

2023-2024

# DISCOVERING THE Mondak

**FREE**  
Please  
Take One

**The  
Roundup**

*Fairview Lift Bridge and Cartwright Tunnel*

*A Guide To Attractions, Events & The Rich Heritage Of The Montana-Dakota Territory*  
**Sidney, MT ♦ Watford City, ND ♦ Williston, ND**  
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# Welcome To The MonDak!

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# The Roundup

111 West Main Street • PO Box 1207 Sidney, MT 59270  
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## Take a stroll down the path of history...

Walk the Fairview Bridge high above the Yellowstone River and explore the Cartwright Tunnel

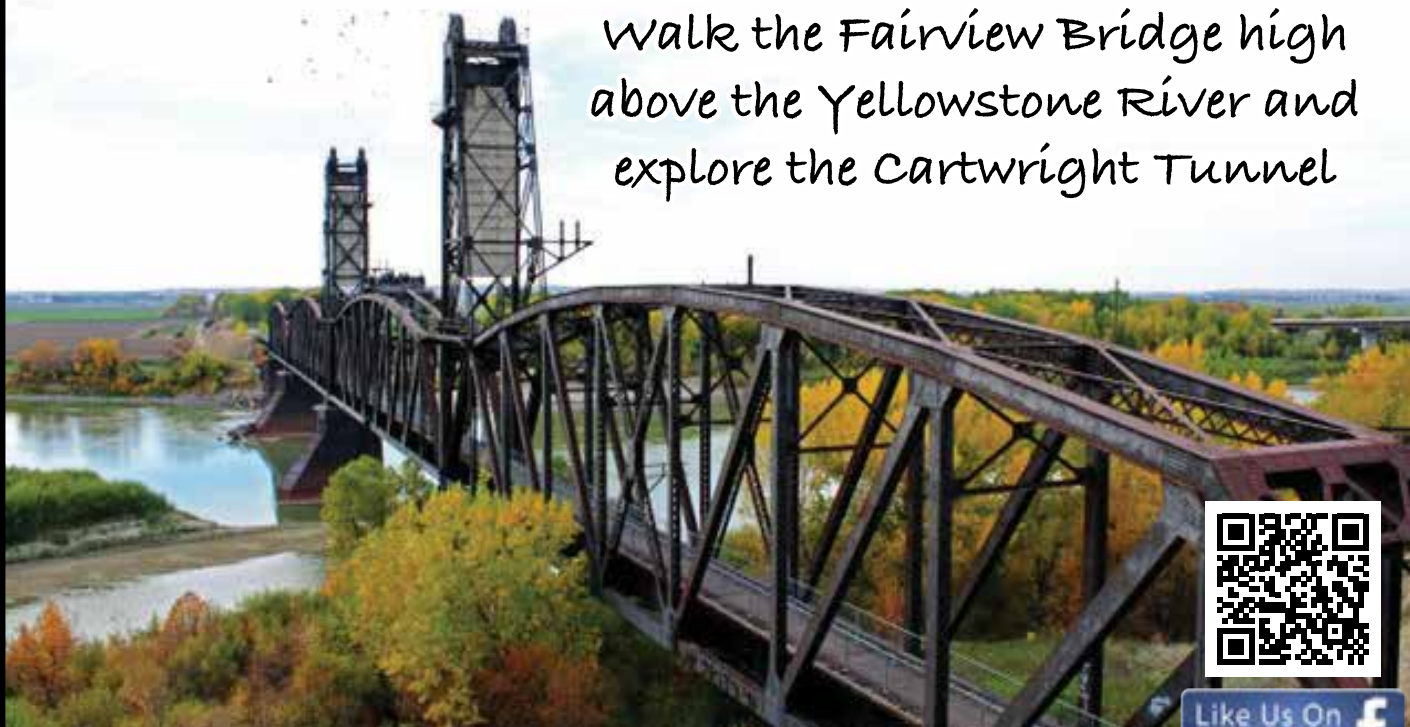


Photo by Judd Burman Photography

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 take in the small-town atmosphere and many treasures in our region. Despite the remote area, you can find your favorite chain restaurants as well as numerous loved local restaurants that have served as attractions for years. Our restaurants feature many specialties including steakhouses, pizza shops, Asian and Mexican cuisines, burger joints and more.

Sidney's retail industry is diverse and immense. Our downtown district offers three car dealers, boutiques, craft stores, thrift shops, hardware, and furniture stores. Throughout the town you can find entrepreneurs offering a variety of services and products. The Shops at Fox Run are another "hot spot" you won't want to miss in your shopping endeavors.

If you are looking for a location that is rich in history, adventure, and agriculture the Sidney area has much to offer.

The Fairview lift bridge and tunnel at Sundheim Park near Fairview, MT is a pride and joy of the Sidney area. Visitors to the bridge can stroll across the historic lift bridge and through a tunnel once used for transportation. Sundheim Park also offers fishing and frisbee golf.


As far as adventure, few places in the United States offer the abundance of wildlife than can be seen in the MonDak area. Take advantage of our recreation opportunities including hiking, bird watching, fishing, hunting, and agate hunting while you're in town. Enjoy the two rivers in our area: the Yellowstone River and the

Missouri River. We are particularly well known for our legendary fishing, especially fishing for the prehistoric Paddlefish.

The MonDak culture is deeply rooted in history including the Lewis and Clark Expedition and Native American trading posts. By making just a short drive across the North Dakota border, visitors can observe the preservation 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. Nearby Fort Buford is the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center that provides the history of the confluence, another site on the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Again, welcome to Sidney. Hope you enjoy your stay! The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture is located at 909 S. Central Ave. Office hours are 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday- Thursday and Fridays by appointment. Give us a call at 406-433-1916 for business information and details on events and activities around town. You can also reach us by email at [director@sidneymt.com](mailto:director@sidneymt.com) or visit us at our website, [sidneymt.com](http://sidneymt.com).



*Welcome to Sidney, Montana!*

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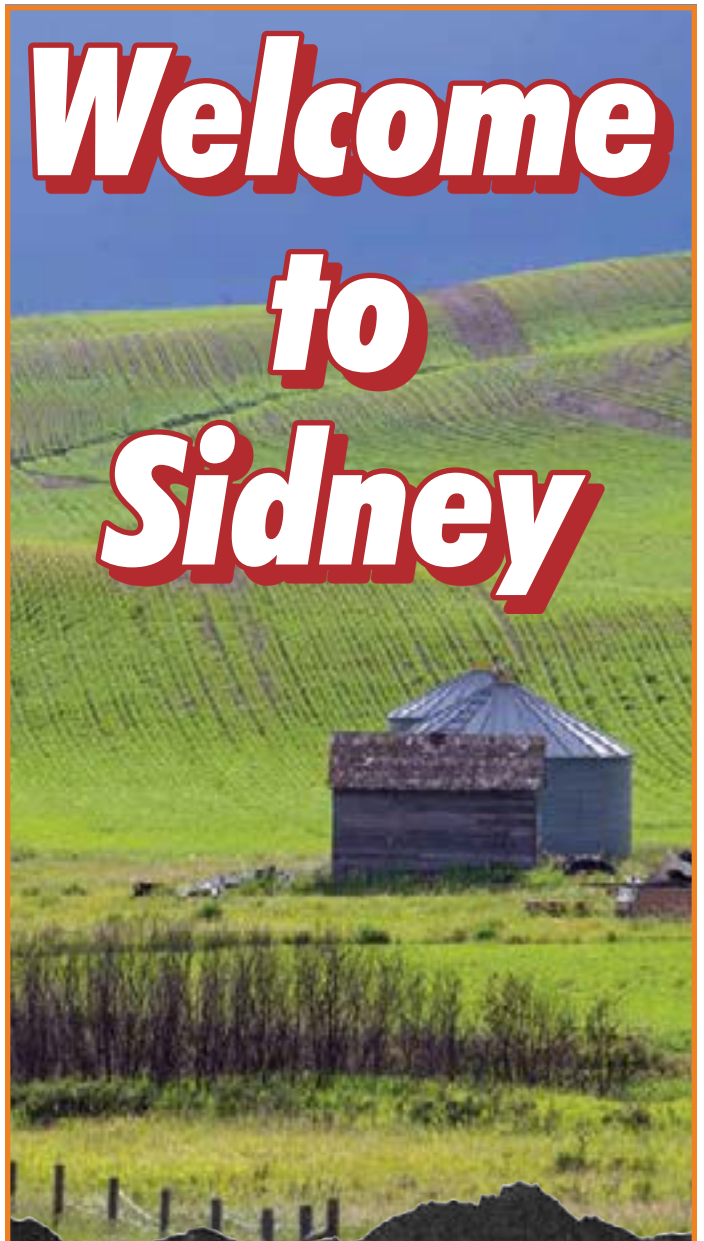
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# MonDak Heritage Center

## Sidney, MT

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 regional 7th–12th grade 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 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; Dore, ND Post Office, a homestead shack, train depot, doctor's office, saddle shop, Governor Nutter's office, and other displays.

The MDHC permanent collection consists of local and regional art, including early works of famed western artist J. K. Ralston. The MonDak offers resources and opportunities for researchers and genealogists to discover new stories. The MDHC archives



**The MonDak Heritage Center holds a yearly Youth Art Show.**

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, living history talks and humanities programs; February's Celebrating Chocolate fundraiser and concert; MonDak Summer Bash & Bake Off in June; MonDak Pub Night, celebration of music and beer, in the fall; 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. The MonDak Heritage Center is located at 120 3rd Ave SE, Sidney. The 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.



**The MonDak Heritage Center has a great gift shop that offers a large selection of art, jewelry, books, souvenirs and more from local artists and jewelers and regional authors.**

# Stars, Stripes & Summer Nights At 2023 Richland County Fair & Rodeo

The Richland County Fair & Rodeo is the event of the year you don't want to miss! Join us from Aug. 2-5, 2023, for four days of non-stop entertainment, fun, and excitement.

This year's fair will feature an action-packed lineup of events and attractions that are sure to thrill people of all ages. From exciting rodeo competitions featuring PRCA cowboys, to thrilling carnival rides and games, to mouth-watering food, and much more, there's something for everyone at the Richland County Fair & Rodeo.

The arena will showcase 406FMX - bringing the top riders in the world from X-Games and Nitro Circus to put on a huge Freestyle motocross show on Wednesday night.

The PRCA cowboys steal the crowd's hearts on Thursday and Friday! Don't forget to wear pink Friday for Tough Enough To Wear Pink night!

To top off the fair, kick up your boots and sing along with country rocker Kip Moore as he takes the stage for an energetic country music concert you don't want to miss! Moore first splashed into the mainstream with the double-PLATINUM "Somethin' Bout a Truck" in 2012, then followed up with three more bestselling number ones ("Hey Pretty Girl," "Beer Money" and "More Girls Like You"), a trio of ambitious, critically praised albums and two gritty EPs that landed Moore on multiple "Best Of" lists. He's currently selling out headlining shows all over the world and just released a brand new album entitled "Damn Love" this year.

And that's not all. There is a wide range of family-friendly activities, including a kids pedal tractor pull, a strolling dinosaur, The

Magic Bean agriculture education show, and more. So, whether you're a rodeo enthusiast, a carnival lover, a live music buff or just looking for a fun day out with your family, the Richland County Fair & Rodeo is the perfect destination for you.

Bring your family and friends and come experience the best that Richland County has to offer. Enjoy tons of live music, marvel at the stunning exhibits and displays, and taste all of the delicious fair food! Mark your calendars and join us for an unforgettable experience at the Richland County Fair & Rodeo, Aug. 2-5, 2023.

Don't miss out on this incredible event!



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*The Richland County Housing Authority is dedicated to providing housing and related services for very low, low and moderately low income families and individuals. Our management and staff are committed to serving our clients with professionalism, courtesy, and respect.*

To apply for housing, you can come down to our office located at 1032 6th St. SW in Sidney or call us at (406) 433-1978. Our applications can be mailed, emailed or faxed for your convenience and our staff can answer any questions you might have regarding our programs and how they work.


For each household applying, we require consent for:  
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# Lone Tree Gun Show

## *A Popular Event For Over 30 Years*



One of the most popular events in the MonDak, the Lone Tree Gun Show, will take place Aug. 18-20, 2023 at Richland County Event Center, Sidney.

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 sportsman.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to many local non-profits. For more information about the Lone Tree Gun Show, contact Leann at 406-480-5594.

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# The Bittersweet

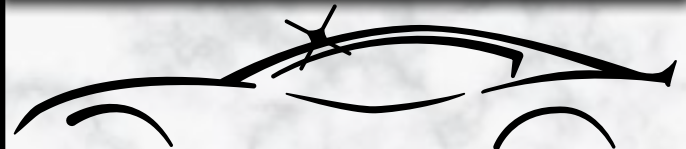
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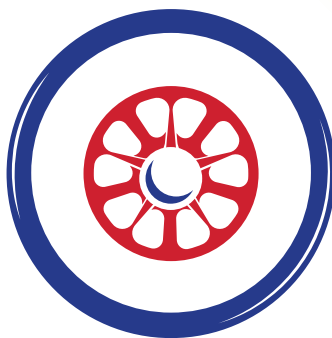
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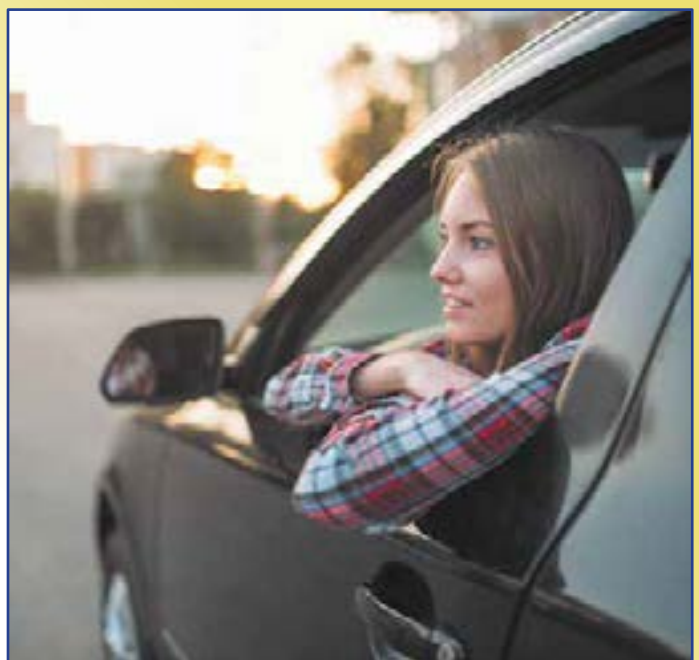
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# Sidney-Richland County Library

## Sidney, MT

Welcome to the area! We hope this guide will help you discover many of the riches of Richland County. We would like to think that our library offers a wide variety of services, programs as well as traditional library offerings. Each summer we offer a Summer Reading Program that is one of the largest in eastern Montana and western North Dakota. Anyone of any age can participate and the program adjusts to your summer schedule because you can keep track online or through our dedicated app, READSquared.

Your Sidney-Richland County Library Card is a passport to a wealth of free library services that include:

Digital Newspapers, Magazines, EBooks and Audiobooks via our dedicated app, Libby

Digital Streaming of TV Shows, Movies, and Music, plus EBooks and Audiobooks via our dedicated app Hoopla

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The downstairs is an entirely renovated area that added over 5,000 square feet to the library space. It includes a new children's area for story time and books, a new library-dedicated small program/class space, and a new office for the Learning Volunteers for Adults Program (LVA).

Online Classes through Great Courses in Libby or through Universal Class

"Libraries continue to evolve and meet the changing needs of our patrons. In fact, the only constant in our public library work is change. Libraries are just as vital as ever before", explains Kelly Reisig, library director. For more information call the library at 406-433-1917, check the website at [www.richland.org/srcl](http://www.richland.org/srcl), or follow its Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/sidneyrichland](http://www.facebook.com/sidneyrichland).

# RICHLAND COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

*"Stars, Stripes & Summer Nights"*

**August 2-5, 2023**

## PRCA Rodeos Thursday & Friday Nights

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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 4-18 years old are encouraged to take part in the Jr. golf program, which runs every Wednesday morning May 31 - July.

Memberships are available at Sidney Country Club, however, the general public is more than welcome. Green fees are \$36 for 9 holes and \$61 for 18. Carts and clubs are available to rent. Carts rent by the seat at \$13 for 9 holes and \$18 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. 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. Call the Pro Shop at 406-433-1894 or the Fringe at 406-433-7460. Check

out their 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, Quillings, Lalonde, Johnson and Kling parks in recent years.

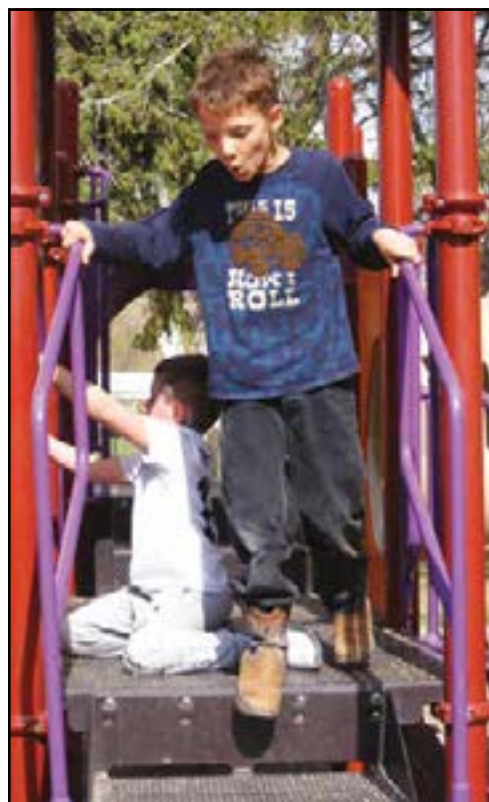
Water Tower Park received new fencing, with funds that, Sidney Park Superintendent Stephanie Ridl, received from a Richland County Recreation Grant. Additionally, Sidney Public Works provided new dugouts and the Girls Slow Pitch Softball League donated new bases.

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 gym, donated by the

Kringen family in memory of Randy Kringen. Sidney Public Works Department installed the 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.

Continued efforts to improve the amenities in Veterans Memori-



**Veteran's Memorial Park – Pictured (L-R) Jordan Cooper and Zedekiah Loobey spend time regularly at Sidney's public parks. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)**



**Svarre Municipal Pool**

al 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 and new garbage can surrounds. Any additional donations will help facilitate the completion of the seating area as well as the addition of new sidewalks and concrete paths. Thanks to an Eagle Scout project, the archway along Central Ave. 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 playgym, new swings including the Generation Swing, and free play climbing boulders (appropriate for 2-5-year-olds). The playground area hosts a new



border system, ADA compliant ground cover and a wheelchair ramp.

Johnson Park received much needed upgrades to the children's playground in 2022. The installation of new swings, cube structure, and ADA compliant ground cover and border system have been well received. Also in Johnson Park, the introduction of the Elevate Adult Fitness Course in 2020 has provided a fun new twist to playground equipment. Currently, 8 of the 12-piece course is installed. Funds for the equipment have been generated from City funds as well as grants RIdl received from Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Trust, Foundation for Community Care and



**Pictured (L-R)  
Area youngsters  
Zedekiaha Loobey  
and Cooper  
Brown use the  
Sherry Arnold  
Fitness Trail.  
(Photo by Jaymi  
Mozeak)**

ONEOK. As additional funds are raised, the remaining pieces of equipment will be installed.

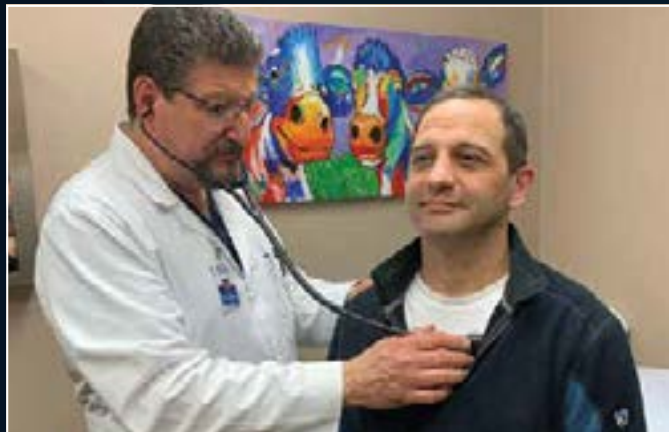
The final phase of the Sherry Arnold Fitness Trail has been completed. This trail lies over an irrigation lateral that runs through town connecting West Side Elementary School and Sidney High School (a distance of 2.1 miles/3.38 kilometers), along with several Sidney attractions such as the downtown 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).

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. 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, Sidney.

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# Sidney Health Center



**Sidney Health Center is located at  
216 14th Ave. SW in Sidney.**

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 their 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 services to include radiation therapy with the addition 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 three remodels to accommodate the demand for treating medical and radiation oncology patients including the addition of hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

In 2022, Sidney Health Center broke ground on a \$4.8 million renovation to its emergency department with the expansion of a new ambulance garage. The entire project includes four phases with an anticipated completion in January 2024. The ED renovation is designed to enhance the patient experience for those requiring emergent medical treatment with privacy, safety and quality of care at the forefront. Special features of the renovation include: three-stall ambulance garage with one stall dedicated to incoming ambulances as a patient drop-off point, seven private treatment bays including one trauma unit and two treatment rooms for respiratory-related illnesses, and a separate ED waiting area including a patient triage area to evaluate patients upon arrival.

Sidney Health Center also relocated the rehabilitation services including cardiac and pulmonary rehab moved into a newly remodeled space in July 2022. The new construction features a private outside entrance, large windows, and a spacious workout area for patients who have been referred to one of the rehabilitation programs including physical, occupational, speech, or cardiac and pulmonary services. The move not only accommodated the growth of the rehabilitation programs but made room for expansion in other areas in the future.

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 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 for convenient access to the clinic pharmacy and outpatient services. Thirty physicians and specialists offer family medicine, internal medicine, pediatric care, medical oncology, radiation oncology, interventional pain management, pathology, aesthetic medicine, emergency care, hospital inpatient care and surgical services including general, orthopedic, podiatric foot and ankle, obstetrics/gynecology and ear/nose/throat. In addition, 12 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).

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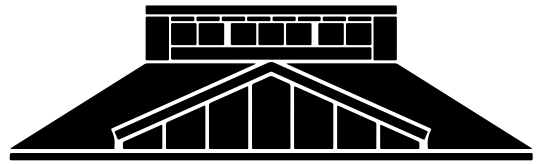
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**Tecnam P2012 Traveler at the Sidney-Richland Municipal Airport.**

Cape Air operates five daily round trip flights between Billings and Sidney, and two daily, round-trip flights between Billings and Glendive, Glasgow, Wolf Point, and Havre. All flights start from \$39 each way including taxes, fees, and bags. Cape Air also has ticket and baggage agreements with the major carriers out of Billings.

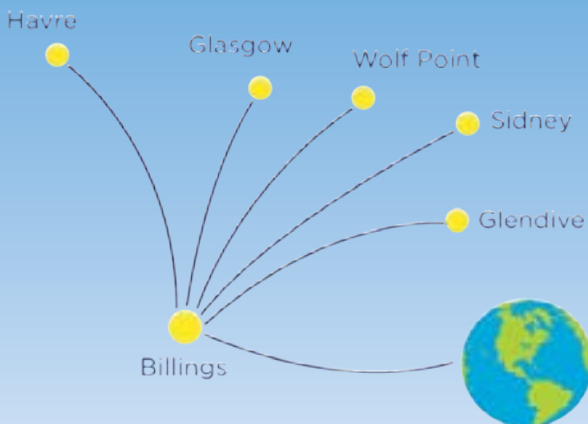
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# Fairview Bridge

Located East of Fairview, MT



By Dianne Swanson

The majestic Fairview Bridge and Cartwright Tunnel gained some notoriety recently as locations filmed in the historical drama "End of the Rope" which was released in March 2023.

Located four miles east of Fairview, MT, the bridge 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 were raised was in 1914 shortly after completion as part of a plan by the Great Northern Railroad for its never-completed Montana Eastern Railway. The bridge, unused since 1986, stretches 1320 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 1458-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 craftsmanship of the tunnel is truly amazing. Don't forget your flashlight when you journey through.

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

For more information, visit the Fairview Chamber's Facebook page or their website at <http://www.middrivers.com/~fairview/bridges.html>.

Right: The entrance to the historic Cartwright Tunnel at the end of the Fairview Lift Bridge.



Left: Sundheim Park near Fairview Bridge has a Disc Golf Course, installed in 2001; there are nine DisCatchers, used as double tees to create an 18 'hole' course. There is also a boat ramp, picnic tables, and fishing access.

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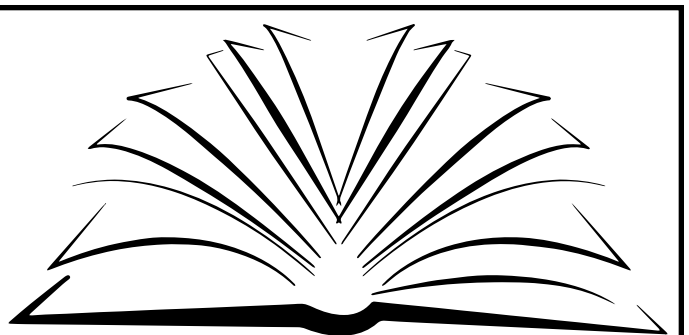
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# Snowden Bridge

## 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.

For those wishing to fish at the Snowden Bridge currently there is only a partial walk-in use due to an ice jam flooding the site, washing away the boat ramp and a portion of the roundabout. At this time, there is no boat ramp at the site.

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

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# Old Timer's Festival

## Fairview, MT



Area youngsters participate in the Fairview Old Timers' Reunion & Summer Festival Kiddie Parade.



There were many inflatables and a bubble booth in Sharbono Park for the kids in attendance at last year's Fairview Old Timers' Reunion & Summer Festival. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)

### 77th Annual Fairview Old Timers' Reunion & Summer Festival July 14-16

An entire weekend of fun awaits festival goers this summer, with parades, entertainment, food and lots of visiting with friends and neighbors beginning Friday, July 14, in Fairview. Events take place in Sharbono Park unless stated otherwise.

Start the weekend off Friday evening with registration of Old Timers and Hamburgers in the Park, followed by entertainment.

Saturday starts with registration and a free breakfast. The traditional Kiddie Parade is always a delight, followed by the Grand Parade for everyone's enjoyment. Take in the car show at the north

end of the park and visit the many food and other vendors. A short program will follow the parade.

Downtown is always alive with music and lots of visiting as classmates and friends catch up, so plan to stay for the evenings as well.


Many more events will be taking place during the weekend, including celebrating the button honoree. Be sure to check out local media for all the details.

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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 including a complete kitchen, a barbershop, a post office, a country school display, an old country church, a complete safflower display from Alfred Rehbein, and a blacksmith shop that features antique saddles and a locally made harness dating back to 1917. Local brands decorate the museum walls.

The Early Media exhibit includes items from Lambert's original printing office. 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. 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



The historical kitchen display at the Lambert Museum.

these pictures and information for people on request.

The museum is located in Lambert, MT, off Hwy 200 and open to the public on Tuesdays or by calling for an appointment. 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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# Richey Historical Museum

## Preserving The History Of A Small Town

Richey got its roots when the railroad came to town in 1916 and named the town after Postmaster Clyde Richey who homesteaded here in the late 1800s. The Richey Historical Society was established in 1970 and by 1973 the hope of a local museum was realized when enough money



had been raised to purchase the Holzworth Building on Main Street. This was the museum's first building. With a lot of volunteer help from the community, the museum was ready for the grand opening on Oct. 5, the very same year.

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 dating back to the 20th century.

The Richey Museum and Historical Society now consists of seven buildings that proudly display over thousands of articles documenting local history. With the vast expanse of items in each building, you won't want to be in a rush when visiting. You may want to plan a little extra time to enjoy your journey down memory lane. Everything has been donated by local families and businesses, including the six buildings that have been added after the purchase of the main building. The outlying buildings include a homestead shack, general store, Lisk Creek School/Catholic Church, First National Bank of Richey/Post Office, Richey jail and an outhouse.

Visitors can expect to find walls of local community photos as well as sport photos. 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. There are no old trucks or tractors in our museum but we do have a 1930s Ford Model A car (called the puddle jumper) that 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. In the basement of the main building, you will find an array of household items, clothing over 100 years old, a refurbished wishing well,


a sheep hut with a chore girl, Aggie, ready to feed the baby lambs. The Lisk Creek School/Catholic Church building has been divided into three sections. The church section offers memorabilia from all four churches. Another is dedicated to the area schools and the third section has been made into a small library of old school books along with a section dedicated to the local VFW Club.

Visitors have traveled from across the country to learn more about their family history and to visit the area where their relatives may have grown up. With all the items the museum has to offer, you will surely find something that will make a connection to your family. Richey is a small town committed to preserving the history of the area.

The Richey Museum and Historical Society will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. beginning May 30 and closing Aug. 31. There are no admission fees to visit our museum, donations are greatly appreciated. Our Centennial Book, "The Long Road Home" is available at a cost of \$50 per book plus postage if we were to mail.

For more information, please contact: Agnes Sullivan at 1-406-773-5829 or Curator Wanda Zuroff at 1-406-773-5825.

Our museum brings back many memories to those who visit and they are amazed of what we have to offer. We look forward to seeing you this summer.

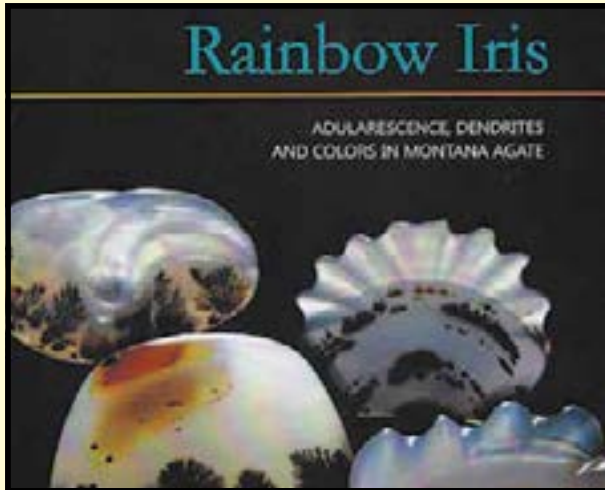
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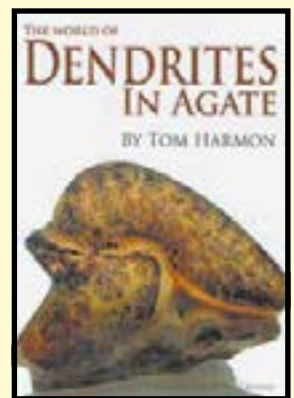
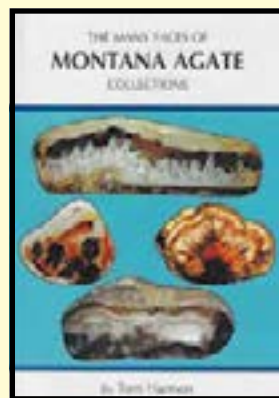
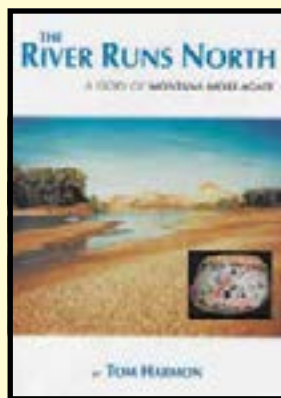
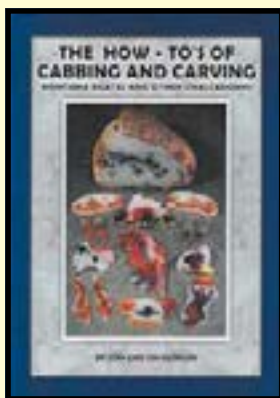
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# Montana Moss Agate

Many, many years ago T-Rex was king and Eastern Montana was mostly a shallow inland ocean, almost a swamp with huge forests lining its shores and islands of volcanoes spewing forth lava to entomb parts of the forest in lava and ash. The bowels of Yellowstone bulged, roared and flowed mountains of lava that decimated thousands of acres of mighty redwoods and sequoias for hundreds of miles around. This decimation continued for hundreds of years with layer upon layer of forests growing up and then being driven down under the ponderous weight of all the mega-tons of lava and ash. The hot lava devoured most of the wood in its rush to cover the trees, but some of the shape ingredients of the limbs remained trapped in the cooling lava.

When the time of volcanoes and lava was subdued and the rains came, mineral laden silica water flowed into the cavities and pockets left by the dying trees and bubbling lava. As flow after flow slowly filled the pockets with chalcedony, Montana Agate was born.

Scenic Montana Moss Agate - splashed with color bands of red, amber, brown and sprinkled with dendrites of black and red is one of the two Montana state gemstones and is one of the finest agate in the world. Found in some abundance in the alluvial gravels of the Yellowstone River, it is the agate form of quartz and has a hardness of seven.

The first man to find beauty in the Montana Agate nodules that are strewn about in the alluvial gravels of the Yellowstone River, was likely a Native American, hundreds if not thousands of years ago. He marveled at the colors and transparency of the agate and as he cleaved off slivers in an attempt to make scrapers and arrowheads, revealed scenes and pictures that were hidden in the rock. Like that Native American, modern man marvels at the beauty found in this agate and works to unlock its hidden secrets.



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# 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.



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

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. The visitor center is open 7 days a week from May 1 - Sept. 30 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. from October



1 - April 30. The park is open from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. all year round. 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/>.

# Paddlefishing

**By Jaymi Mozeak**

In 2022, over 40K people acquired paddlefish season tags in western North Dakota and eastern Montana. It is a major event for area anglers.

In North Dakota, snagging of paddlefish is from May 1-21. Montana has three unique paddlefish seasons, and anglers may select only one area to fish for paddlefish. The Upper Missouri River from Fort Peck Dam to Fort Benton season is May 1-June 15. The Yellowstone River and Missouri River downstream of Fort Peck Dam season is May 15-June 30. The Fort Peck Dredge Cut archery-only season is open from July 1-Aug. 31. The Yellowstone River and Missouri River downstream of Fort Peck Dam and North Dakota seasons may be shortened by Montana after 1,000 fish have been harvested. North Dakota will shorten the season at 1,000 animals as well.



**Jeff Benda, Fargo, poses with his paddlefish caught at the Confluence on May 2, 2023.**

In North Dakota, the open areas include the Yellowstone River in North Dakota, and the Missouri River west of the U.S. Highway 85 bridge to the Montana border, excluding that portion from the pipeline crossing downstream to the upper end of the Lewis and Clark Wildlife Management Area. Paddlefish snagging is legal only from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. CT during the season. Harvest-only days are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Snag and release-only days are Sundays, Mondays, and Thursdays. Extended snag and release will be allowed for up to seven days immediately following an early season closure.

Camping is not allowed at Sundheim Park in 2023 but the Game and Fish Department will allow camping during the season at Lewis and Clark Wildlife Management Area Pumphouse and at the Neu's Point parking lot. For more information visit <https://gf.nd.gov/>.

In Montana, all 2022 standard paddlefish regulations remain in effect during the 2023 season but a new regulation has been added. Snagging is now prohibited in the Intake fish bypass channel. As before, Upper Missouri River anglers from Fort Peck to Fort Benton may harvest or catch and release all days of the season. Fort Peck Dredge Cut archery-only anglers may harvest all season days but Yellowstone River and Missouri River anglers downstream of Fort Peck Dam may only harvest Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Catch and release snagging may only be done at Intake Sundays, Mondays, and Thursdays. For more information visit <https://fwp.mt.gov/>.

In North Dakota, free fish cleaning services again will be provided at the Confluence by North Star Caviar. Montana, Fish, Wildlife & Parks will be offering a free paddlefish cleaning service at the Intake fishing access site on harvest days and for the first six weeks of the paddlefish season in Montana. There are no cleaning services in the white or blue tag fisheries but there is a paddlefish reward hat if the harvested fish is reported accurately.



# The Culbertson Museum



Have you wondered what it was like to step back in time to the days of the old west, when the land was untamed and brave pioneers carved out a piece of land, where frontier doctors practiced medicine, school teachers taught lessons to multiple-aged children in a one-room schoolhouse, and cowboys sat around a campfire swapping stories? These things can be experienced in the Culbertson Museum. Where you can learn what life was like from the 1890s to the 1940s through a series of displays and a wide variety of artifacts that will make you feel as though you are right back there with the frontier legends.

The museum has been open for over 30 years and continues “preserving the past for the future.” From its beginning, 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, a homestead and summer kitchen, a schoolhouse, barber and beauty shop, a saloon, a church, and 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, they have a 1896 Sterling wood threshing machine, one of two in North America. Young and old, alike, can learn something about Montana history. The museum is located on Highway 2 E of Culbertson and is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. from Mid-May through Mid-September. There is no admission fee, but donations are greatly appreciated. For more information, call 406-787-6320 or contact us on our Facebook page.

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Pictured left: Historical photos of Culbertson area residents.

Pictured bottom left: The general store exhibit at the Culbertson Museum.


**Culbertson Museum**  
Visitor's Information Available

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# 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 NW 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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# Norseman Museum

## Tioga, ND

The former 1st Lutheran Church building in Tioga was used as the Norseman Museum, and was located where the present Tioga Police Department is now. The present location was opened in September 2020 at 108 N. Welo St.

The museum is a collection of historical information, and artifacts from Tioga, ND, and surrounding area. It includes an Oil Capital of North Dakota display that keeps growing with a scale model oil derrick and an actual oil well pumper. It also has a Viking ship built by the the Tioga Sons of Norway. There is a library with archives of Tioga and surrounding area.

The Norseman Museum is made up of 16 sections. Some of those include: farming, homesteading, railroads, churches, schools, hospital, military, oil & gas, fraternal organizations, airport, and first responders.

The museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 2-5 p.m., or by appointment call 701-641-3419 or 701-641-3182.

They are also open during Freedom Fest, and Farm Festival, and other events that are posted on Tioga Historical Society Facebook. Field trips are welcome at anytime.



1905 Cadillac



Oil Pump on display



Tioga Medical Center

## TIOGA NORSEMAN MUSEUM

We welcome you to our museum on weekends or by appointment. We are also open during Freedom Fest, and Farm Festival, and other events which are posted on Tioga Historical Society Facebook. Field trips are welcome at anytime.



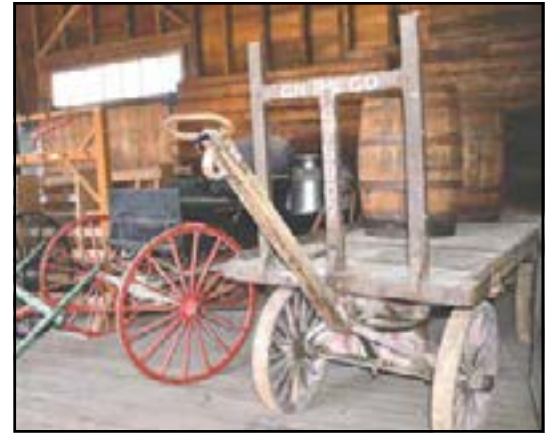
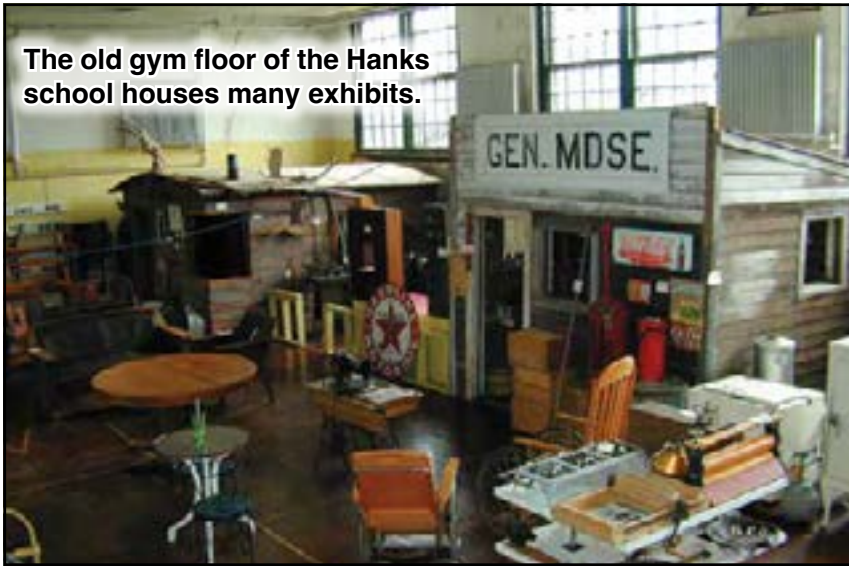
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# Pioneer Trails Museum

## Hanks, ND

The old gym floor of the Hanks school houses many exhibits.



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

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. In 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.

# Buffalo Trails Museum

## Epping, ND



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 painting, dioramas, and life-sized human figures posed in scenes from the past. Some of the favorite exhibits include a reconstruct-



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

ed Assiniboine village, a pioneer home scene, fossils and a diorama called an Indian Tree Burial. The museum will be open this summer.

Epping is also host to Buffalo Trails Days, which will be held Saturday, July 8 starting at 9 a.m. and Sunday, July 9 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Watch for updates on the Buffalo Trails Museum Facebook page.

# 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 camping sites with electricity, 2 cabin rentals, modern bathrooms and shower, RV dumpsite and fresh water available.

For the fishing enthusiast, they also have a bait and tackle shop, a fish cleaning station and boat ramps. This year there is extreme low water boat ramp available.

Gas is available for purchase.

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 Hellandsaas.

Recent improvements that have been made are the addition of two tornado shelters, a walking path connecting both campgrounds a basketball court and volleyball court.

The resort holds many events throughout the year. The 4th of July festivities will include music and a fireworks show on July 3 and a BBQ and parade on July 4 and the annual Fall Fishing Classic tournament will be held Sept. 9. Tobacco Gardens also holds a cardboard boat race, minnow races, music throughout the summer. Call to see what is on the schedule, movie night every other week (weather permitting) and Saturday night prime rib or barbeque.

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. For the latest updates check our Facebook page.



Karla Stoll and her grandson, Cameron, caught the biggest fish he had ever caught at the west side of Tobacco Gardens. (Photo submitted by Karla Stoll)



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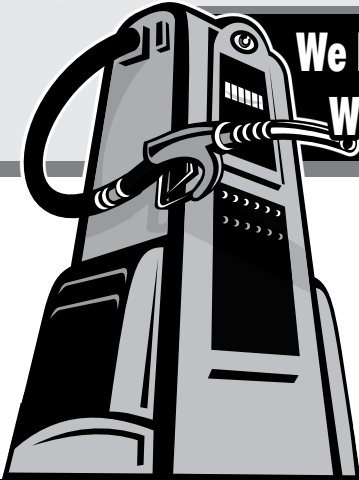
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# McKenzie Co. Heritage Park & ND Oil Museum

## Watford City, ND

By Meagan Dotson

Take a step back in time while visiting the McKenzie County Heritage Park & North Dakota Oil Museum located at 904 2nd Ave. SW, Watford City.

The museum sits on six acres and several historical McKenzie County buildings have been relocated to the grounds for public display. These include a barbershop, blacksmithing shop, home-stead shack, church, George Shafer's Law Office and the "end of the line" train depot from the Great Northern Railroad.

The McKenzie County Heritage Park & North Dakota Oil Museum proudly houses a woolly mammoth femur bone, tusk and tooth from the Ice Age era, and while walking the grounds, visitors will see antique cars and farming equipment. The museum houses several exhibits, many of which have been donated by local families.

In November 2022, the former Pioneer Museum relocated their exhibits and artifacts to McKenzie County Heritage Park & North Dakota Oil Museum. Formerly located in the Long X Trading Post Visitor Center, the decision was made to transfer items from the Pioneer Museum as the Long X Trading Post Visitor Center is transitioning to the Long X Arts Foundation building and they needed the extra room.

Musical instruments, clothing and dishes are some of the items that were relocated. However, one of the most exciting additions from the Pioneer Museum is the Charles Bannon exhibit. Charles Bannon confessed to killing the Haven family, who he worked for on their farm located near Schafer, ND. Following their disappearances, Bannon stayed on the farm and tried selling the family's property and crops, telling suspicious neighbors that the Havens



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

had left the area. In January 1931, while in custody, a lynch mob broke down the door to the jail, overpowered the sheriff's deputy and took Bannon to the bridge over Cherry Creek where they hung him. It would be North Dakota's last lynching.

Winter hours are Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Summer hours, which begin Memorial Day weekend are Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sundays from 1-5 p.m. For more information on how to do a little time traveling with this historical gem of North Dakota, contact Ferin Moore, museum director at 701-842-6434, visit them online at [visitwatfordcity.com](http://visitwatfordcity.com), or check them out on Facebook.



**Morgan Bricca working on the mural inside the new building at the Heritage Park and ND Oil Museum in Watford City.**



**Pioneer Museum relocated their exhibits and artifacts to McKenzie County Heritage Park & North Dakota Oil Museum.**



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- Carnival Thursday - Saturday, June 15-17
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# Kent Pelton Nature Park

## Watford City, ND

By Jaymi Mozeak

The Kent Pelton Nature Park, Watford City, is one of the many attractions that bring people to visit the area. It is a lovely little park with well-kept lawns, cool waters, and clear, and level walking paths.

There is much to do in this newer park. There is a fishing pond that is kept stocked with trout and catfish.

The first Saturday in June is the Children's Fishing Derby. It is very popular. Preregistration is required to guarantee a spot because there are only 90 kids allowed in each of the two different sessions.

From the end of July to the end of September the local Farmer's Market is held on Thursdays.

There is no overnight parking at Kent Pelton Nature Park, however, a nearby Tourist Park has camping, two playgrounds, coin-operated showers, an amphitheater, and RV hookups.

Kent Pelton can be rented in part or whole for events. There are picnic shelters, two of which have electricity, and a 300-person pavilion also with electricity.

There is an arboretum with over 30 different varieties of trees. There is also a fishing dock, charcoal grills, a restroom, a kitchen, a grass trail along Cherry Creek, and the Watford City Park District Honor Pole. The Honor Pole designee award recognizes individuals or groups who uphold the values, traditions, and successes of the Watford City Park District Community. Honorees and their accomplishments inspire and encourage Watford City Park District



The annual Kids Fishing Derby was held at Kent Pelton Nature Park in Watford City on June 4, 2022. Although it was a slow day of fishing, Jax Andrews, 3, caught this 49.6 cm catfish with his parents Chase and Laurel. The Andrews are from Sidney.

patrons to do the same.

Kent Pelton served Watford City for many years. He was a teacher, Park Board member, City Council member, and mayor. He started the expansion of the park before he died in 2015. The Kent Pelton Nature Park was named in his honor.

Kent Pelton Nature Park is a slice of beauty and history that showcases what North Dakota has to offer.

For more information visit [www.watfordcityparks.com](http://www.watfordcityparks.com).

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# Theodore Roosevelt Park

## North Unit

View the colorful North Dakota Badlands with its sweeping vistas as one of the last remnants of wilderness in the Northern Great Plains.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park memorializes the 26th president for his enduring contributions to the conservation of our natural resources. There are three 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 that includes Theodore Roosevelt's life while living in North Dakota.

A small visitor center is located at the park entrance for visitors to the North Unit. You can speak with a ranger, receive assistance trip planning needs, obtain a backcountry permit, purchase a souvenir or watch the park film, "Refuge of the American Spirit". Restrooms are available at this location.

The vehicle entrance fee is \$30 for one private, non-commercial vehicle and its occupants for seven days; a motorcycle entrance fee is \$25 for one motorcycle and its riders for seven days; and a non-motorized individual entrance fee is \$15 per-person, this fee grants access for individuals on foot, bicycle, or horseback to all units of Theodore Roosevelt National Park for seven days.

Juniper Campground is open all year and is available for tents



**The River Bend Overlook at Theodore Roosevelt Park North Unit.**

and RVs. There are no hook-ups but a dump station is available during the summer months. Camping fees are charged all year. The summer rate for the campground is \$14 May- Sept.; and the winter rate is \$7 Oct.-April.

Miles of hiking trails bisects the park, which offer a closer 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. You can check at the visitor center for a current list.

For more information on Theodore Roosevelt National Park visit <https://www.nps.gov/thro/planyourvisit/north-unit.htm> or call 701-623-4466.

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# McKenzie County Fair

## Watford City

By Meagan Dotson

The McKenzie County Fair is happening Wednesday, June 14-Saturday, June 17. The county fair will be the debut event for McKenzie County Ag Expo, with the ribbon cutting ceremony being held during the Bulls & Broncs event.

The carnival will run Thursday-Saturday; be sure to check out the vendors and take in the exhibits.

There is free admission to the Olaf Leiseth Memorial Draft Horse Event at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14. Events include an obstacle course, pole bending, swamper race, and corn cultivating. For more information, or to enter contact Peggy Hellandsaas at 701-570-9383 or Chris Kubal at 701-307-0516.

Thursday, June 15, is Military Day, 4-H clubs will be showing their animals, and there will also be a parade at 4:30 p.m. on Main Street, and a free beef barbecue at 5:30 p.m. At 7 p.m. Bulls & Broncs will kick off their event and the ribbon cutting ceremony for the McKenzie County Ag Expo will take place that evening.

The Demolition Derby is taking the spotlight on Friday, June 16 with their Back the Blue Night. There will be two classes which are limited weld and chain. Payouts for each are \$3,000 for first place, \$2,000 for second, \$1,000 for third, and \$250 for fourth place. There is an opportunity for an additional \$3,250 for either



**Demolition Derby is taking the spotlight on Friday, June 16 with their Back the Blue Night. (File photo)**

class that has 10 or more cars; the money will go towards mad dog and additional placing. There are no entry fees for cars; for more information on the Demolition Derby contact Travis Kubal with 223 Promotions at 605-354-5593.

Last, but certainly not least, is the NDRA Rodeo on Saturday, June 17 at 7 p.m., slack at 12 p.m. Saturday is also EMS Day. Admission prices for all events are \$20 for adults, \$10 for ages 7-12, and free admission for those 6 and under.

Groundbreaking for the McKenzie County Ag Expo took place in the fall of 2021, with the intention of giving the fairgrounds a new home. Be sure to take in the sites and visit their exhibit hall, livestock expo, arena and grandstands.

You won't want to miss the tried-and-true tradition of the McKenzie County Fair, or making memories in their new location, McKenzie County Ag Expo located at 12880 25th St. NW, Watford City.



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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 country's 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. From north to south, they are the Wolf, 8.8 miles; Long X, 5.8 miles; Summit, 3.8 miles; Overlook, 0.3 miles; Maah Daah Hey, 144 miles; Bennett, 3.2 miles; Cottonwood, 6.9 miles; Ice Cave, 1.5 miles; and Buffalo Gap, 18.9 miles.

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 on the Maah Daah

Hey Trail System: CCC, Bennett, Buffalo Gap, Burning Coal Vein, Coal Creek, Cottonwood, Elkhorn, Magpie, Sully Creek, Summit, and Wannagan. Three of these campgrounds have a limited number of reservable sites.

They are Buffalo Gap, Cottonwood and Sully Creek.

The trail features eight strategically placed water caches: Bear Creek, Beicegel Creek Road, Long X, Magpie Road, Plumely Draw, Roosevelt, Third Creek, and Tom's Wash.

There are 16 trailheads connecting access roads to the trail system: CCC, Bear Creek, Bennett, Bully Pulpit, Buffalo Gap, Burning Coal Vein, Coal Creek, Elkhorn Ranch, Ice Cave, Magpie, Peaceful Valley Ranch, Plumely Draw, Sully Creek, Third Creek, Tom's Wash, and Wannagan. Please observe the No-Parking, No-Loitering,



Photo by Brian Payne

and No-Loading signs along the East River Road south of Medora. Parking along the road in this area can be dangerous.

Trail registers indicate foot use (hiking, backpacking & running) accounts for about 70% of the use, mountain bike use at 24% with the remaining 6% as horseback.

This area of North Dakota provides prime habitat for a variety of mammals and birds. Mule and whitetail deer, antelope, prairie dogs, and coyotes are often sighted, while an occasional golden eagle, red tail hawk, or prairie falcon may be spotted soaring above. Bighorn sheep and elk have been reintroduced into the area and can be spotted by keen observers especially near CCC campground on the north end of the trail. In addition, bison and feral horses roam the range in Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

The Maah Daah Hey Trail crosses the Little Missouri River in two places, Elkhorn Crossing and Sully Crossing. Water height varies with weather conditions. Knutson Creek, a slow meandering creek most of the year is crossed by both the Maah Daah Hey Trail and the Buffalo Gap Trail. The bottom of this creek is very muddy so subsurface puncheons have been constructed that will support the weight of trail users. Posts on each side of the banks marks the path of the crossing.

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.



CCC Campground is on the north end of the trail.

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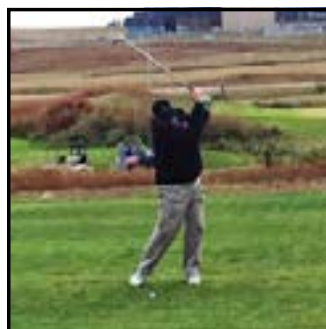
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# Confluence Interpretive Center

**15349 39th Lane NW, ½ mile east of Fort Buford**

The Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center opened in 2003, telling the story of the confluence of the two mighty rivers. The location of the Confluence Center provides similar views Lewis and Clark enjoyed as they passed through in April 1805 and August 1806.

The permanent exhibit gallery features, "Trails, Tracks, Rivers & Roads", exploring the geographical and geological past of the area and later, the impact made by people arriving by all means of travel. View an old 1914 Cadillac, an old steamboat lantern, and artifacts of arrowheads, Mastodon teeth, Civilian Conservation Corp and much more. The exhibits in the temporary gallery are updated every 3-5 years. It currently features "The Life of Sitting Bull".

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 reserve a room for use, contact the Confluence Center at 701-572-9034.

The Confluence Center provides programs for the public to enjoy.

Confluence History and Nature Lecture Series (1st Sunday of month) meets at 2 p.m. CT at the Confluence Center.

Historical Sewing, Textiles Arts and Projects (3rd Saturday each month 9:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. CT), meet at the Confluence Center, any level of sewing and skills are welcome to join and learn.

All times and events are Central Time and subject to change.

Check out the Fort Buford State Historic Site/

Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center Facebook for events and other activities 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 27 -Sept. 4, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m. CT.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children, and free for children under five. Bus and school group rates are available. Summer admission includes tours of the Field Officer's Quarters and Barracks at the Fort Buford Site. For more information, contact 701-572-9034.



**The Sitting Bull exhibit will be on display at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center until 2025.**

# Pioneer's Pride Museum

**Bainville, MT**



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.**

# Lewis And Clark Trail Museum

## Alexander, ND

What is happening at the Lewis and Clark Trail Museum in 2023?

Several new and continued projects are happening at the museum. We have recently completed renovations to several of our rooms and displays. For example, Lewis & Clark, Sakakawea, the Lewis & Clark Bridge in Williston, The Bannon Room, and the uniforms in the Replica Classroom have all been updated.

We have a great display featuring information about the "End of the Rope" movie that was filmed in McKenzie County and tells the story about Charles Bannon and the grisly murders of a family of six from Schafer, ND. Come and check out the new display!

New to the museum two summers ago was the establishment of the Pollinator Habitat Project. This is an ongoing venture. It started with a joint project between the NRCS, and the McKenzie County Chapters of Pheasants Forever. The Outdoor Heritage Fund, which provided monies to fund projects that enhance conservation practices in the state, has awarded a grant for this project's funding. Pheasants Forever is a non-profit organization dedicated to upland habitat conservation. Their mission is to conserve pheasants, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public access, education, and conservation advocacy.

Pollinators, animals including bees and butterflies, are vitally important. Eight-five percent of plants that flower depend on a pollinator to reproduce. The Monarch and bee population in the U.S. has declined dramatically. In the past few decades, it is estimated there is a 90% loss of the Monarch population. This is one reason



why initiatives such as the Pollinator Habitat Project at the Lewis and Clark Trail Museum is worth celebrating and supporting.

When Lewis and Clark with their Corps of Discovery came through McKenzie County, they could not have known what their endeavors would be the start of. The bounty of the area known to Native Americans and trappers would be explored and mapped for future generations. Pioneers who embodied the American spirit would forge new lives here.

The Lewis and Clark Trail Museum celebrates this great leg-

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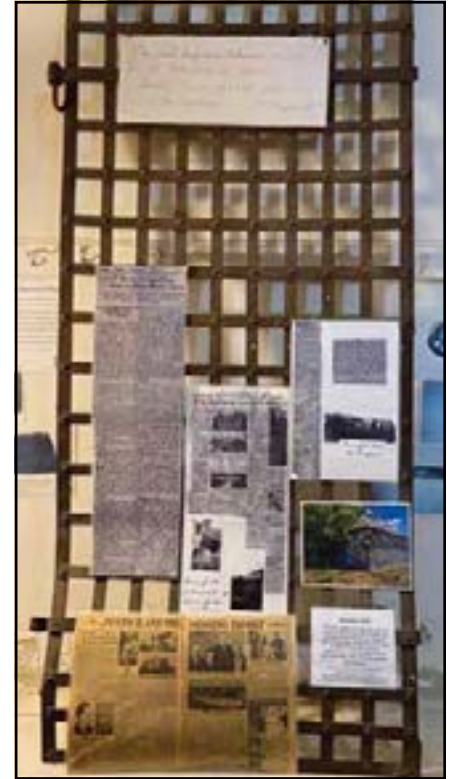


acy and is proud to be part of these projects, which celebrate the past and contribute to the ongoing vitality of the community and land. We are grateful to the organizations that made this renewal possible: Pheasants Forever Rick Pokrzywinski, president; North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund; McKenzie County Soil Conservation District; USDA; Cameron Wahlstrom and NDSU; and the Alexander Public School students.

It is hoped the public will enjoy stopping by throughout the spring and summer to enjoy the demonstration crops and beautiful flowers of the pollinator habitat and the museum. Stop by and see us this summer from Memorial Day to Labor Day.



The general store display at the Lewis and Clark Trail Museum.



Display chronicling the last lynching in McKenzie County The story has become a movie named "End of the Rope."

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*Located 23 miles southwest of Williston, ND*

Built near the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers between 1828 and 1867, nine Upper Missouri tribes, Assiniboine, Plains Cree, Blackfeet, Plains Ojibwa, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara, Crow and Lakota; annually traded buffalo hides, beaver pelts, and other furs for hundreds of goods imported from eight countries. In exchange for furs that ranged from grizzly bear and bison to mice, tribal trading partners received manufactured materials such as calico cloth, guns and ammunition, clothing, pipes, beads, and cooking ware. On average, the post received more than 25,000 buffalo robes and sold more than \$100,000 in merchandise each year.

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 SW of Williston, ND via Hwy. 1804; and 24 miles NE of Sidney, MT via Hwy. 58. Fort Union is open year-round; 2023 hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. CDT.



**The Fort Union Rendezvous will take place the third week in June.**

Summer Events:

- 3rd weekend in June: Fort Union Rendezvous
- 1st weekend in August: Indian Arts Festival
- Labor Day weekend: Living History Weekend

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

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# 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. Capt. William Rankin, 13th infantry, along with 89 enlisted soldiers, established the fort June 12, 1866. The post was built using adobe bricks and cottonwood enclosed by a 360x360 wooden stockade

Fort 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 of immigrants traveling to the gold fields, mail routes, pay wagons and protection of telegraph, railroad, and tribal allies. Fort Buford also served as a primary supply depot for units conducting military field operations against Native Americans in the region.

During the first years, the soldiers endured frequent Hunkpapa skirmishes, keeping them near prisoners. The Hunkpapas, 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, turned over 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.

Restored to their original condition, three original buildings remain on site: Field Officer's Quarters, Powder Magazine, and Office



**Period actors set up their demonstration during the encampment at Ft. Buford. (Photo submitted)**

of the Guard. The reproduction Barracks was completed in 2004. In 2014, the Masonic site (west 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 Fort Buford 6th Infantry Association, a local living history organization, 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 soldiers and civilians who had died at the fort and tell their story.

Please follow the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center/Fort Buford Facebook page for updates and additional events.

Fort Buford is located near Williston, ND on Highways 1804 and 58. The fort remains open from May 27-Sept. 4, 10 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. daily, CT. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children, and free for children under 5. Admission includes Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Bus and school group rates are available. For more information, contact 701-572-9034.

*Fort Buford 6th Infantry Association Annual*

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**6th Infantry Reenactment Group folds the flag during the Flag Lowering Ceremony. (Photo submitted)**



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# Trenton Lake Recreation Area

## Trenton, ND



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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.

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

For marine activities there is a boat ramp and a dock and plenty of room for fishing. Enjoy a day or a weekend at Trenton Lake Recreation Area for a lot of fun in practically your own backyard. For inquiries, please call 701-572-8317.

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# Old Armory

## Williston, ND

The Old Armory in Williston has served the area for many years. Throughout history it has acted as the National Guard Armory, the community's auditorium and recreation center, a place for hosting traveling theater groups, political rallies, high school commencements, dances, and much more.

More recently, the building has served as the community's center for performing arts, weddings, funerals, concerts and dances.

"This building has served as a cultural center for community members for many years," said Alan Billehus, Veterans and Friends of the Old Armory president.

Thanks to generous donors, volunteers, and grants, the building has been able to continue serving the community of Williston. The Old Armory Board, Veterans and Friends of the Old Armory, members of the local theater group Entertainment, Inc! and a list of volunteers have contributed to the longevity of the old building by helping raise funds for renovation projects.

Over the years, the building has gone through many renovations. Work has been completed on most of the major projects including window replacements, insulation, a new roof, and elevator repairs.

Thank you to the many donations that made our new Old Armory new floor possible. The completion of the beautiful new





**Entertainment Inc! actors rehearse "One Strange Night". Visit [entertainmentinc.org](http://entertainmentinc.org) for upcoming performances and purchase tickets. (Facebook photo)**

floor in the upper area was the concept of B. Michael Quale and Creative Carpets, Williston. We have had many rentals since the floor was installed and everyone is amazed at its artistic beauty.


The Historic Old Armory has housed Entertainment Inc! and has celebrated 41 years with wonderful entertainment for the surrounding communities. Thank you to B. Michael Quale, Jack Deville and Sandi Blikre and the many players for their wonderful vision for the Old Armory. We now house the performing arts for the area.

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# Frontier Museum

## Williston, ND



The Alamo Depot and Great Northern Caboose at the Frontier Museum.

Experience life in the past at the Frontier Museum complex located northwest of Spring Lake Park, Williston, ND.

The museum consists of a 1910 rural church complete with furnishings and available for rental for weddings; two modern buildings filled with artifacts; a 1908 two-story house complete with antique furniture and treasures and an 1888 grocery store; a restored Alamo, ND, train depot; and a fully equipped country school. Heffernan's Hack, the depot's first taxi, met every train arriving in Williston, picked up those from the train who needed a ride, and delivered them to their area destination.

The museum is also home to all sorts of transportation exhibits including sleds, sleighs, bicycles, memorabilia and pictures from the area. The Williston Tourist Information Center is housed in the Alamo Depot.

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday and Monday by appointment. Call 701-580-2415 to make an appointment or for more information.

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Displays, geared mainly towards the decades of the '20s through the '50s, feature themes such as trunks and quilts made during those decades. The museum also offers individuals the opportunity to "touch history".

There is also a World War II exhibit for people to view, commemorating the end of the war.

The Frontier Museum is located at 6330 1st Ave. W., Williston. It is open Memorial Day to Labor Day. Hours are

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# James Memorial Art Center

## Williston, ND



### “Preserving History, Promoting Art, Enhances Community”

The James Memorial Art Center operates in Williston’s original library building that opened on Feb. 27, 1911.

According to the James Memorial website, the idea for a local library started in 1909 when 80 women gathered in Williston to organize the Women’s Civic League. The group of women petitioned for funds to build the library. Arthur Curtiss James, son of D. Willis James (who Williston was named after) agreed to fund the project as a memorial to his father.

The building was used as the city’s library until 1983 when the Williston Community Library replaced it. It remained unused until the early 1990s when Williston was discussing demolishing the building.

A group of community members sought an opportunity to save the building, forming the James Memorial Preservation Society and opening the building up as a visual arts center in 1993. The non-profit organization assumed full financial responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the building and for exhibitions and activities it hosted. In addition to hosting traveling exhibits from artists across the region, the James also showcases several local and area artists in its two galleries. Several special events and art classes for youth and adults are also held throughout the year. Building spaces are also available to rent for special events, parties, and meetings.

Exhibits are always free and open to the public. Visitors are encouraged to check out the James Memorial Art Center at 621 1st Ave. W., Williston. Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. and Friday 12-5 p.m., September-April. The gallery is also open Sundays from 1-5 p.m. For more information on the James Memorial Art Center, visit its website at [www.thejamesmemorial.org](http://www.thejamesmemorial.org) or follow them on Facebook, Instagram, and Tik Tok.



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