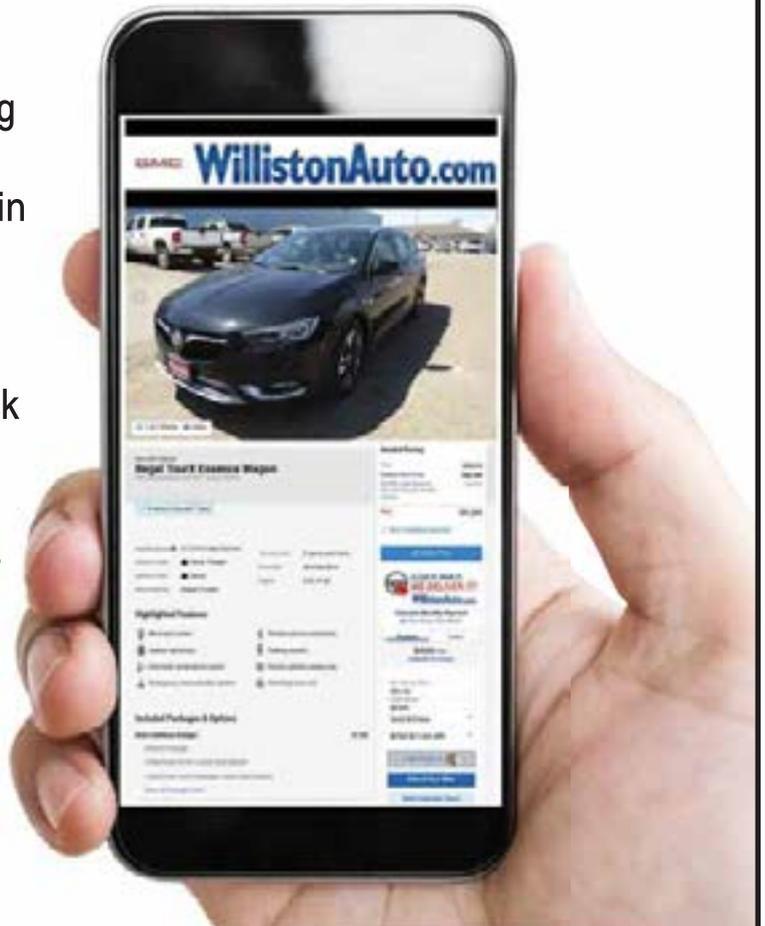
A Guide To Attractions, Events & The Rich Heritage Of The Montana-Dakota Territory  
**Sidney, MT ♦ Watford City, ND ♦ Williston, ND**  
— And Surrounding Communities —



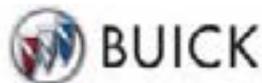
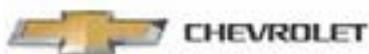
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# Welcome To The MonDak!

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# The Roundup

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### Take a stroll down the path of history...

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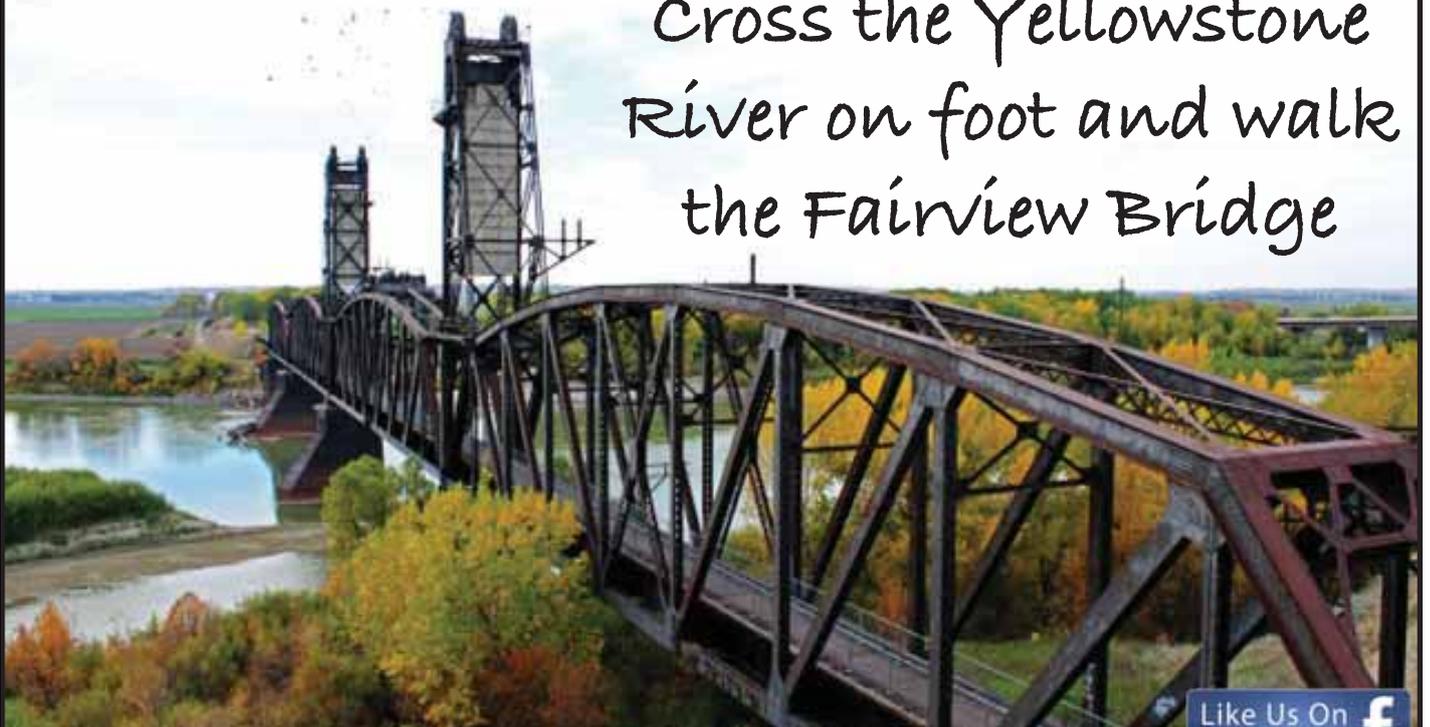


Photo by Judd Burman Photography

Sponsored by Friends of the Fairview Bridge



# Welcome To Montana's Sunrise City!

The Sidney community welcomes you warmly to our home and invites you to relax and enjoy our many treasures in our city. Despite our remote area, you can find your favorite chain restaurants as well as numerous loved local restaurants, which have delighted the taste buds of our residents and visitors for years. Our restaurants are known for serving the best steaks and pizza in the region, but you can also find Chinese restaurants, Mexican restaurants and sushi in our area.

Sidney's downtown area features a great variety of shops whether you're looking for the latest in women's clothing, automobiles, furniture, jewelry or boutique items.

If you are looking for a location that is rich in history, adventure and agriculture, Sidney, MT and the MonDak area have plenty to offer visitors.

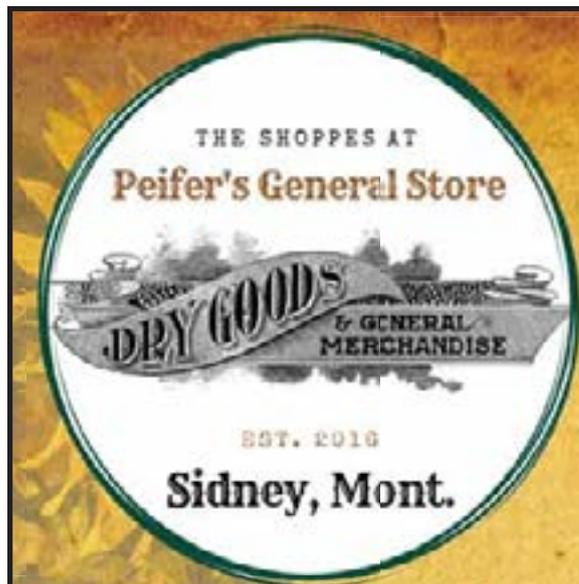
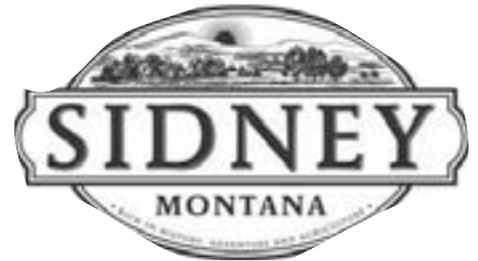
By making just a short drive across the North Dakota border, visitors can observe the treasures of Fort Union and Fort Buford. During the 1800s, Fort Union was the key fur trade post on the Upper Missouri River. There were more than 25,000 buffalo robes and \$100,000 worth of items traded annually at Fort Union. During the middle of June each year, Fort Union's extremely popular Rendezvous takes place, which features a variety of period arts, crafts and music. Fort Buford, meanwhile, offers remnants of a frontier military post built in 1866. Fort Buford still features a stone powder magazine, the post cemetery site and large officers' quarters.

Just a mile east of Fort Buford is the extremely informative Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center that provides the history of the confluence. Visitors can enjoy the same fantastic view at the rivers that the Lewis and Clark Expedition experienced in 1805-1806.

As far as adventure, few places in the United States offer the abundance of wildlife than can be seen in the MonDak area. The region is one of the few places in the entire world that can call paddlefishing home. The long paddle-like snout can identify the ancient fish, a close relative of sturgeons, long, tapered gill covers and the backbone bent up into the upper lobe of the tail fin.

Again, welcome to Sidney. Hope you will enjoy your stay!

The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, including the Sidney Visitors Information Center, is located at 909 S. Central Ave. Office hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on weekdays. To contact the Chamber, call 406-433-1916 or email [info.chamber@sidney-mt.com](mailto:info.chamber@sidney-mt.com). You are also encouraged to check out [www.sidneymt.com](http://www.sidneymt.com).



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# About the Cover Photo

## Russ Wells, Former Publisher of The Roundup

The MonDak region lost a newspaper icon last year. Russ Wells, born Dec. 5, 1945, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019 just a few months shy of his 74th birthday.

In 1994, Wells purchased The Roundup, which was located in Watford City. He moved The Roundup office to Sidney. In 2008 he sold The Roundup to his son, Jody, and in 2010 The Roundup office moved to its present location in the Yellowstone Marketplace building.

Wells moved to Florida after his retirement, but he returned to Sidney in 2017.

Wells first and foremost loved the news business. He enjoyed the photography aspect and found his niche in the investigative part of newspaper work. He would see a problem in each city, dig into it, and look for ways to solve the problem through the voice of his newspaper.

Wells was very community oriented. He possessed a great talent for advertising and raising awareness of an event that promoted the town and surrounding area.

Wells also was very agriculture oriented. His ideas and vision created the monthly Ag Roundup to promote and highlight agriculture in the area. He developed the Ag Days Trade Show, started the ag appreciation golf tournament, where, of course, the Roundup had the favorite hole, the Margarita Hole.

Wells always tried to focus on good news in his publications. He wanted correct, factual information, and wanted to promote events in a positive light so people would attend. The Roundup

succeeded in this endeavor as the paper covers all of Richland County, McKenzie County, and the surrounding area.

Wells also dearly loved fishing. He created the fishing page in The Roundup, awarding a new rod and reel to anyone submitting their photo to the page.

Wells will be missed. His many contributions to the MonDak region have benefitted both the public and the private sectors, and the community will continue to enjoy events that Wells initiated and promoted.

Russ Wells



# Richland County Fair & Rodeo

**"A Century of Community"** **August 5-8, 2020**

**See The Rodeos Thurs & Fri, Aug 6 & 7**

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**Friday, August 7th**

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**Thurs, August 6th**  
**Next Year's Fair: August 4-7 2021**

The Fairgrounds & Event Center are available to rent, call or email for scheduling • [www.richlandcountyfairandrodeo.org](http://www.richlandcountyfairandrodeo.org) • [jlaron@richland.org](mailto:jlaron@richland.org)

*The Show Window of Agricultural Achievement in Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota!*

# MonDak Heritage Center

## *Sidney, MT*



**J.K. Ralston's Buffalo Crossing the Missouri painted in 1931. This painting hung in the Richland County Courthouse from 1931 to 2006, when Richland County loaned it to MDHC for repair and restoration caused by water damage and age. Conservators completed restoration work in 2007.**

The MonDak Heritage Center (MDHC) is Eastern Montana's premier museum! With a mission to engage, educate, and inspire the community by preserving and contributing to the area's arts, culture, and heritage, MDHC offers many unique activities, experiences, and resources for local residents and visitors of all ages.

The museum features multiple exhibit galleries showcasing regional and national traveling exhibitions and annual art shows. The annual shows include: the Youth Art Show in March highlighting works from local students; the Quilt and Needlework Show in September full of vibrant colors and amazing designs; and the Miniature Art Show in November-January drawing entries in tiny scale from the across the country.

MDHC also features the MonDak "Main Street" history exhibit. Go back in time, and experience Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota through stories, artifacts, and photographs highlighting local culture, work, and life in the area while strolling down "Main Street." Highlights include replicas of Sidney National Bank and the Dore, ND Post Office, a homestead shack, train depot, doctor's office, saddle shop, and other displays.

The MonDak offers resources and opportunities for researchers and genealogists to discover new stories. The MDHC permanent collection consists of local and regional

art, including early works of famed western artist J. K. Ralston. The MDHC archives and Lillian Anderson Jensen Memorial Library house an extensive collection of manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, and other historical resources.

As the arts and cultural center of the region, MDHC offers musical experiences and the opportunity for hands-on engagement with arts and history. Notable programs include: youth art camps and after-school activities; art classes for children and adults ranging from wheel-throwing to glass fusion; living history talks and humanities programs; February's Celebrating Chocolate fundraiser and concert; special spring and summer events; the Oktoberfest celebration of music and beer; and MonDak Christmas in December.

Plus, the MDHC gift shop sells a variety of unique and interesting items from local artists, jewelers, and authors! It is THE place to find the perfect gift for friends, family, or yourself.

Admission is FREE. Located at 120 3rd Ave SE, Sidney, the MonDak Heritage Center is open Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 1-4 p.m. For more information call 406-433-3500, visit us online at [mondakheritagecenter.org](http://mondakheritagecenter.org) or find us on Facebook ([facebook.com/MonDakHeritageCenter](https://facebook.com/MonDakHeritageCenter)) or Instagram or Twitter @MonDakMuseum.



Left: The Donald G. Nutter exhibit is located in the Mon-Dak Heritage Center basement. Nutter was a Richland County native who served as Montana Governor in the 1960s. He tragically passed away in a plane crash while in office in 1962. The exhibit features an interactive display with actual audio recordings by Nutter.

Below: The Sidney National Bank display is from one of the first and longest standing buildings in the town of Sidney. The bank was once in the same building as the current Cheerio Lounge on the corner of Central Ave. and Main St.



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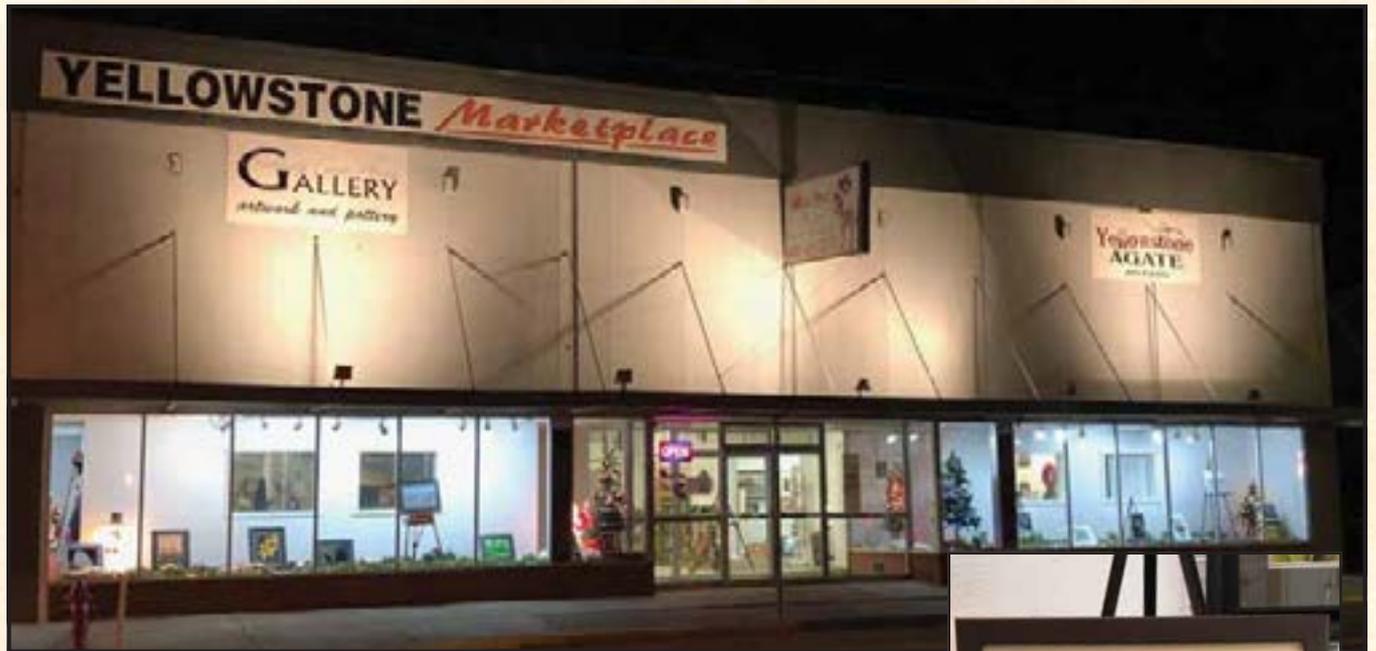
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# Sunrise Festival Of The Arts

## Sidney, MT

**By Bill Vander Weele, Sidney Chamber**

The 30th annual Sunrise Festival of the Arts, presented by XTO Energy, is scheduled for Sat., July 11, at Veterans Memorial Park, Sidney. The event connects local and regional artists, craftspeople and authors with shoppers and enthusiasts. The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Sunrise Festival Committee works tirelessly to plan and execute a full day of shopping, demonstrations, live entertainment, kids activities and food options. Purchase a Sunrise Festival button and redeem discounts offered by local merchants and enter to win prizes, including the annual grand prize: a piece of art from the featured artist of the year.

Sidney native Cole Fink of Fink Furniture has been selected as the Featured Artist for this year's Sunrise Festival of the Arts. Fink explained that he started working on wood pieces in 2012 while he was living in Germany with his wife, Erin, who was serving in the military at the time. His first effort was a coffee table for their home.

"Once I finished all the furniture for the house, I built a bar for the basement," Fink said. "I hadn't done any woodworking since high school in shop. For just getting started, it was OK."

The word quickly spread regarding Fink's woodworking talents.

"My friends wanted me to build their furniture," he said. "It kept getting bigger."

When the Finks moved back to Sidney in 2016, Fink Furniture began quickly in the area. "We got started right away, within my first month here," Cole said. "The nice thing about

a small town is word gets around fast."

He explains that he loves making pieces out of barn wood from old homesteads.

"Exploring old homesteads is most of the fun exactly," Fink said. "It's great using some of the memories from around here."

He really enjoys creating picture frames, bars, pool tables and shuffleboards. "Pretty much, I will try to build anything."

Cornhole boards are becoming very popular. He laughs that he made his first one quickly when friends were arriving for a visit from Minnesota. "And we didn't have any yard games," he said. "I didn't make it too fancy."

He now does great artwork with the cornhole boards. "We hand burn everything," Fink explained.

His favorite board spotlights the University of Montana Griz. "I had a portrait of a realistic grizzly bear with Northern Lights in the background," Fink said.

He added that rustic items remain big selling selections.

"People really like the rustic look. It's very popular," Fink said.

He plans to have smaller projects at the park for the Sunrise Festival of the Arts as well as a binder of past creations.



An outdoor swinging chair built by featured artist, Cole Fink.

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- Place holds by phone or on your library catalog account
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- Limited copy/print/fax services available through drop box only. Call for details

Sidney-Richland



County Library



121 3rd Ave NW • Sidney, MT  
406-433-1917 | Mon - Fri: 10am - 6pm

# Celebrating 100 YEARS ~ Richland County Fair & Rodeo! “A Century of Community”

We are celebrating 100 YEARS of Fair FUN this year! Please plan to join us at the 100<sup>th</sup> celebration of the Richland County Fair & Rodeo, Aug. 5-8. The Fair promises excitement for all ages, along with fun-filled days and nights!

The Fair started so many years ago as a small street fair and has now grown to entertain over 30,000 people year after year. The Fair became official in September 1920 and has continued to be successful ever since.

The Fair brings the community together to enjoy four fun filled days and nights. The community has always supported the Fair and what it has to offer from the many exhibits and vendors to the main events like rodeos and concerts. The Fair also has some of the best food in the region.

This year Brett Young with special guest The Bellamy Brothers will be on the big stage Saturday, Aug. 8 starting at 7 p.m. Dueling pianos group, Duely Noted, will be performing a free show in the arena/grandstand on Wednesday,

Aug. 5. The PRCA Rodeos will be held on Thursday, Aug, 6 and Friday, Aug. 7 at 7 p.m. presented by Brookman Rodeo. Thursday will be Military Appreciation Night and Friday will be Tough Enough To Wear Pink Night.

Entertainment throughout the day includes the many, many commercial, agriculture, school, and 4-H exhibits, food booths and carnival by North Star Amusements.

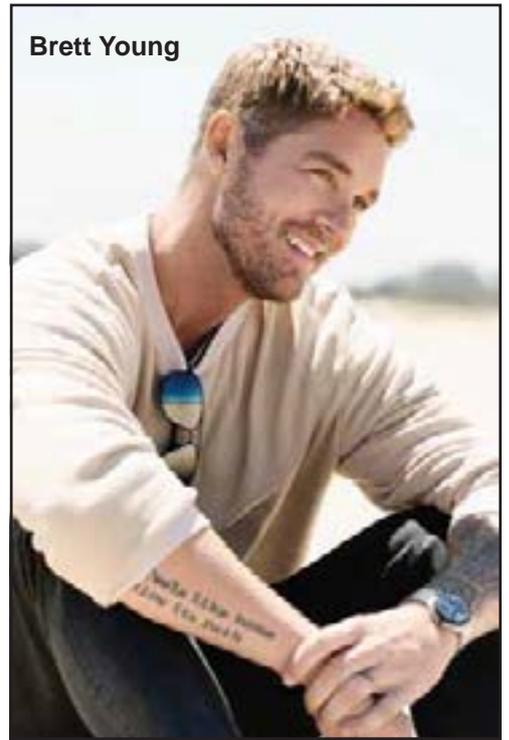
You won't want to miss all the daily free act entertainment including a balloon artist, a magician, musicians on the stage, a petting zoo, turkey races and a strolling act.

In honor of the Fair's Centennial Celebration there are merchandise items available to purchase...history book, limited edition rifle, umbrellas, just to name a few.

The Richland County Fair & Rodeo strives to make the Fair “fun for all ages.”

See you Aug. 5-8 for a community celebration.

Brett Young



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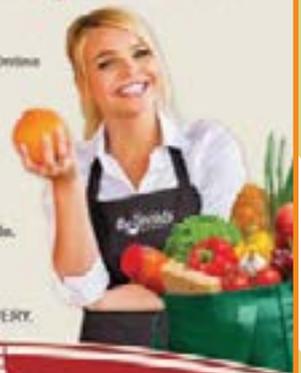
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# Lone Tree Gun Show

## A Popular Event For Over 26 Years

One of the most popular events in the MonDak, The Lone Tree Gun Show, will take place Aug. 14-16, 2020 at the Richland County Event Center, Sidney, MT.

Hours for the show are 5-8 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is only \$5 per day with children 12 and under free when accompanied by an adult. All federal, state and local gun laws are obeyed.

The popular show features 160 tables with guns, ammo, coins, knives and sharpeners, antiques and collectibles, fishing gear and more. Each year a raffle is held with prizes guaranteed to delight any sportsmen.

Proceeds from the event will be used to build a shooting range within Richland County through the Richland County Sportsmen's Club. For more information on the Sportsmen's Club, contact Larry, club president, at 406-489-0589.

For more information about the Lone Tree Gun Show, contact Leann at 406-480-5594.



Long time vendors Midge & Sandy Seyfert from Glasgow, MT. (Photo submitted by Leann Pelvit)

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# Richland County Library

## Sidney, MT

Thanks to its myriad of online programming, the Sidney-Richland County Library has created opportunities for engagement and enrichment as patrons navigate a world fundamentally changed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Patrons can attend any time they choose to watch story time, craft time or science experiments. Patrons also have a chance weekly to win Chamber Bucks during the library trivia event.

Everyone can "Imagine Their Story" during the annual Summer Reading Program. This year, participants of every age can join READsquared, either online or by downloading the app. The program provides a way to earn digital badges and complete missions and challenges. Everyone can still earn points that can be "spent" on raffle tickets for both weekly and grand prizes. Additional online programs will be provided, including Virtual BINGO and teen gaming opportunities.

Although the library facility is currently closed, patrons can still check out library materials via contact free curbside services, Monday.-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The library's collection includes so much more than books; almost 3,000 DVDs (movies & TV series), dozens of magazines and newspapers, mobile WiFi hotspots, board and card games, cake pans, and early childhood backpacks.

"I am proud of how our library has adopted and changed to meet the challenges of COVID-19. The safety of our patrons is at the forefront of all our decisions. We anxiously await the time

that our library can open its doors to the public again. We are extremely proud of our newly renovated and expanded library space that offers so many opportunities for patrons of every age," said Kelly Reisig, library director.

The library will offer a multitude of new offerings:

- Computer area for quiet study and research
- Computer area for teens
- Montana History Room
- Additional checkout area for a greater level of customer service
- Nonfiction area for upper elementary and teens
- Elevator for ease of access to all floors
- Teen programming area
- Children's programming area



For more information call the library at 406-433-1917, check the website at [www.richland.org/spl](http://www.richland.org/spl), or following its Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/sidneyrichland](https://www.facebook.com/sidneyrichland).

**Jack Siebenaler, 4, son of K.C. and Erin Siebenaler, completed a huge milestone by reading 1,000 books before kindergarten, a program promoted by Sidney-Richland County Library. (Submitted photo)**

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# Sidney Country Club

Sidney is home to the only 18-hole golf course in Northeastern Montana, and everyone is welcome to come and play! The course was started in 1929 as a 9-hole course, with volunteers providing the upkeep. The back nine was added in 2000, with a full maintenance team ensuring that the regulation course is in perfect condition. A golf professional is available to teach lessons, and a fully stocked pro shop provides everything you might need. Kids from 5 to 18 years old are encouraged to take part in the Jr. golf program, which runs all summer.

Memberships are available at Sidney Country Club. However, the general public is more than welcome. Green fees are \$32 for 9 holes and \$55 for 18. Carts and clubs are available to rent. Carts rent by the seat at \$10 for 9 holes and \$14 for 18. There is also a driving range, where you can just relax and hit a bucket of balls.

The club is open from 7 a.m. until dark through Labor Day, shorter hours during the fall, so there's ample opportunity for fun.

Whether you golf or not, the Sidney Country Club provides the perfect setting for lunch or dinner at The Fringe restaurant. The Fringe offers weekday lunches from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., unique pub style food Sunday-Thursday. A kid's menu is also available, and Sunday Brunch from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Crunched for time? You can also call ahead for take-out. A full

bar, which opens at 9 a.m. daily, compliments the restaurant. Groups large and small can be accommodated with privacy; with offsite service also available. The Fringe is also open, with limited hours, during the off-season.

Sidney Country Club is located on 2250 West Holly ST, Sidney. Call the Pro Shop at 406-433-1894 or The Fringe at 406-433-7460. Check out our website, [sidneycountryclub.com](http://sidneycountryclub.com), for more information on the facilities or to scan the menu.



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# Sidney's Parks And Recreation Offer Something For Everyone

Life under the Big Sky definitely lends itself to outdoor recreation, and the Sidney community provides a variety of outdoor recreation during the warmer months.

The City of Sidney has spent considerable time and energy upgrading Water Tower, Quilling's, and Lalonde parks in recent years. Water Tower Park received new fencing, with funds that Sidney Park Superintendent Stephanie Ridl, received from a Richland County Recreation Grant. Additionally, Sidney Public Works provided new dugouts and the Girls Slow Pitch Softball League donated new bases.

Quilling's Park has been equipped with new ADA compliant playground equipment with funds Ridl received from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant which includes an agility based gym for ages 2-12, new swings, two spring-ride surfers, and the popular climbing wall called the Matterhorn. ADA compliant ground cover was also put in which makes the playground more accessible to wheelchairs and strollers and benches give parents and caregivers a place to sit near the playground. While there were lots of changes to the local park, some equipment remains the same such as the stagecoach, and small play gym.

Lalonde Park received new swings, a Tenspin, and play



All of Suzie and Randy Kringen's grandkids paused from their playing for a quick pose at Lalonde Park in 2016.

gym, donated by the Kringen family in memory of Randy Kringen. Sidney Public Works Department installed the

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Lambert's Old Fashioned 4th of July  
Sunrise Festival of the Arts  
Fairview Old Timer's Festival  
Shakespeare in the Park

### AUGUST

Richland County Fair and Rodeo  
Lone Tree Gun Show  
Sidney Jaycees Demolition Derby  
Bakken Boom Run  
FCC Golf Scramble

### SEPTEMBER

Bootlegger's Ball  
Richland County Youth Rodeo  
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Upland Game Bird Season

### OCTOBER

Oktoberfest  
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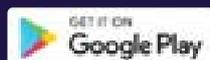
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At the Veteran's Memorial Park's Anderson Pavilion amphitheater a concrete pad and donated benches have been installed as well as an ADA compliant ramp.

equipment and funded the ADA compliant ground cover, border system and wheelchair ramp. As a result of this partnership, Lalonde Park was the first of Sidney's parks to be 100% ADA compliant. In 2017, Girl Scout Troop #2338 and

#2358 installed reclaimed bench seating to the playground as part of their Bronze Award project. The city has budgeted for the installation of a 175' split rail fence, which will separate the park from Holly Street.

Continued efforts to improve the amenities in Veterans Memorial Park funded through Ridl's Take Part in Our Park project have raised enough money to cover the cost of an ADA compliant ramp up to the Anderson Pavilion amphitheater, as well as the installation of a concrete pad for the donated benches. Any additional donations will help facilitate the completion of the seating area as well as new garbage can surrounds throughout the park. Thanks to an Eagle Scout project, the archway along Central Avenue was also constructed and the City plans to complete the archway this year.

Renovations at the South Meadow Softball Complex were completed just in time for Sidney to host the 2017 State Softball Tournament. Some of the projects included reconfiguring the layout of field #1 and #2, building new dugouts, installing new fencing as well as a flagpole.

In the fall of 2018, Kling Park playground equipment was removed and the installation of the new toddler park structures as well as a regulation size basketball court commenced. These upgrades were completed in April 2019. Ridl received funding from the Montana Accessible Playground Grant, a donation from the Sunrise Child Care Association along with funds from the City to complete this much-needed renovation. The new playground equipment focuses on children ages 2-5 and consists of a play gym, new swings



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including the Generation Swing, and free play climbing boulders (appropriate for 2-5 year olds). The playground area will host a new border system, ADA compliant ground cover and a wheelchair ramp.

The final phase of the Sherry Arnold Fitness Trail has been completed. This trail lies over an irrigation lateral that runs through town connecting West Side Elementary School and Sidney High School (a distance of 2.1 miles/3.38 kilometers), along with several Sidney attractions such as the downtown business district, the recently renovated tennis court facility, Hunter Dehner Memorial Skate Park, Svarre Municipal Pool, Moose Park baseball field, Veterans Memorial Park, Sidney's Arboretum, and Johnson Park. Additionally, in 2013, Richland County continued this vital trail onto county property that extends access to the Richland County Fairgrounds and Sidney Country Club (a distance of 0.57 miles/0.92 kilometers). The start of an adult fitness course is under way in Johnson Park. Half of the 11-piece obstacle course has been purchased with funds received from the Foundation for Community Care grant as well as the City. The construction on this will start in the fall.

Sidney's park system has much to offer, with over 50 acres of park area that include baseball facilities at Lyndale and Moose parks, softball at Water Tower and South Meadow Softball Complex, as well as other sports related amenities such as volleyball and basketball courts, recently renovated horseshoe pits, a four-court tennis complex, skateboard park, soccer and outdoor ice skating when weather is permitting.



Two area youngsters use the Sherry Arnold Fitness Trail.

Tennis courts are located on 2nd Ave SE across the street from Hunter Dehner Memorial Skate Park and next to the Arboretum.

Svarre Municipal Pool is another fixture of the community offering swimming lessons, open swim, adult swim, canoeing, lifeguard training, snorkeling, aqua aerobics when available, a splash deck, and waterslides. The pool is also equipped with an ADA compliant lift and approved steps.

The pool is located on the corner of 7th Ave SW and 6th St SW in Sidney.

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# Sidney Health Center

Sidney Health Center is a not-for-profit community based medical center that has been serving people in the MonDak region for more than 100 years. The passion for caring is shared by the doctors, nurses, and several hundred employees and volunteers. This commitment to service excellence is guided by Sidney Health Center's mission, "to help you achieve your highest level of health and well-being."

Located in the heart of Richland County, the attractive eastern Montana campus includes an acute care (25-bed) hospital, clinic area, cancer care center, certified sleep center, retail pharmacy and an extended care facility offering a complete range of services from birth through end-of-life. These primary areas are complemented by several outpatient services including radiology, laboratory and rehab services to name a few.

Sidney Health Center continues to invest in renovating and updating the facility. Through the years, renovations have included the addition of a new inpatient/outpatient surgery department, expanding the intensive care unit as well as transitioning inpatient rooms from semi-private to private.

Other significant improvements have included expanding the outpatient cancer care treatment to include radiation therapy with the installation of a TomoTherapy Hi-Art radiation therapy treatment system, which is one of the most advanced cancer treatment systems in the area. Since then, the cancer care center has seen significant growth and went through two remodels to accommodate the demand for treating medical and radiation oncology patients.

In 2019, Sidney Health Center completed a multi-phase remodel at the clinic to accommodate more medical providers

and create a more efficient utilization of the space to better serve patients. The remodel featured a consolidated primary care clinic as well as improvements to the specialty suites.

The clinic area is attached to the hospital providing convenient access to the clinic pharmacy and outpatient services. Twenty-six physicians and specialists offer family medicine, internal medicine, pediatric care, medical oncology, radiation oncology, pathology, radiology, aesthetic medicine, emergency care and surgical services including general, orthopedic, podiatric, obstetrics/gynecology and ear/nose/throat. In addition, ten mid-level providers, an audiologist and certified registered nurse anesthetists help round out the team. Several specialists visit on a regular basis to see patients in the following categories: cardiology, neurology, and urology.

As mentioned, Sidney Health Center has a nursing home facility on campus. Extended Care is a not-for-profit long-term care health agency providing various levels of skilled nursing care for elderly and physically disabled residents. The facility offers skilled nursing, intermediate care, respite and short stays, rehabilitation, adult day service, and specialized dementia care. Extended Care's goal is to eliminate the three plagues of long term care institutions: loneliness, helplessness, and boredom. The staff looks upon each person as unique and constantly strives to meet the needs of the body, mind, and spirit.

For a complete listing of services, upcoming events, and job openings at Sidney Health Center, please visit our website at [www.sidneyhealth.org](http://www.sidneyhealth.org).



**Sidney Health Center is located at  
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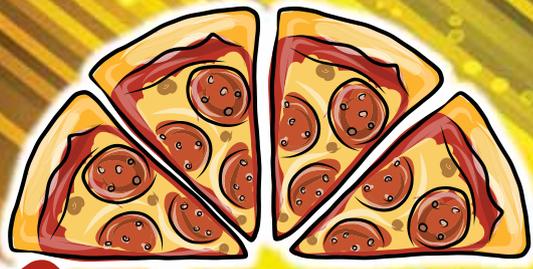


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# Richey Historical Museum

## Preserving The History Of A Small Town

With a desire to preserve the heritage of the community and local culture, families of the area established the Richey Historical Society in 1970. Focusing on homesteading families, the community's collection of items dating to the early 20th century gradually expanded. The group's hope of creating a local museum was realized in 1973 when the Society had raised enough money to purchase the museum's first building and celebrated its grand opening on Oct. 5, that same year.

The Richey Museum and Historical Society now consists of seven buildings that proudly display over 10,000 articles documenting local history and is located on Main Street.

The museum's vast expanse of items has all been donated by local families and businesses, including the five buildings added after the purchase of the main building. The outlying buildings include a Homestead Shack, Mercantile, the Lisk Creek School/Catholic Church, First National Bank of Richey/Post Office and the Richey Jail, with the most recent addition of an outhouse.

Unique to the Richey Museum are items and artifacts that once belonged to the early homesteaders of the area and businesses of the small community.

Visitors to the museum can expect to find items ranging

from a homestead kitchen, clothing from years gone by, to a printing press from Richey's first newspaper, The Richey Pilot. The original Fire Bell (used 1916-1945) is on display in the front yard and a brand board located behind the main building has the brands of area farmers and ranchers. A 1930s Ford Model A car (called the puddle jumper) steals the interest of many visitors. This high-wheeled car was used to deliver mail to rural areas during the winter months. It is housed in the back room of the main museum.

Visitors travel to the Richey Museum from across the United States. Many come to the museum to learn about their family history and to visit the area where their relatives lived. With all the items in the museum one is surely to find something that once belonged to a relative and be able to make family connections.

The small town museum is committed to preserving the history of the area. A newer item is the updated Lisk Creek School/Catholic Church and a Memorial bench outside the main Museum building.

The Richey Museum and Historical Society has decided to remain closed during this season due to the COVID-19 pandemic with plans to reopen the museum in 2021. For more information check their Facebook page.

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# Lambert Historical Society

## Lambert, MT

With hard work and dedication, the citizens from the Lambert area opened the Lambert Museum in 1977. The museum's historical exhibits depict the town's early beginnings. It also honors former Montana Governor Donald Nutter, a Lambert native born in 1915.

The museum showcases the Lambert area's heritage through various memorabilia. The saddler display includes a saddle from 1930 and a locally made harness dating back to 1917. Brands decorate the museum walls.

The Early Media exhibit includes items from Lambert's original printing office. The museum also features Cheyenne Country, which displays authentic Native American-made items such as headdresses, necklaces and moccasins. Citizens are particularly proud of a piece of artwork created by local artist Pamela Cayer Drewry that depicts the Three Buttes, a nearby landmark. Visitors can also inspect a working antique weaving loom, used to create rugs.

The Historical Society also added the Burgess Garage, located across the street from the museum, to the displays. The garage features a Country Craft Store with a variety of items made by local artisans, a second-hand store and many other exhibits from the museum including a dinosaur bone

display, old-fashioned buggies and sleighs along with antique machinery. The Burgess Garage is a Montana Historical Site.

Members of the Society are taking pictures and cataloging every item in the museum and putting this information into a database. In the near future, museum officials will have the capability to print these pictures and information for people on request.

The museum is located in Lambert, MT, off Hwy 200 and is currently closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For those interested in a tour of the museum call Juanita, 406-973-1197 or Bill, 406-774-3776 to set up a time. Free will donations are accepted.



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This sign for the Richey Historical Museum showcases local branding symbols.



Above left: A loom on display at the Lambert Museum.

Above right: The Richland County Leader exhibit at the Lambert Museum

This high-wheeled car was used to deliver mail to rural areas around Richey during the winter months.

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# Montana Agate Hunting

Eastern Montana can offer some beautiful and breathtaking scenery: from rolling plains to wooded river bottoms all under an endless sky so it isn't surprising that many of the recreational activities of the area happen outdoors. Agate hunting is a pastime unique to the area and agate hunters, or rock-hounds, come from all over the country to see what they can find.

Agates are a beautiful stone unlike any other, that are formed where past volcanic activity has occurred; the silica in the lava is what eventually forms the rocks and agates in this area come into the Yellowstone River from the Big Horn, Tongue, and Powder Rivers. The Montana Moss Agate is specific to the Eastern and Central parts of the state and experts surmise that is because they have naturally moved to lower land due to the land shifting over millions of years and the natural flow of the rivers. The Montana Agate is unusual in that they can display all the qualities of every other type of agate in the world; there are approximately 200 types of agates worldwide. They are classified according to the patterns or 'pictures' that are found on the inside of the rock after it's been cut; these pictures are formed due to the inclusion of different types of minerals.

There are two to three weeks in the spring that agate hunters can start their season off with, but as the weather warms, the June rise occurs as ice melts and the rivers rise with mountain water. Water levels begin to recede about mid-July, exposing sand bars and riverbanks, which are optimum picking grounds. While the best picking is earlier in the season, the most comfortable time for this hobby is later in the summer and into the fall, September and October if

the weather holds. Tom Harmon explains that this part of the state has a lot of flaxville gravel, which is where you're going to find agates, along with about thirty other types of rocks and so one must begin to train their eye to spot what they are looking for.



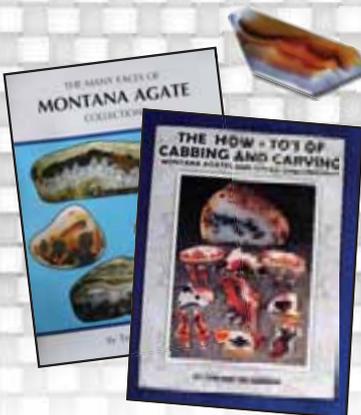
Agates have a rough outer crust that can be light or dark and have often been broken so that you can see a glimpse of what's inside. In this case, the rock can be rinsed and held up to the light; if the light comes shining through you can be sure you've found what you're looking for. Agates can develop a white crust on their exposed side if they have been exposed to the sun for long periods of time in creek beds and in summer fallow fields.

Tom Harmon has published four books about agate history, hunting, and polishing and cutting: *The River Runs North: A story of Montana Moss Agate*; *The How-To's of Cabbing and Carving: Montana Agates and Other Chalcedonys* (co-written with his son Jim Harmon); *The Many Faces of the Montana Agate*, and *"The World of Dentrines In Agate"*. All four books serve as extensive guides for those who are just getting started.

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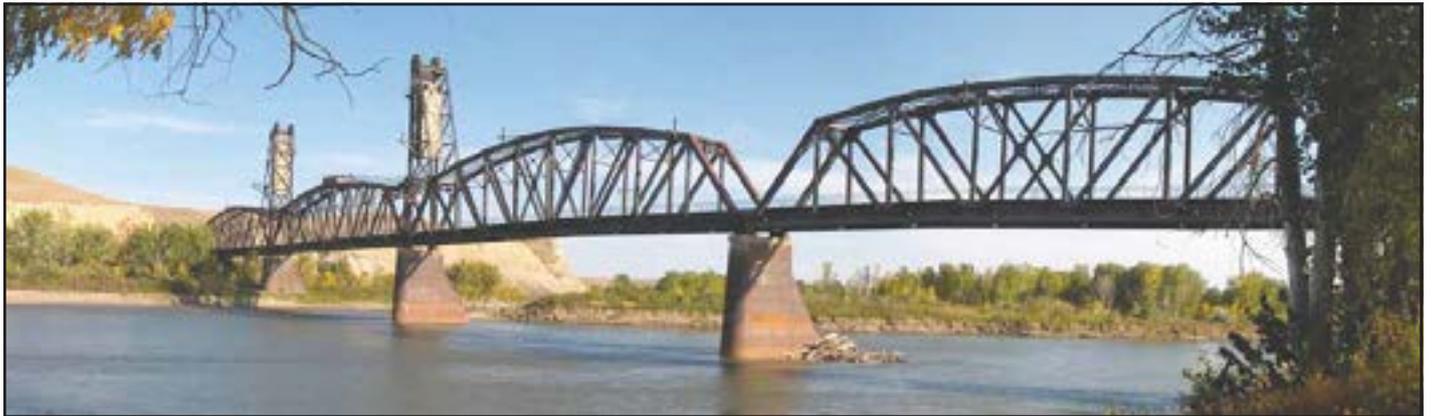
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# Fairview Bridge

## Located East of Fairview, MT



The Fairview Bridge, located 4 miles east of Fairview, MT, spans the Yellowstone River in North Dakota. Like the Snowden Bridge, it is also a vertical lift structure for rail and vehicular traffic. However the lift span cannot be moved. The only time the "lift" spans on the bridge were raised was in 1914 shortly after construction as part of a plan by the Great Northern Railroad for its never-completed Montana Eastern Railway. The bridge, unused since 1986, stretches 1,320 feet across the Yellowstone River and hangs about 100 feet above the water.

The bridge adjoins the only tunnel in North Dakota. Construction crews built the 1,458-foot long Cartwright Tunnel in 1912 and 1913, doing the digging by hand. Horse and mule-drawn scrapers and blasting powder were used in building the approaches.

The bridge is a wonderful walk down the path of history, with a walking surface and fencing making the bridge safe and enjoyable. A ramp and parking area provide accessibility to everyone.

For more information visit the Fairview Chamber's website at <http://www.midrivers.com/~fairview/bridges.html>.

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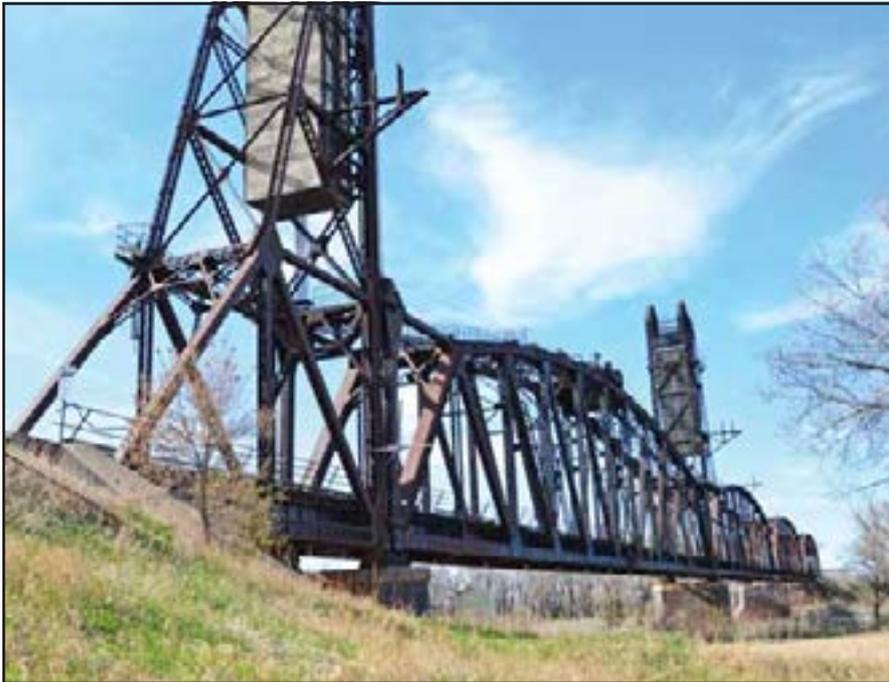
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# Snowden Bridge

***Located North of Fairview, MT***



The historic Snowden Bridge spans the Missouri River ten miles north of Fairview, MT.

Used until 1986, it was likely the only bridge left in the country that accommodated both rail and vehicular traffic. It is also one of the few vertical-lift bridges in the country. This bridge differs from the common drawbridge in that an entire section will lift to allow riverboat traffic to pass under the bridge. 1935 was the last time people raised Snowden's nearly 300-foot span. This allowed passage for a freight boat carrying materials for Fort Peck Dam. Engineers designed the most unusual aspect of the bridge, the lift span, so counter weights and accompanying machinery could be moved to other sections of the bridge should the navigation channel shift.

Snowden has a sister bridge that spans the Yellowstone River near Fairview.



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# Fairview...the Heart of the Yellowstone Valley

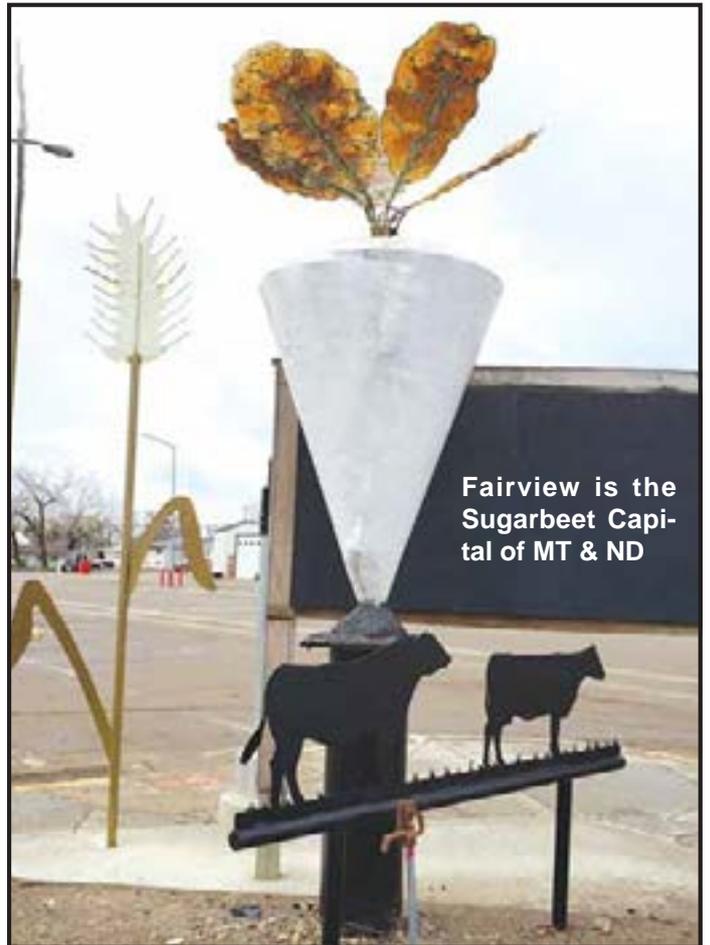
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# The Culbertson Museum



**Historical photos of Culbertson area residents.**

**Culbertson Museum**  
Visitor's Information Available

**Private tours begin June 1. To schedule, call:**  
"Preserving the past for the future." Jill ..... 406-248-0247  
Genny ..... 406-787-5368  
LeEtta ..... 406-787-7883  
Buddy ..... 406-787-7884



**Free Admission | 1 mile east of Culbertson on Hwy 2**

Have you wondered what it was like to step back in time to the days of the old west, when the land untamed and brave pioneers carved out a piece of land, where fron-

tier doctors practiced medicine, school teachers taught lessons to multiple-aged children in a one room schoolhouse, and cowboys sat around an evening campfire swapping stories? You can experience these things at the Culbertson Museum, where you can learn what life was like from the 1890's to the 1940's through a series of displays and artifacts that will make you feel as though you are right back there with the frontier legends.

In 2016, the museum celebrated its 25th anniversary, as it continues, "preserving the past for the future". From the start of the



museum, volunteers have dedicated their time in setting up rooms that display the feel of old Montana throughout the years. Inside the museum, displays depict an early days parlor and homestead and summer kitchen, a schoolhouse, barber and beauty shop, a saloon, doctor's office and a pharmacy. Outside visitors can see inside a blacksmith's shop, stagecoach and early days farm equipment and fire trucks. In addition there is a 1896 Sterling wood threshing machine. It's a perfect trip for young people who are interested in learning a part of Montana history or for history enthusiasts in general. The museum should now be open for regular hours through Sept., Mon.-Sun. from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum is located on Highway 2 E. Although there are no admission fees, donations are greatly appreciated. For more information call 406-787-6320 or watch for updates on the facebook page.



A vintage wedding dress on display in the chapel exhibit.



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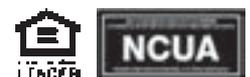
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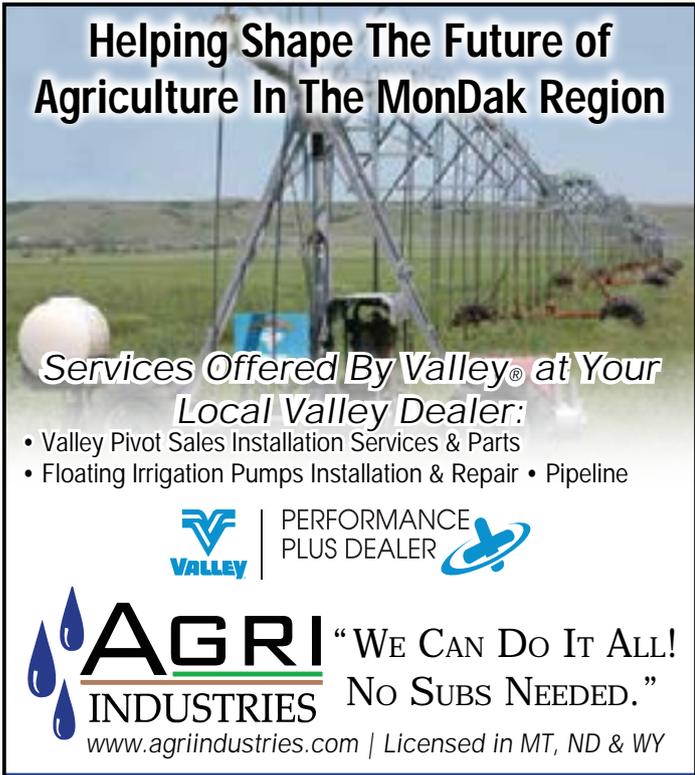
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## Pioneer's Pride Museum Bainville, MT



**This antique trunk was made in Norway in 1715. It made the voyage to the Peterson homestead in 1906.**

The Pioneer's Pride Museum located in Bainville, MT has an open area that allows for easy viewing of each of the displays. The museum features rooms furnished in pioneer days style. Two of the featured attractions include the old jail from MonDak and a 1929 fire truck. The museum celebrates local history through annuals and various displays.

Pioneer's Pride Museum is open from Memorial Day-Labor Day; Tuesday-Sunday from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Freewill donations will be accepted. For more information call Rochelle at 406-769-3091.



**1924 Bainville fire truck.**

# Fishing Access

## North Dakota Fishing Access

### Williston Area

American Legion Park (Raums): 4 mi W of Williston on Hwy 2, 6 mi S on Hwy 85, then 4 mi E.

Lewis And Clark State Park: 16 mi E of Williston on Hwy 1804, then 3 mi S.

Whitetail Bay (Lund's Landing): 22 mi E of Williston on Hwy 1804.

Confluence Area: 1.5 mi S of Buford on Hwy 1804.

Lewis And Clark Bridge: 4 mi W of Williston on Hwy 2, 3 mi S on Hwy 85, on S side of Missouri River, and E side of Hwy 85.

Blacktail Dam: 5 mi N, 5 mi W, 1 mi N of the junction of Hwy 2 & 85.

Cottonwood Lake: 1 mi E, .5 mi N of Alamo.

East Spring Lake Pond: N side of Williston.

Little Muddy River: E edge of Williston.

Tioga Dam: N side of Tioga.

Trenton Lake: S side of Trenton.

West Spring Lake Pond: N edge of Williston.

### Watford City Area

Tobacco Garden Creek Bay: 2 mi E of Watford City on Hwy 23, then 25 mi N and E on Hwy 1806.

Arnegard Dam: .5 mi W, 3 mi N, 1.5 mi SW of Arnegard.

Leland Dam: 11 mi S, 8 mi W, 8 mi S, 2 mi SW, 1.5 mi E, 1 mi N of Alexander.

Sather Dam: 11 mi S, 8 mi W of Alexander.

Kent Pelton Memorial Nature Park: SE side of Watford City.

## Montana Fishing Access

### Missouri River

Culbertson Bridge Access: 3 mi SE of Culbertson off Hwy 16. Day use only, boat ramp, toilet.

Lewis and Clark Fishing Access Site: 6 mi SE of Wolf Point off Hwy 13. Day use only, boat ramp, fishing, wildlife viewing, interpretive signs, historic bridge, toilet.

Snowden Bridge Access: 12 mi N of Fairview and about 1 mi W of the Missouri River bridge crossing. Fishing, camping, boat ramp, toilet.

### Yellowstone River

Seven Sisters: 11 mi S of Sidney off Hwy 16 near Crane. Fishing, campsite, agate hunting.

Sidney Bridge: 1.5 mi S of Sidney on Hwy 16, then 1.5 mi E on Hwy 23. Boating, fishing, toilet.

Richland Park: 5 mi N of Sidney on Hwy 16 then 2 mi E. Fishing, boating, swimming, hiking, biking, wildlife viewing. Camping with a pass or permit. BBQ grill, fire ring, picnic tables, restrooms, playground.

Sundheim Park: Located on ND 200 4 mi E of Fairview. Camping, fishing, boating, historic bridge.

Diamond Willow: 1.5 mi S of Sidney on Hwy 16, 2.5 mi E on Hwy 23, 7 mi NE on county road, 1 mi N on county road. Day use only, primitive site, hand launch, fishing, boating, wildlife viewing.

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**"To The Color"**

**By Pamela Harr**

Dedicated 11/11/16 in front of the Eastern Montana Veterans Home, Glendive. The title is the name of the bugle call to muster the troops. Pamela also created the life-sized bugler "TAPS" and flag covered casket at the Eastern Plains Veterans Memorial, Ft. Peck, MT.



**"Waiting For The School Bus"**

**By Pamela Harr**

In front of Dawson Co. High School, Merrill Ave., the inscription reads: "There are no bad days when you come home to a dog." Known locally as "The Dogs," this statue sits outside the school's business office and draws regular attention from visitors passing through.



**"The Heart of a Lion"**

**By Harvey Rattey 1938-2015**

Inducted into MT Cowboy Hall of Fame, this life-size sitting lion was made possible by Glendive's Lions Club and donors as a tribute to community volunteers. The lion sits in front of the EPEC events center and was dedicated July 11, 2019.



**"The Price"**

**By Pamela Harr**

This poignant bronze sculpture depicts the anguish of Narcissa Whitman, missionary and first white woman to cross the Rockies on the Oregon Trail, while she holds her child, Alice, who drowned in the river near their Walla Walla, Washington, mission in 1839.



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*Photo courtesy of United Country Montana - Dakota Real Estate*

# Makoshika State Park

## Glendive, MT

Makoshika State Park outside of Glendive is a sprawling, beautiful park in which there is both camping and hiking to be enjoyed. The park is also a hot spot of entertainment, especially in the summertime. Visitors can picnic, go bike riding or hiking, or watch for wildlife. There's also photography, disc golf (Frisbee golf), Friday night campfire program, Thursday morning youth program and special events on various days.

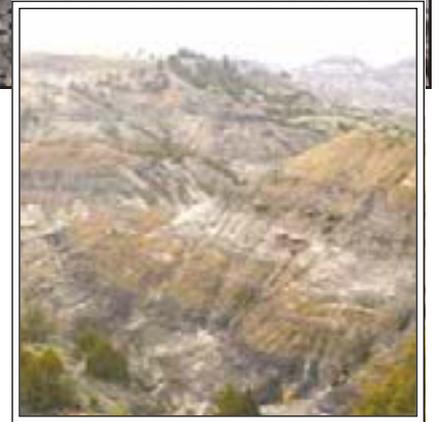
Amenities include a visitor center, flush and vault toilets, grills and fire rings, interpretative displays, a group picnic area and an outdoor amphitheater. Visitors are allowed to camp for 14 days within a 30-day period for a fee.

The park and its visitor center are open year round with the following hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 7 days a week; Labor Day to Memorial Day, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday.

Payment for any park fees can be made with cash, Mastercard, personal check, travelers checks, and Visa.

Montana residents are allowed free

daily entrance through their vehicle registration fee payment; camping fees still apply. For more information visit <http://stateparks.mt.gov/makoshika/> or <https://www.facebook.com/Makoshika/>.



**Sign marker along the Ponderosa Trail at Makoshika State Park.**



# Bell Street Bridge State Historic Site

## Glendive, MT

The Historic Bell Street Bridge is a pedestrian and bicycle trail over the Yellowstone River, bridging the past and the future in Glendive. Take a walk across the bridge that has served the founders of Dawson County and know the beauty of the Yellowstone as they saw it from the Bell Street Bridge river crossing.

Travelers are invited to walk the 1,300 foot-long steel truss structure and enjoy the wildlife that can be seen along the banks

of the Yellowstone River.

The days of motor traffic ended on Bell Street Bridge in 1992. However, its vital role as a pedestrian crossing continues to serve the citizens of Dawson County and visitors as they travel between the business and residential community of West Glendive and the City of Glendive on opposite sides of the Yellowstone River.



# Pierre Wibaux Museum

## Wibaux, MT

The town and county of Wibaux are both named for Pierre Wibaux, who as a young man of 25 gave up opportunities in his family's textile business in France to seek his fortune in the American northwest. The Pierre Wibaux Museum is housed in Pierre's office building which he and Henry Boice built in 1892. Several antiques which belonged to Pierre and his wife Mary Ellen (Cooper) Wibaux are housed in the museum along with items from early day settlers in this area.

Pierre was the world's largest cattle rancher in the late 1800s. A story of Pierre and his life is available and told during the tour of the Museum Complex.

A Montana Centennial Train Car which went to the World's Fair in New York in 1964, an antique barber shop and a livery stable make up the Museum Complex. Enjoy the historic walking tour of the Wibaux Business District, Old St. Peter's Catholic Church built in 1895 and the Pierre Wibaux Statue.

Step into the Wibaux Park surrounding the complex and dis-



cover a carefully crafted oasis. Pierre brought his French gardener with him to tend to his gardens of Cottonwoods and flowers. Stately cottonwood trees wave in the breeze, softly scented lilacs bloom in the spring, pink Poppies, bright Holly Hocks and yellow Snap Dragons flash color in the summertime while bright golds and reds await you in the autumn. The garden includes a grotto crafted of native rocks like agate, petrified wood and lava. In the grotto, surrounded by flowers of red, yellow, blue and purple stands a fountain of a graceful Grecian-like woman collecting water, her infants sitting astride her hip and at her feet. We invite you to listen to the trickling fountain, walk along the banks of the Beaver Creek, or enjoy a picnic lunch on our grounds.

The museum is open Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m., though Labor Day and is located at 112 East Orgain Avenue.

Free admittance, donations welcome!



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# Tobacco Gardens Resort

## Watford City, ND

Located near Watford City on Lake Sakakawea, Tobacco Gardens Resort offers many services year round.

The resort offers their guests home cooked meals at the restaurant, while also providing picnic areas, c-store and a playground.

The resort offers 150 plus camping sites with electricity, 2 cabin rentals, modern bathrooms and shower, wireless internet, RV dumpsite and hookups with fresh water available.

For the fishing enthusiast, they also have a bait and tackle shop, a fish cleaning station and boat ramps.

Gas is available for purchase from the land and from the water.

Being open year round, they accommodate hunters, snowmobilers and other winter sports enthusiasts.

Also, the Lewis & Clark Building may be rented for family picnics or large gatherings.

"We want Tobacco Gardens to be like going to a neighbor's house to visit with friends. Quiet, warm and cozy," stated owner Peggy.

The resort holds many events throughout the year. Their annual Kite Festival will take place June 7-9, the 4th of July festivities will include a fireworks show on July 3 & parade on July 4 and the annual Fall Fishing Classic tournament will be held September 14. Tobacco Gardens also holds a cardboard boat race, minnow races, music once a month, movie night every other week (weather permitting) and Saturday night prime rib or barbeque.



**Tobacco Gardens Resort and Marina held its annual Kite Festival June 5-7 featuring enormous kites for people to enjoy and smaller ones available for kids and families to fly. They also have parachute races and candy drops for kids of all ages.**

Tobacco Gardens Resort is located 25 miles northeast of Watford City on Hwy 1806W. For further information or to make reservations call 701-842-4199.



Quiet Hours  
11 PM - 7 AM



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# Maah Daah Hey Trail

## Discover the Beauty of the Rugged Badlands

The Maah Daah Hey trail system showcases some of the most unique and breathtaking terrain. Majestic plateaus, jagged peaks and valleys, large expanses of rolling prairie, and rivers intertwine to offer the adventurous outdoors enthusiast a taste of pure, unadulterated wilderness.

The Maah Daah Hey trail system is comprised of nine trail units of varying size and difficulty. The trail system features nearly every type of terrain found in western North Dakota. This varies from grassy flats and ridges to very rough steep clay badlands buttes with everything in between, including river bottoms and wooded draws to rolling prairie.

There are 11 developed campgrounds, 8 strategically placed water caches and 16 trailheads connecting access roads to our beautiful trail system.

Outdoor activities within the trail system include camping, bird watching, nature and wildlife photography, and much more.

This area in North Dakota provides prime habitat for mule and whitetail deer, antelope, prairie dogs, and coyotes with an occasional golden eagle, red tail hawk, or prairie falcon. Bighorn sheep and elk have been reintroduced into the area and in addition, bison and feral horses roam the range in Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

The symbol for the trail is the turtle. Adopted from the Lakota Sioux Indians, the turtle symbolizes patience, loyalty, determination, steadfastness, long-life and fortitude. The turtle shell symbolizes protection and its effigy is emblazoned on the posts that mark the trail.

The trails are open year round but the summer season is when most of the rugged outdoor adventurers plan their visits. The trails host a number of exciting events during the season.

Registration fees for events go to the Save the Maah Daah Hey non-profit organization to upkeep the trails. For more information about these events or to register, visit [www.experienceland.org](http://www.experienceland.org). For additional visitor information about the Maah Daah Hey Trails, visit [www.mdhta.com](http://www.mdhta.com).

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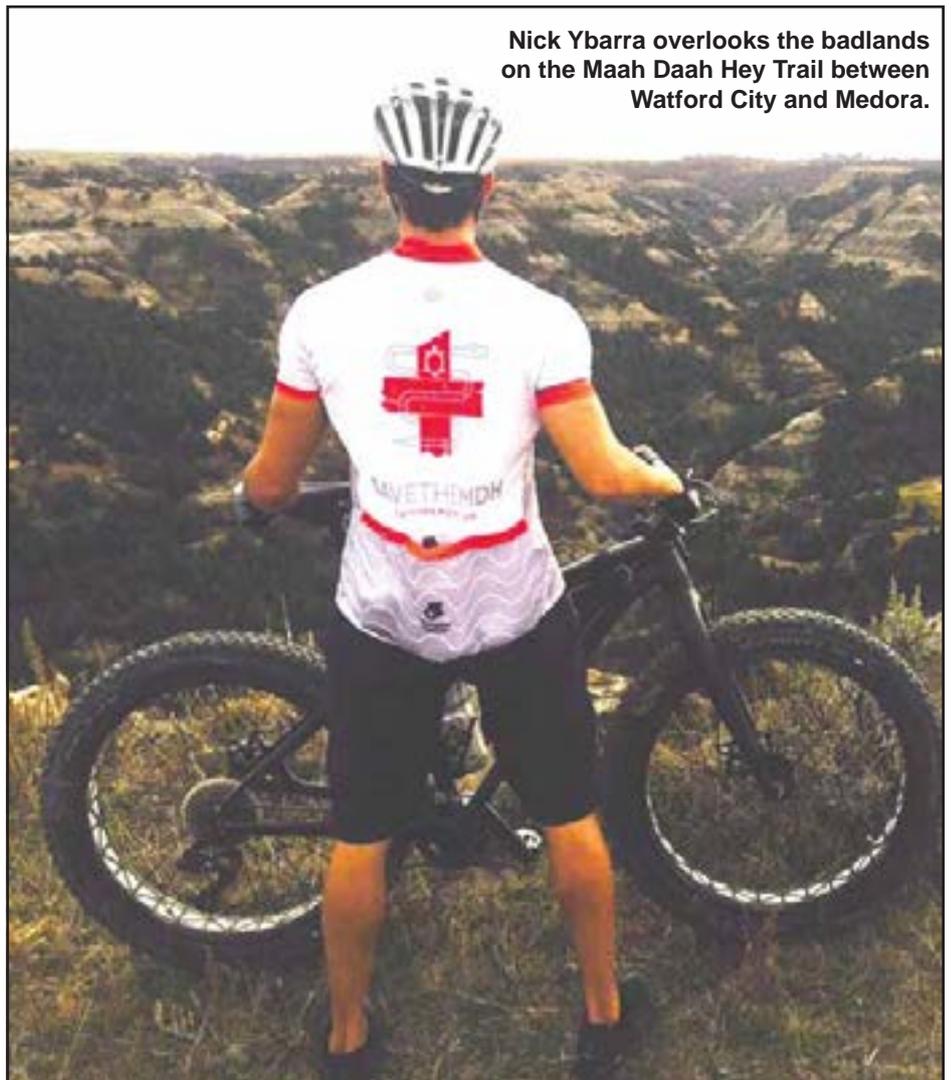
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**Nick Ybarra overlooks the badlands on the Maah Daah Hey Trail between Watford City and Medora.**

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# McKenzie Co. Heritage Park

## Watford City, ND

Visitors can get a glimpse into life in McKenzie County during the late 1880s and early 1900s by visiting the McKenzie County Heritage Park, along Hwy. 85 on the western edge of Watford City.

The park is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday beginning Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. It is also open to groups by appointment.

The park demonstrates life on the prairie through a 1880s trapper's cabin, a homestead shack, a blacksmith shop, an early day 1-room schoolhouse and a typical prairie church. Newly added to the park is the Ralph Koeser barn, an antique sawmill and the original Abstract & Title building from Shafer, which was built in the early 1900s. The old train depot, which has been relocated to the park, will eventually be fully restored to its original condition.

Also on the property is the law office of North Dakota's early governor, Gov. George F. Shafer. Shafer practiced law in the building about 1913 when it was located in Shafer, ND, which was the county seat at the time. Shafer was governor of North Dakota from 1928-1932.

The "Stone House" is a recently added addition to the park. The house, donated by the David Jones family, is completely restored to its original condition.

The park also features a display of mammoth

fossils discovered 2 ½ miles northwest of Watford City, antique machinery and the 50 Years in the Saddle memorial that honors cowboys and their way of life.

Admission is free, but donations are accepted. Yearly and lifetime memberships are also available for \$25 and \$100 respectively.

The McKenzie County Heritage Park is also accepting volunteers to help maintain the park. For more details, please call 701-444-2990 or 701-609-9894.



Heritage Park is filled with antique farm equipment and historic buildings.



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The entire telemedicine process (from scheduling an appointment to seeing a provider) can take place through the MyChart mobile app. If you have any questions or would like assistance signing up you can call our Rural Health Clinic at (701) 842-3771.

If you have any questions regarding COVID-19 or would like to be screened, please contact our Rural Health Clinic. Questions after hours or on the weekend? Call the MCHS COVID-19 Hotline at (701) 842-3000, #9.

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# Theodore Roosevelt Park

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Theodore Roosevelt National Park memorializes the 26th president for his enduring contributions to the conservation of our natural resources. There are 3 units of the park. The North Unit, which is located 15 miles south of Watford City, ND on US 85, is open all year long.

Visitors have a unique opportunity for wildlife viewing. In the park you will find open prairie, hardwood draws, bison, deer as well as other wildlife. The park also offers stunning views of the Little Missouri River as it runs through the park and a look into history which includes Theodore Roosevelt's life while living in North Dakota.

A visitor center offers exhibits and a film on the natural history of the park and about the park itself.

Juniper Campground is open all year and is available for tents and RVs. There are no hook-ups but a dump station is available during the summer months. Camping fees are charged all year.

Miles of hiking trails bisect the park, which offer a clos-



er look at the rugged badlands and the wildlife that call this home. Interpretive programs are offered most days throughout the summer and into the early fall. Please check at the visitor center for a current list.

For more information, please call the park at 701-842-2333.

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# Pioneer Museum Of McKenzie County

## Watford City, ND

The Pioneer Museum of McKenzie County is a central focus of the Long X Trading Post Visitor Center, located on the corner of Hwy. 85 South and West (100 2nd Ave SW), Watford City.

The museum is staffed from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday, year round.

The museum, located on the upper and lower levels of the center, has many exhibits that interpret life of the 19th and 20th century pioneers. It also displays a great history time line of McKenzie County. Included in the displays are a homestead shack, a beauty parlor, schoolhouse, the Bannon Exhibit (the last lynching in North Dakota), Native American display, vintage clothing, pioneer quilting and sewing, religious artifacts, vintage bottles and crocks, early day store and business memorabilia, and antique furniture.

The lower level of the museum is a study of the economic development of McKenzie County based on three specific areas; the oil industry, farming and ranching. It features a newly remodeled, updated and extensive education center on the oil development past and current using exhibits, artifacts and exquisite photography. Learn about the oil stratigraphy/core and oil samples, terminology of current oil exploration and production, per scale drilling rigs and information about industry job development. The oil room displays photos and film footage of the first oil well in McKenzie County (the second producing oil well in North Dakota), the fracking process used in the area, as well as footage about the building of a gas plant in western North Dakota. You may examine county historic ranching and farming from the 1800s to current farm and ranch production

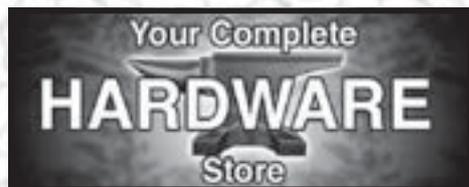


A turn of the century kitchen display from the homesteading days (photo submitted).

and learn how North Dakota has earned the top producing spot in the United States in many crop and food products. This area also has a special section where the children may ride "Dakota", a pony of the prairies, color a picture to take home or learn about the Very Hungry McKenzie County Caterpillar!

Another feature of the museum is an area where you may listen to CDs and DVDs of recorded family histories and veterans' stories. There is also a library of family and organization scrap books and history books to view.

The Pioneer Museum periodically features traveling exhibits and local exhibitors including quilting shows, art shows and pho-



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tography shows.

The Pioneer Gift Shop is filled with jams, bread and soup mixes, yummy candies and Bison products, locally crafted items, pottery, many books, as well as t-shirts and sweatshirts. Additionally for purchase are matted photos and photo cards of the local area, landscape and parks, plus numerous items for children including books, toys and t-shirts. A favorite activity for visitors at the gift shop is to indulge at the ice cream counter with a scoop of pure old-fashioned delight!

Admission is free, which admits you to life as it was in Watford City and McKenzie County. For more information contact the museum at 701-444-2990 or email at museum@restel.com; find us on Facebook for all updating information-Pioneer Museum of McKenzie County.



Many Pride of North Dakota products are available for sale in the Long X Visitor's Center gift shop (photo submitted).

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# Rough Rider Center

## Watford City, ND

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The Rough Rider Center can accommodate groups from 5 to 2,500 people. Events such as community meetings, banquets, weddings, sporting events, concerts, conventions and expos are just a few reasons you would visit the Rough Rider Center. The Rough Rider Center is a community facility with space to accommodate multiple



events and space needs at one time.

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# Lewis And Clark Trail Museum

## Alexander, ND

By Anna Dragseth

In early June, a local Alexander farmer tilled a portion of the museum grounds and NDSU Williston Research Extension Center staff - Cameron Wahlstrom, Christy Sperling, and Meridith Ramsey came out and planted several different types of crops at the museum, including durum, spring wheat, barley, oats, peas, chickpeas, lentils, soybeans, hemp, flax, and safflower.

“Once the plants start growing, visitors will have the opportunity to see what type of crops are grown here and also the type of crops that would have been planted around Alexander when the town was first established. We will be putting up a kiosk containing information on the different types of crops planted,” explained Cathy White, the Lewis and Clark Trail Museum Director.

The crops were planted where the Lewis and Clark Trail Museum’s Alexander School gymnasium was located. The gymnasium, attached to the original 1914 three-story schoolhouse, was recently taken down due to continuous water issues. These water issues were caused due to the gymnasium being built underground. The gymnasium was built four feet below ground level, the locker rooms were located eight feet below ground level, and the boilers in the boys locker room were placed an additional two feet lower than that, which contributed to all the water damage in the building.

White said, “Our goal with this addition is to encourage visitors to visit the outside of the museum. As soon as crops come in we are going to try and figure out where we could put a nice walking path that would lead to the other buildings and encourage people to look at some of the old equipment and other buildings.”

In addition to the new crops being planted, the museum is also working on many other projects. They will be working on updating the Bannon room, which is a room that talks about the last lynching that took place in North Dakota. They will also be rearranging the display of war heroes and performing general cleaning and organizing of the museum displays.

More information can be found on the Lewis & Clark Trail Museum website and Facebook page.



A crew from NDSU Extension plants crops in the location of the old Alexander school gym.

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# Old Post Office Museum

## Grassy Butte, ND



The Old Post Office Museum, a national historic site, located in Grassy Butte, ND, was built in 1912 when construction materials were scarce. The structure, made of logs and sod, housed the Grassy Butte Post Office from 1914-1964.

It now serves as a museum housing antiques and relics from the 1800s and early 1900s.

There is no charge for admission. The museum is open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on weekends through the month of June and every day from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. from July-Labor Day. The Old Post Office Museum is located just off Hwy. 85, south of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park North Unit.

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# Fort Union Trading Post

*Located 25 miles southwest of Williston, ND*



Built near the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers between 1828 and 1867, Fort Union Trading Post was the center of the trading economy for the Northern Plains. During this time Fort Union traders co-existed civilly with Assiniboine, Crow, Cree, Ojibwa, Blackfeet and Hidatsa Indians. Indians traded furs and hides for iron tools, guns, blankets and other manufactured goods.

The site is operated by the National Parks Service, which partially reconstructed the post to its current appearance. This historic site invites visitors to investigate life as it was in the mid-19th century.

Fort Union is situated 25 miles southwest of Williston, ND via Hwy. 1804 and 24 miles northeast of Sidney, MT via Hwy. 58. Fort Union is open year-round; 2020 hours are 9 a.m. -5 p.m. CDT.

Check the park website for:

- Current park operations

- Special event updates
- All new digital activities for kids

For more information, please call 701-572-9083 or go to [www.nps.gov/fous](http://www.nps.gov/fous).



# Confluence Interpretive Center

## Located ½ mile east of Fort Buford

The Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, opened in 2003, tells the story of the confluence of two mighty rivers. The location of the building provides similar views that Lewis and Clark would have enjoyed as they passed through in 1804-1806.

The permanent exhibit, "Trails, Tracks, Rivers & Roads", explores the geographic and geologic past of the area and the impact made by people arriving by all means of travel. View an old 1914 Cadillac, an old steamboat lantern, and artifacts of arrowheads. The roaming gallery is changed out every 2-3 years. This year it features electricity, how it affected the farmers and how the co-ops were formed.

Along with the exhibits, the Confluence Center includes a meeting room, rotunda and an open plaza facing the Confluence. The meeting room is available for use during and after operating hours. Equipment is available at no extra charge. The rotunda and open plaza are available to groups after operating hours only. To rent or book a room for use, contact the Confluence Center at 701-572-9034.

The confluence center offers classes and events for the public to enjoy.

The Confluence Quilters (3rd Friday and Saturday each month 9 a.m.-4 p.m. CT), meet at the interpretive center and



welcome any level of quilter to learn and join.

The History book club (3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. CT) meets at the center to discuss the book of the month, and concerts (3rd Sunday) provide great entertainment and are held throughout the year.

Check out the Fort Buford State Historic Site, North Dakota or Fort Buford/MYCIC State Historic Site on Facebook,

Fort Buford State Historic Site/Missouri Yellowstone Interpretive Center for events and other activities that are held throughout the year. For more information call 701-572-9034.

MYCIC is located 25 miles from Williston, ND on Highways 1804 and 58. The center remains open from May 26 -Sept. 6 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. CT daily.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children, and free for children under five. Bus and school group rates are available. For more information, contact 701-572-9034.

## Fort Buford

### Located on Highways 1804 & 58, near Williston, ND

Fort Buford was a United States Army Post at the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers in Dakota Territory. The fort was established June 12, 1866 by Capt. William Rankin 13th infantry along with 89 enlisted galvanized soldiers. The post was built using adobe bricks and cottonwood enclosed by a 360x360 wooden stockade

Ft. Buford was named after Major General John Buford who fought in the civil war. During its 29 years as a sentinel, Fort Buford successfully served the river and overland routes for safe passage for immigrants traveling to the gold fields. Fort Buford also served as a primary supply depot for units that were conducting military field operations against Native Americans in the region.

During the first years the soldiers endured constant Hunkpapa harassment keeping them near prisoners. The Hunkpapa's, led by Sitting Bull, successfully attacked soldiers on work details, hunting parties and civilian groups.

In 1881, Sitting Bull who had retreated into Canada after the battle of the Little Big Horn surrendered his rifle at Fort Buford. Sitting Bull made the best choice possible for his people who were starving. During the ceremony in Brotherton's Quarters, Sitting Bull handed his rifle over to his son Crow Foot, who handed it to Major Brotherton, the commanding officer. This simple act spared the proud Hunkpapa from having to say he surrendered his weapon to the blue coats.

In 1891-1895, the 10th Cavalry and 25th Infantry of the "Buffalo Soldiers," were stationed at Fort Buford. These soldiers policed the Canadian/United States boundary; guarded railway construction crews and provided escorts for steamers and wagon trains.

Three original buildings, the field officer's quarters, the powder magazine and the officer of the day buildings have been restored to their original condition. In 2014 the masonic site (east of the Field Officer's Quarters) was dedicated by the Yellowstone Historic Lodge #88 and the Eureka Lodge #135. The Buffalo soldier horse statue created by artist Jim Dolan, was dedicated at the site in 2016.

Every year in July the 6th Infantry Reenactment Group holds an encampment at Fort Buford. Come on out and visit with the soldiers and see how they live. Every October a cemetery walk is held to share the stories of those spirits that remain at the fort. Volunteers dress up portraying the person who had died at the fort and tells their story.

Fort Buford is located near Williston, ND on Highways 1804 and 58. The fort remains open from May 26-Sept. 3 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily CT. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children, and free for children under 5. Bus and school group rates are available. For more information, contact 701-572-9034.

# Trenton Lake Recreation Area

## Trenton, ND



On a pleasant day, you can turn off on 145th Road NW in Trenton, North Dakota and follow a shady, tree-lined road. There, amidst the shade of the mighty trees you may even forget for a moment where you are, having left the highway traffic behind. It is almost as if you have driven into a Walt Whitman poem. The signs, however, will lead you to a sprawling expanse of greenery broken only by a pleasant dirt road and small groves of trees. Here you will see a welcoming sign that reads, "We Welcome You To Trenton Lake". You have reached Trenton Lake Recreation Area. Continue along and you will find a small ticket office - look beyond and you will see camper spaces, and beyond that, Trenton Lake.

Here you can fish or sit on the bank of the lake and picnic, or build a fire pit in one of the many shelters that dot the area. You can play basketball at the outdoor court, or if you have children, watch them play on the jungle gym. Other activities include volleyball, miniature golf, horseshoes, and a pavilion well suited for company picnics or birthday parties.

During the camping season which runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Amenities include RV sites with electricity, sewers, showers, tenting and outdoor restrooms.

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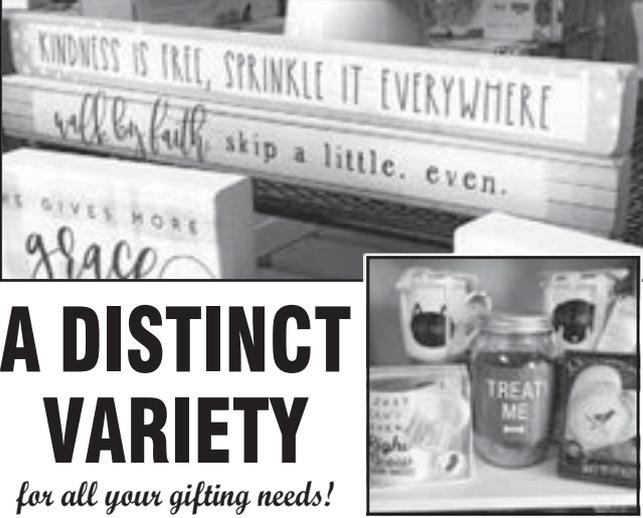
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# 2020 Williston Events Rescheduled

### Submitted by Villa Rochelle

Williston, ND – In observance of current COVID-19 social distancing protocols, the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce has made changes to the 2020 Calendar of Events. Events affected include, Rockin' Ribfest, Lemonade Day, and the Boom Crawl.

Rockin' Ribfest was originally scheduled for June 19 but will now take place on July 25 downtown, Williston. Lemonade Day will also take place on July 25 during Rockin' Ribfest. The Boom Crawl pub-crawl, originally scheduled for May 30, will now take place on August 15 from 5 to 11p.m.

The schedule of events for the remainder of 2020 is as follows:

- June 11: Business After Hours
- 23: Coffee & Conversation
- July 9: Business After Hours
- 25: Rockin' Ribfest and Lemonade Day
- August 13: Business After Hours
- 15: Boom Crawl
- 21: Membership Drive
- September 10: Business After Hours
- 22: Coffee & Conversation
- October 8: Business After Hours

- 27: Coffee & Conversation
- TBA: WiL Expo
- November 5-6: Special Assignment Pizza
- 12: Business After Hours
- 24: Coffee & Conversation
- 27: Holiday Lights Parade
- 28: Small Business Saturday
- December 10: Business After Hours

The Williston Area Chamber of Commerce continues to host networking and community events in support of Williston's unified business community. For additional information on these events, including registrations, follow WACC on Facebook @willistonchamber or contact the WACC at wchamber@willistonchamber.com.



Visit the Williston Downtowners Association, Williston Chamber of Commerce or Williston Convention & Visitors Bureau for updates.

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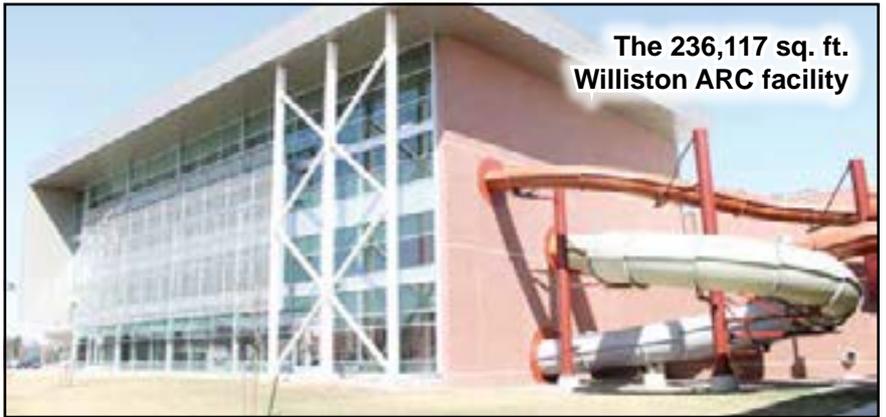
The ARC has many amenities such as tennis courts, a turf field, batting/pitching cages, a golf simulator, racquetball courts, basketball courts, two indoor tracks, an indoor playground, and child sitting for those parents who need a place for their little ones. They also have birthday party rentals, boardroom, meeting rooms, a senior activity room, and a teaching/catering kitchen that can be used for events. One of the biggest amenities is the waterpark, which includes the FlowRider simulator, a zero-depth entry pool, lazy river, 2 waterslides, an instructional pool, and a 50m Olympic sized pool.

Fitness is also a very important part of the ARC! There are many circuit weight machines, cardio machines, free weights, a spin room, 40+ group fitness classes weekly, and personal training packages. They have also added new athletic training equipment! Weekly fitness classes are included in your daily visit

or membership fees but there are other specialized classes available such as Boot Camp and TRX.

Winter hours are from 5 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; Friday 5 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m.-9 p.m. and 1-9 p.m. on Sundays. Summer hours are from 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; Saturday 7 a.m.- 7 p.m.; and 1-7 p.m. on Sundays.

Guests can purchase a daily pass or purchase a 6-month or 1-year membership. The ARC offers discounted memberships for families. For more information call 701-572-9272 or visit [www.willistonparks.com](http://www.willistonparks.com).



The 236,117 sq. ft. Williston ARC facility

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# James Memorial Art Center

## Williston, ND

The former Williston city library, built in 1911, now serves the community as the James Memorial Art Center. The gallery displays monthly art exhibitions by local, regional and national artists.

Many events are held at the James. JMAC Art Fest - outdoor festival featuring artists is held in the fall. Annual events include "Warm-up After Light-up" - kicking off the Christmas season with holiday decor, treats and entertainment - following the parade the day after Thanksgiving.

The Center offers art classes for youth and adults in a wide selection of media throughout the year. The James also offers open studio nights every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 5:30-8 p.m. The studio is open to any adult who enjoys arts and crafts as a hobby or profession. We ask that you bring your own art supplies.

Join us at the James for Out Loud, our open mic night, every 3rd Friday of the month from 8-10 p.m. Game Night is also a free reoccurring event, held every 1st Saturday of the month. Bring your games or join in on one with others.

Gallery and office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Friday 1-5 p.m. The gallery is open Sundays, Sep-



tember-April 1-5 p.m., and closed Sundays May-August.

The James Memorial Art Center is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

The Center is located at 621 1st Ave. W, Williston. It is handicap accessible and can be rented for private and public meetings, receptions, reunions or parties.

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# Pioneer Trails Museum

## *Hanks, ND*

The Pioneer Trails Museum, Hanks, ND is located in the former school building. A one-room country school was also moved onto the grounds, along with the depot from Zahl and a cook car from the threshing days. Visitors can also see antique machinery and vehicles, displayed in a nearby quonset.

In the old school house, which at one point had students from grades 1-12 in attendance, people can look down into what used to be a gymnasium. The old gymnasium now resides a homestead shack moved in from a few miles north. Visitors will also see an old general store from the early 1900s. A special exhibit showcases a loom from Denmark used for weaving rugs.

The museum is open every Sunday from 1-5 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day. There is no admission charge, however, individuals may purchase a year membership for \$2 per person or \$5 for a family.



Horse drawn buggies and carts are on display in the old Zahl train depot building.

# Buffalo Trails Museum

## *Epping, ND*



A historic blacksmith shop scene in one of the buildings that make up the Buffalo Trails Museum.

You won't want to be in a rush when you visit the Buffalo Trails Museum located in Epping, ND. This seven-building complex features area history starting in prehistoric times and continuing through the homestead era. The museum highlights exhibits made by the first curator and founder, Elmer Halvorson. These fascinating displays include paintings, dioramas, and life-sized human figures posed in scenes from the past. Some of the favorite exhibits include

a reconstructed Assiniboine village, a pioneer home scene, fossils and a diorama called an Indian Tree Burial.

Currently the museum is closed to the public with plans to reopen in 2021.

Epping is also host to Buffalo Trails Days, which will be rescheduled for the fall of 2020, and plans are to have the museum open during this event. Watch for updates on the Buffalo Trails Museum Facebook page.



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