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Mental health nursing center deals with COVID spike.



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Students enjoy extracurricular activities.

Shrine game players named, page 11.

COVERING CENTRAL MONTANA LIKE THE STARS

LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2020

Dr. Paul Suarez joins the CMMC orthopedic surgeon team



Orthopedic surgeon Dr. Paul Suarez joins CMMC and loves the Montana lifestyle 10 days out of each month.

Photo by Miriam Campan

By MIRIAM CAMPAN | Reporter

Dr. Paul Suarez commutes 1,936.1 miles each way for his 10-day a month rotation as CMMC's orthopedic surgeon.

"When I first got out of the Army I lived in Great Falls from 1989 to 1994, then went back east to get closer to family.

Suarez, who is originally from Queens, went to Columbia University in New York, and currently resides in Sayre, Pennsylvania.

"I rotate 10 days a month with the other doctors, (Dr. Sensiba and Dr. Hebert), and between the three of us we can handle 90% of orthopedics.

"We are trying to get our patients quality orthopedics here and save our patients the time and expense of traveling down to Billings," he added.

As a child Suarez saw three avenues for a career. "My father said I could be a lawyer, engineer or a doctor, but then I went to Columbia and majored in architecture with a pre-med concentration," said Suarez.

He added, "I got into medical school. I like to fix things and I like working with my hands."

Dr. Suarez has been an orthopedic surgeon for over 30 years and appreciates the advancements in technology that assist in the hip and knee replacements, surgeries on the hand, foot, knee and ankle, as well as wrist arthroscopy.

As for living in Lewistown Suarez said, "I thought it was a classic Montana town. The area is wide and open and beautiful. There is a sense of being free here despite the masks. The people are really friendly out here. It's part of the unbeatable culture of the place."

Suarez, who has a wife of 40 years and seven children (two of which are still at home in Sayre), will be spending Christmas here in Lewistown, but connecting with his family via Skype.

"I'm planning on cooking up shrimp scampi for the holiday," he said.

A shot of hope



CMMC RN Liz Howell draws up a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine Tuesday afternoon. CMMC received its first shipment of the vaccine, enough for 300 doses.

Photo by Matthew Strissel

First vaccines against coronavirus given at CMMC

By DEB HILL | News-Argus Managing Editor

Tuesday afternoon marked the end of the pandemic – or at least the beginning of the end – in Central Montana as front line healthcare workers at the Central Montana Medical Center received the first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

"It was fun to see the excitement as the possibility of a vaccine became a reality Tuesday," said CMMC CEO Cody Langbehn. "People were laughing and joking about pushing to the front of the line."

Langbehn said CMMC received 300 doses of the Moderna vaccine by FedEx delivery Tuesday.

"We are thawing it out 100 doses at a time and will vaccinate our Tier 1 employees first," he said.

Because there are not enough doses for everyone at CMMC to be vaccinated this go-round, Langbehn said a team at the

hospital drew up a list of "tiers" of employees, starting with people who have daily contact with those who are, or could be, positive for COVID-19.

"These are truly our frontline staff," Langbehn said.

As more vaccine becomes available, people in CMMC's Tier 2 – those who could be exposed to COVID-19 through their work, such as registration staff -- will be next in line, followed by Tier 3, those with administrative duties.

In addition to the tier structure, employees can opt in or out. More workers wanted "in" this week than the amount of available vaccine, however.

"We asked who was interested in 'early adoption,'" said Langbehn. "We've taken the position that it is completely voluntary, as we want to support people's right to decide for themselves whether to get vaccinated. We recognize this is an 'emergency use' vaccine."

See Vaccine | Page 5

Flying club looks to inspire the next generations of aviation enthusiasts

By KATHERINE SEARS | Reporter

"Everyone dreams of wanting to fly," said Tanner Collins, who is heading an effort to reestablish the Lewistown Flying Club.

The club previously operated from 1960 to 1982 until fuel prices played a role in disbanding the organization. Locals interested in aviation recently began researching flying clubs and how they could revive one to help others learn to fly or further their aviation licensing right in Lewistown.

Collins said they have incorporated the club as a non-profit, member-only social organization that will be able to provide a plane more affordably due to the shared cost from members. Members will be able to hire their own instructors and train in the club aircraft.

"The goal is to inspire the next generation of aviation enthusiasts," said Collins. "Members will be able to see when instructors are available and schedule time with them."

See Flying | Page 5



Joel DeVries, left, and Tanner Collins stand inside the Lewistown Municipal Airport hangar after discussing the current state of the Lewistown Flying Club, which they are working to reestablish.

Photo by Katherine Sears

COVID-19 UPDATE
As of Thursday morning, the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in Montana was 79,929, up 2,937 cases since last Friday.

Harry's Place New Year's Eve Special Menu
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State mental health nursing facility sees several COVID deaths

By DEB HILL
News-Argus Managing Editor



Zoe Barnard

One of the tragedies of the coronavirus pandemic is the impact it's had on nursing homes and assisted living facilities nationwide. Montana has not escaped that national trend. According to a Dec. 16 update on the state's COVID-19 tracking website, out of (then) 836 Montana deaths from complications of COVID-19, 345 were in long term care or assisted living facilities – over 41%.

Local facilities have seen the same outcome, including deaths. The News-Argus confirmed Wednesday that since September, six residents at the Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center have succumbed to complications of COVID-19. Both residents and staff members have tested positive for the coronavirus.

Administrators for the mental health nursing facility say they believe they've now eliminated coronavirus from the facility.

According to Zoe Barnard, administrator of the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division

of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, the first COVID-19 cases showed up in the facility at the end of August.

"Since early September we have had six residents die from COVID-19," Barnard said. "However we have been able to clear up the outbreak due to tight control over procedures. As of today [Wednesday] we have no one testing

positive, either staff members or the residents."

Barnard said when the first cases of COVID-19 occurred, the staff created an isolation area to try and contain the disease.

"At the height of the outbreak, we couldn't keep everyone completely isolated but we did implement strict measures. It's difficult, as these are fragile residents who move around a lot and we had to stop them from interacting in order to control the disease."

Barnard said before the first case, the facility was already using protocols implemented across all state health care facilities, such as use of appropriate PPE, hand washing and limitations on visitors. When the outbreak occurred the administrators also began screening staff and residents.

"We have been doing surveillance screening since the summer and we will continue that until it is no longer needed," she said.

Barnard said the residents' deaths have been very difficult for everyone at the facility.



The Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center saw an outbreak of COVID-19 this fall but both residents and staff are now testing negative for the coronavirus

Photo by Deb Hill

"We regret the loss of each and every one," she said.

Explaining the facility follows the best available guidelines for keeping residents safe, Barnard said they have passed four federal audits this

year.

"We had one minor issue on the first audit, which we fixed, and nothing at all on the next three, which is very good considering the auditor's job is to find something we

are doing wrong. I am incredibly grateful for the work of our staff. They care deeply for the residents. This [the pandemic] has been very difficult. They are tired but they are unstoppable," Barnard said.

CORRECTION

A photo of a bighorn sheep jumping out of a trailer that ran on the front page of Wednesday's News-Argus was incorrectly attributed. The photographer is Lori Thomas of Lewistown. The News-Argus regrets the error.

Commerce Department awards Workforce Recovery Grants to businesses to rehire workers

Funding will support 10 additional businesses in rehiring 53 employees

The Montana Department of Commerce announced that another 10 Montana businesses have been awarded Workforce Recovery grants to rehire workers laid off due to the impacts of COVID-19. The businesses will share a total of \$310,000 to support rehiring 53 employees.

"Through the temporary Workforce Recovery program at Commerce, Montana businesses that are ready to bring workers back can receive some additional support to sustain those jobs into the future," said Wayne Johnston, Business Assistance Bureau chief at Commerce. "Businesses can apply directly for these workforce recovery grant dollars to help refill jobs that were lost due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic."

The Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund Workforce Recovery program provides reimbursements to businesses for the wages of full-time, permanent jobs created and retained for at least six months, up to 25 jobs per business. Businesses are eligible for a reimbursement of up to

\$7,500 per job in high-poverty counties, with a \$3,750 match per job from the business. A reimbursement of up to \$5,000 per job, with a \$5,000 match, is available for businesses in all other counties.

The program has also assisted 31 other businesses in rehiring 183 workers.

The Workforce Recovery program was created to support businesses impacted by the pandemic. The ability to establish the temporary program was made possible by a governor's directive that provides flexibility in the existing Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund program at Commerce. Funding for the temporary program comes from reverted BSTF Job Creation awards, it does not replace or pause the well-established business development program.

Applications are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds are expended or until Dec. 31. Businesses can apply directly to the program at marketmt.com/bstf/WorkforceRecovery.

Lewistown News-Argus 5-Day Forecast				
SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
Cloudy	Chance Snow	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Precip: 20%	Precip: 35%	Precip: 5%	Precip: 0%	Precip: 20%
10 mph WSW	10 mph W	10 mph S	10 mph SW	10-15 mph SW
38 / 17	28 / 11	31 / 10	29 / 12	33 / 17

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Christmas dinner underway



Cooking a holiday meal for Christmas delivery also means cleaning up. Volunteer Helen Hutchinson stands over a sink and does her part to provide a merrier Christmas for those that may not have a dinner otherwise. Hutchinson was part of a large group of volunteers who used the Trade Center to prepare Christmas meals for members of the community. The event was organized by members of First Presbyterian Church.

Photo by Miriam Campan

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School board discusses retirement incentive, PIR and stipend

By MIRIAM CAMPAN
Reporter

The Lewistown Public Schools Board of Trustees held a special board meeting this past Monday, Dec. 21 for further discussion on a proposed retirement incentive, PIR days and a stipend for teachers to compensate them for additional hours needed in response to COVID-19 and for providing instruction in a variety of methods.

Discussion on the incentives was amongst board members, the district business manager and Lewistown Education Association representative Luke Brandon.

"We are real nervous about anything to do with funding," said Board Chairman Phil Korterba.

Incentive ideas included a lump sum, or a monthly installment over three years, and estimations of payout based on sick leave along with length of employment.

Superintendent of Schools Thom Peck asked if permission from the Teacher Retirement System was required before crunching the final numbers for the early retirement proposal.

Business Manager Rebekah Rhoades said, "We would have to buy out unused sick days. We could have a big commitment as far as cash goes. TRS always asks that we run the retirement incentives past them."

The board also continued discussion on the proposal made by the LEA at the Dec. 14. meeting regarding the stipend and one day per month PIR.

Brandon began the discussion with a commentary on the extra work and extra planning time involved in providing instruction not only in the classroom, but also virtually and one-on-one.

Brandon said, "They [teachers] have an obligation to their students that doesn't have a monetary value. The fact there is additional COVID money we felt that was as good a place to start as any. Teachers are at the end of their rope."

"Where are the funds going to come from?" Korterba asked.

Rhoades explained the various COVID sources already spent, and said there is \$200,000 left from a \$256,000 grant that has specific requirements for spending.

Rhoades added, "That money [Corona Response Funds] has to be spent by 2022. There are rules for the grant. You have to

identify additional workload and be able to audit it. As long as we can identify and show additional time spent by teachers... we will need to get that documentation in place."

Peck said, "The CRF uses language like 'work or duties outside of the regular workday related to disruptions or school closures.' That is pretty vague, but I think it would be very easy to document time on Google Classroom or video chatting or communicating with students or parents outside of the normal school day."

Another consideration for the Board was the issue of certified staff, who also have been putting in extra hours.

Brandon said, "I just negotiate for the teachers," when questioned about paraprofessionals and other classified staff.

"Classified staff get overtime, at time plus half of their hourly pay, and the certified staff do not," said Peck.

Kindergarten teacher Megan Hicks spoke to the board regarding the extra responsibilities and time required since the onset of the pandemic, and the importance of a PIR day dedicated to planning and teacher collaboration.

Hicks said, "We do tons of extra hours. Teachers usually had done two to three lunch duties a month; this year we are doing 13-14. Recess duties are pretty rough and have increased, plus we have kids in the classroom. We are busting to get everything done. We would appreciate a chunk of money for all the hard work being done. On the proposed PIR day, we would use that Friday for planning. The burnout rate is hitting us pretty hard."

She added, "Even before COVID, we had a weekly planning meeting and this year, every week, we are doubling our planning in person, and our Google documents for distance learners and for virtual learners. All plans are ready at the drop of a hat, especially if we send home something for parents and for kiddos in a 10-day quarantine. We continue to plan for worst case scenarios."

The board then approved the second reading of policy 1910 - COVID-19 Emergency Measure Personnel use of leave.

The meeting was then closed to the public as the board went into Executive Session to conduct the Superintendent's Evaluation.

The board will reconvene at the January meeting with the retirement incentive, certified stipend and one day per month PIR as action items.



Lewistown School Superintendent Thom Peck checks last minute emails before heading into a meeting with District Business Manager Rebekah Rhoades.

Photo by Miriam Campan

LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOTTER

Compiled by MIRIAM CAMPAN

The following report is taken from information provided by the Central Montana Dispatch and does not represent the total scope of police or sheriff activities. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

Nov. 24

- One 911 accidental dial was reported.
- Three fraudulent calls were reported.
- A caller reported an individual walking on Forest Grove who stated they were going to Kansas. A Fergus County deputy responded.
- A 911 caller reported a cow on the highway.
- A caller reported a possible intoxicated driver. A Judith Basin deputy responded but was unable to locate.
- A caller reported garbage and tires in the draining ditch. The owner was notified and will get the tires moved.
- A 911 caller requested medical assistance for a non-responsive, but breathing individual. EMS responded and transported the patient.
- Fish, Wildlife and Parks requested assistance while a warden spoke to someone in Limestone Canyon. A Judith Basin deputy responded.
- Northwestern Energy reported a gas odor at a residence. Lewistown Fire Department responded.
- A caller requested to retrieve personal items from an impounded vehicle. An officer advised the individual to contact their attorney.
- A parking complaint was reported.
- A 911 caller reported a noise complaint.

Nov. 25

- Two 911 accidental dials were reported.
- One fraudulent call was reported.
- A caller reported four bales of hay on the highway.
- A 911 caller requested assistance getting a patient into a wheelchair. EMS responded.
- A caller reported their computer was hacked.
- A caller reported malnourished horses. A Fergus County deputy responded.
- A caller reported a verbal altercation.
- Northwestern Energy advised an individual hit a power pole and cracked it in half. A Fergus County deputy was advised.
- A caller reported a disoriented individual walking around and a horse out. A Fergus County deputy responded and made contact with the individual.
- A Doctor's office requested a welfare check on a patient who needed to be located to get them insulin. A Fergus County deputy responded and made contact with the individual.
- A 911 caller reported a car swerving into oncoming traffic. A Fergus County deputy responded but was unable to locate the vehicle.
- A caller requested a welfare check on a distraught individual. Officers made contact and the individual was 10/4.
- A caller reported an individual keeps calling and threatening them.
- A caller reported an individual in an alley who was walking back and forth. Officers made contact and the individual was just walking back and forth to use WIFI.
- A caller reported a suspicious vehicle in their driveway. Fergus County deputies responded.

Nov. 26

- Three 911 accidental calls were reported.
- A caller reported an individual pulled another individual out of a vehicle and then left them on the ground and drove away. Officers made contact with all the involved parties and one individual was issued a citation for Disorderly Conduct and Minor in Possession of Alcohol.
- Officers made contact with an individual who was sleeping in a vehicle in front of the residence where they were staying.
- A caller requested medical assistance for a resident of an assisted living facility that had a high fever and low oxygen readings. EMS responded and transported the patient to CMMC.
- A 911 caller reported a group of hunters that crossed private property to access State Land. While on the phone the caller advised the landowner did not want to pursue charges. Fish, Wildlife and Parks was advised.
- A caller reported their neighbor may have used their credit card. An officer spoke to the caller.
- A caller reported someone stole the stereo from their vehicle and they may be able to identify the person. An officer responded.
- An alarm company reported a residential burglar alarm. Before officers could respond the company advised that contact was made with the subscriber and it was an accidental activation.

Nov. 27

- One 911 accidental dial and one fraud call were reported.
- A 911 caller requested medical assistance for an individ-

ual with chest pain. EMS responded and transported the patient to CMMC.

• A 911 caller reported an abandoned vehicle on DY Trail near Winifred. A Fergus County deputy responded but was unable to locate the vehicle.

• A caller reported a suspicious individual was walking around the neighborhood with a blanket wrapped around themselves. Officers made contact with the individual who was out looking for their dog.

• A caller requested to speak to an officer about being assaulted. An officer spoke to the caller and they came to the station to fill out a statement.

• A caller reported a power pole in Geyser appeared to be charred at the bottom of the pole. Northwestern Energy was advised.

• A gas station manager reported some thefts from a few days ago.

• A caller requested to speak to an officer regarding an old case.

• A Petroleum County sheriff advised they contacted the owner of an abandoned vehicle to have it removed from a driveway.

• A Lewistown Police officer made contact with the drivers of some vehicles on Main Street that had their doors open. The officer provided directions to a group from out of the area.

• A caller requested to speak to code enforcement concerning an issue with a neighbor's new fence.

• A caller requested that officers standby when they terminated an employee.

Nov. 28

- Five 911 accidental dials were reported.
- A caller reported a possible underage drinking party north of Winifred. Fergus County deputies responded, but were unable to locate any sign of the party.
- A Fergus County deputy reported an abandoned vehicle beside the highway.
- A 911 caller requested medical assistance for an individual with breathing complications. EMS responded and transported the patient to CMMC.
- A caller requested traffic control for a funeral procession in Winnett. A Petroleum County deputy spoke to the caller and provided the assistance along with a Winnett Fire unit.
- A caller reported a possible order of protection violation.
- A caller reported witnessing someone haze a deer off private property onto State Land in order to shoot it last night. A Judith Basin deputy and Fish, Wildlife and Parks were advised.
- A caller reported an erratic driver.
- A caller reported they found a gun they may have reported stolen a few years ago. An officer spoke to the caller.
- A caller reported a noise disturbance in the hallway of an apartment building. The responding officer did not locate any disturbance and spoke to a resident who did not hear anything.
- A caller requested a welfare check on an individual that may possibly be walking from Forest Grove to Lewistown. A Fergus County deputy and Fish, Wildlife and Parks was advised.
- As the result of a traffic stop an individual was arrested by a Judith Basin deputy and transported to the Fergus County Sheriff's Office detention center to be booked and released.
- A Fergus County deputy made contact with two people at the Carroll Trail Fishing Access and advised them to move along.

Fort Harrison VA Medical Center receives first shipment of vaccine

"Montana VA Health Care System is excited to have our first shipment of Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for our health care personnel and our Miles City community living center residents and staff," said Montana VA Executive Director Dr. Judy Hayman. "For over nine months, our healthcare teams and veterans have adapted time and time again to meet every new challenge during the pandemic."

"That said, we must remain vigilant, the pandemic is not over. We are going to celebrate that the arrival of the vaccines mark the next phase towards ending the pandemic. As our vaccine supplies increase, our ultimate goal is to offer COVID-19 vaccination to all Veterans and employees who want to be vaccinated."

Fort Harrison VA Medical Center is one of 113 VA Medical Centers across the country to receive the first limited supply of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Sites were identified based on need for the vaccine according to CDC's 1A prioritization and capacity to store the vaccine at -20C.

The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine was 94% effective in clinical trials in preventing COVID-19 disease. The vaccine is administered in two doses, 28 days apart. The side effects appear similar to those of other vaccines and are short-lived.


Thirty-seven medical centers began offering the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to health care personnel and Veterans Dec. 14. Fifteen additional VA facilities will receive an allocation of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine the week of Dec. 21.

Even after receiving COVID-19 vaccination, employees and veterans should continue wearing face coverings, practicing physical distancing and washing hands often.

As vaccines become available for more groups of veterans, MTVAHCS care teams will reach out to eligible veterans to schedule vaccinations. There is no need to preregister or come to a facility to sign up. Veterans can get up-to-date information on VA's COVID-19 vaccine webpage, which launched on Dec. 11, and sign up to receive regular updates on the vaccine on the VA's Stay Informed page.

MTVAHCS's overall trust scores, which derive from veteran rankings of their health care experiences, are at a historic high. MTVAHCS provides healthcare to Veterans across Montana through a series of community-based clinics, the Miles City Community Living Center (Montana VA's only nursing home), an acute care medical center, a nationally acclaimed sleep center, and robust telehealth services.


The MTVAHCS serves over 47,000 enrolled veterans across Montana, an area roughly 147,000 square miles in size. Veterans are cared for by a staff of 1,400 at 17 sites of care across the state. One third of Montana VA employees are veterans.





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GUEST OPINIONS

Freedom is not possible without stability

By BOB BROWN

From the cluttered old attic that is my memory I remember that "Stability is possible without freedom, but freedom is not possible without stability." It is a truism, I think, and I was reminded of it in a recent discussion with a group of Chinese graduate students studying to become officials in China's government.

This was the fourth time I had spoken to this university group over the years. Careers are determined in China on the basis of testing and since managing government is a particularly high priority in the government-centered system of China, these students are high achievers. I didn't have to ask to know that membership in the Chinese Communist Party is a requisite to the career path these young scholars have been selected for.

I was at the Mansfield Center at the University of Montana when I first addressed this group on the subject of culture and politics in the United States. They have all had 12 years of English so, this time, even over Zoom, no interpreter was necessary.

What surfaced more prominently in the Q and A sessions with this year's class was the deeply fundamental difference in our two systems of government, probably triggered by the political combat surrounding the recent U.S. election and its rough and tumble aftermath. The Chinese see this as the beginning of the inevitable smash up of a democracy. The Chinese believe that the ideal goal for humanity is a Communist utopia made possible by a classless society. Since they believe they have discovered the right track, they see no need for destabilizing elections.

Democracy, with its reliance on elections,

they argue, is an inherently unstable system. The U.S. has already outlived most of history's democracies. They see their totalitarian system as stable, and therefore so is their government.



Bob Brown

In our back and forth I asked them how they know their system is stable. The people in the U.S. and the world know every detail of our mass shootings, racial unrest and government dysfunction. Nobody knows what's going on in China that the government doesn't want known, and most notably that includes the Chinese themselves.

My Chinese students avoided discussing that the track China is on is taking them further away from a classless society. But since imposed stability doesn't permit change, the priority of stability must continue to deny freedom of opportunity for the poor. For reasons of economic stability, the Chinese system won't interfere with the concentration of wealth among the rich.

As before, I very much liked these bright and very gracious Chinese young people, but it was clear that our debate about stability and freedom wasn't going to be settled in our philosophical discussion. I can't understand the value of stability without freedom and the Chinese believe freedom always destroys the stability necessary for it to survive.

Good faith discussions, on any level, are always useful in furthering understanding and often lead to the solving of problems. Kind of makes me wish such dialogue could take place in the upcoming Montana legislature and the new session of Congress.

Bob Brown of Whitefish, Montana is a former Montana Secretary of State and State Senate president.

State parks experienced increases in visitation in 2020

By ANGIE GROVE and MARY SHEEHY MOE

As one of the most challenging years in Montana history comes to a close, we want to call Montanans' attention to the important role our state parks and fishing access sites have played during the COVID crisis.



Angie Grove

As social distancing became necessary and isolation common, Montana's parks and access sites offered a way for families to "be alone together" in the great outdoors. In the first half of the year alone, four out of five state parks experienced increases in visitation, with huge spikes in February, March and April.

In eastern Montana,

Makoshika saw a nearly 60% increase in January-June visitations. In western Montana, Thompson Chain of Lakes welcomed 40% more visitors. And in the heart of Montana, Ackley Lake experienced a stunning 156% increase in visitation.

In spite of the pandemic, our state parks and fishing access sites continued to support Montana's significant tourism industry. Our water-based parks were a huge draw for Montanans and out-of-state visitors as well. As an example, preliminary statistics for floaters on the Smith River from April 1 - Oct. 8 show that 4,269 Montana residents and 1,340 non-residents floated on their own, a new record for private floaters on the Smith. Outfitted floaters guided another 402 residents and 300 non-residents. New protocols for camping and launching, enacted as COVID measures, had the corollary benefit of increasing the flow of tourism dollars in nearby communities.

In short, 2020 was the busiest season on

record for the state park system. We all know why. Even though the pressures of a pandemic have hemmed us in, "the outside is in us all." To reflect on the story of the girl who saved her brother at Rosebud State Park; to teach your children about how the "medicine rocks" at Medicine Rocks State Park came to be; to allow your worries to be washed away as you fish the day away on a Montana lake. These are not just ways to escape the modern world. They are ways to get in touch with what matters.

Providing this outlet in a safe way for a record number of visitors required an extraordinary effort on the part of state parks staff statewide. In addition to their usual duties, they put in 16-hour days for weeks on end, keeping public areas clean and making social distancing possible while providing an experience for visitors that continued to be first-class.

As leaders of Montana's State Parks and Recreation Board, we thank our staff for going above and beyond at a difficult time. We thank Montana's legislature for continuing to invest in maintaining and improving this tremendous asset to our state. Finally, we thank all the visitors to our state parks who treat these unique spaces as the treasures they are. Thanks to all of you, we were not stuck inside in 2020. The beauty of Montana's landscape, culture, and recreation was here for us all.

Angie Grove is the chair and Mary Sheehy Moe is the vice-chair of the Montana's State Parks and Recreation Board



Mary Sheehy Moe

Farmers, ranchers, see wins as Omnibus and COVID relief bill passes the House

By REBECCA COLNAR

The Montana Farm Bureau applauds the House passage of the 2021 Omnibus and COVID Relief Bill which includes wins for farmers, ranchers and rural America. The bill provides \$13 billion in total to policies and programs that support farmers, ranchers and the agriculture sector with \$11.2 billion provided to the Office of the Agriculture Secretary to support ag producers, processors and contract grower impacted by the coronavirus.

One of the wins included passage of the Montana Water Rights Protection Act. That legislation will define the federally reserved water rights of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and settle the legal claims of the Tribes against the federal government, legislation that the Montana Farm Bureau has been working on and supporting for many years.

"It's rewarding to see that something we have been working on for so long finally got a period put on it," said Montana Farm Bureau Executive Vice President John Youngberg. "The funding of the Montana Water Rights Protection Act will allow Montana agriculture to move ahead with the water adjudication process. We want to thank our

entire Congressional delegation for their support and hard work over the years on this critical water legislation."



Rebecca Colnar

Other wins for agriculture includes specialty crop producers will be able to include crop insurance payments and disaster payments in their 2019 sales calculation, providing a more accurate picture of farm income. The bill also renews the Paycheck Protection Program.

Livestock producers will see some relief, as the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program will offer expanded resources for state-inspected meat processor through the Requiring Assistance to Meat Processors for Upgrading Plants which will greatly benefit the small processing plants in Montana. The bill also contains an extension of Livestock Mandatory Reporting as well as an extension of Electronic Logging Device exemption for livestock haulers.

"Although it still has to pass the Senate, the entire omnibus bill has some much-needed relief for pandemic-affected agriculture and we appreciate the bi-partisan support," Youngberg said.

Rebecca Colnar is the director of media relations and publications for MFBE.

LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS

A Yellowstone Newspaper (USPS 311-120)



Office Hours

The Lewistown News-Argus is a twice-weekly community newspaper that has been serving Central Montana since 1883. Based in Lewistown, the News-Argus serves the region from Winnett in the east to Stanford in the west and Winifred in the north all the way south to Judith Gap and everything in between. Our motto is "Covering Central Montana Like the Stars." The newspaper is published every Wednesday and Saturday by Central Montana Publishing, 521 W. Main, Lewistown MT, 59457. The News-Argus is open from 8 to 5 Monday through Friday. Our phone number is 535-3401 or 800-879-5627. The manager of the business office is Lynn Toller.

Have an idea for a news story?

If you have a news tip, a correction, or any question about the news, call 535-3401 and ask for Deb Hill, the managing editor. She can be contacted by email at editor@lewistownnews.com.

Other members of the news and composition departments include Matthew Strissel, Miriam Campan, Katherine Sears, Alice Neal and Megan Manley. The deadline for the Wednesday edition is Monday at 5 p.m. The deadline for the Saturday edition is Thursday at 5 p.m.

Want to place a classified ad?

To place a classified ad (want ads, for sale, etc.) call 535-3401, email classified@lewistownnews.com, or fax to 535-3405. The Classified Manager is Meagan Baldry. The deadline for classified ads is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Wednesday edition and 10 a.m. Friday for the Saturday edition.

News-Argus subscriber rates

In County, Print and Digital: \$5.85 per month; 3 months: \$19.25; 6 months: \$38; 1 year: \$70; 2 years: \$122

Outside of Fergus County, but within Montana, Print and E-Edition: EZ pay: \$6.25 per month; 3 months: \$40; 6 months: \$53; 1 year: \$82; 2 years: \$142

To subscribe, contact Bill Phillips at 535-3401 or circ@lewistownnews.com.

Want to place a display ad?

To place a display ad in the paper, call our advertising department at 535-3401, email advertising@lewistownnews.com, or fax to 535-3405. The Advertising Manager is Dearlene Hodiak. The advertising sales representatives are Terri Selph and Cindy Hall. The display advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. for the Wednesday edition and Thursday at 5 p.m. for the Saturday edition.

News-Argus website

The News-Argus website is located at www.lewistownnews.com. The site is updated throughout the week and features a sampling of the news stories from the print editions, as well as interactive polls, blogs and other news and entertainment. The site also contains all of the ads that appear in the classified section as well as banner advertising opportunities and display ads from the print edition. For questions about the website, email publisher@lewistownnews.com.

Commercial Printing

News-Argus Printing is a full-service commercial printing company, located in the basement of the newspaper office. They can print anything from business cards to full color brochures & magazines. Tim Hartford is the Commercial Printing Manager. You can e-mail Tim at printmgr@lewistownnews.com or call 535-3401.

Who is the Publisher?

The publisher of the Lewistown News-Argus and News-Argus Printing is Jacques Rutten. He can be contacted at publisher@lewistownnews.com or by calling 535-3401.

Outside of Montana, Print and E-Edition: EZ Pay: \$7.33 per month; 3 months: \$47; 6 months: \$64; 1 year: \$98; 2 years: \$167

Digital Only (same rate applies regardless where subscriber lives): EZ pay: \$5.85 per month; 3 months: \$19.25; 6 months: \$38; 1 year: \$70; 2 years: \$122

POST SCRIPT

As much Christmas as possible

By CARRIE CLASSON

Whatever you think about Christmas, I think you would have to agree we needed one this year.

Everyone I know seemed determined to do as much Christmas as it is possible to do. My pastor announced at the beginning of Advent that we were going to have 26 consecutive Zoom Advent services.

"We're having 15 minutes of Advent reflections every night!" she announced. "Surely she means every week," most of the congregation thought.

"Every night!" she repeated for clarification.

"I am not Zooming every single night of Advent," I thought. "That's just excessive."

But after the first night, I looked forward to the second night and then it became a habit and, after a few nights, I couldn't imagine missing my little 15-minute dose of Christmas hope and positivity and fellowship. Fifteen minutes was just enough to settle my thoughts. There was music. I was asked to read a couple of times. We all waved "hello" at the beginning and, before we knew it, we were waving "goodbye." I can't remember ever feeling the approach of the Christmas season so intimately, so incrementally, so intensely.

I heard there was a worldwide shortage of Christmas trees.

Folks who haven't bothered to put up a tree in years decided this was the year. Usually, if I have a tree at all, I look for a skinny tree I can stash in the corner and still have room for company. Not this year.

This year, I got a big fat tree fresh off the truck. I figured no one else was using the space so, instead of tucking it in the corner, I set it smack-dab in the middle of the room. When I came down the next morning, that tree had doubled in size. My husband, Peter, was completely hidden behind it, as if he were reading the news in the for-

est.

I embraced every-night-Advent and the world's fattest Christmas tree because there was so much else that wasn't the same and, of course, I missed it.

There was no crush of middle-aged cousins getting together on Christmas Day. My mom didn't host Christmas brunch and we didn't open presents together and I didn't hear my niece and nephew play piano in church. None of the things make Christmas seem like Christmas happened, and yet I looked forward to the day with a peculiar fervor.

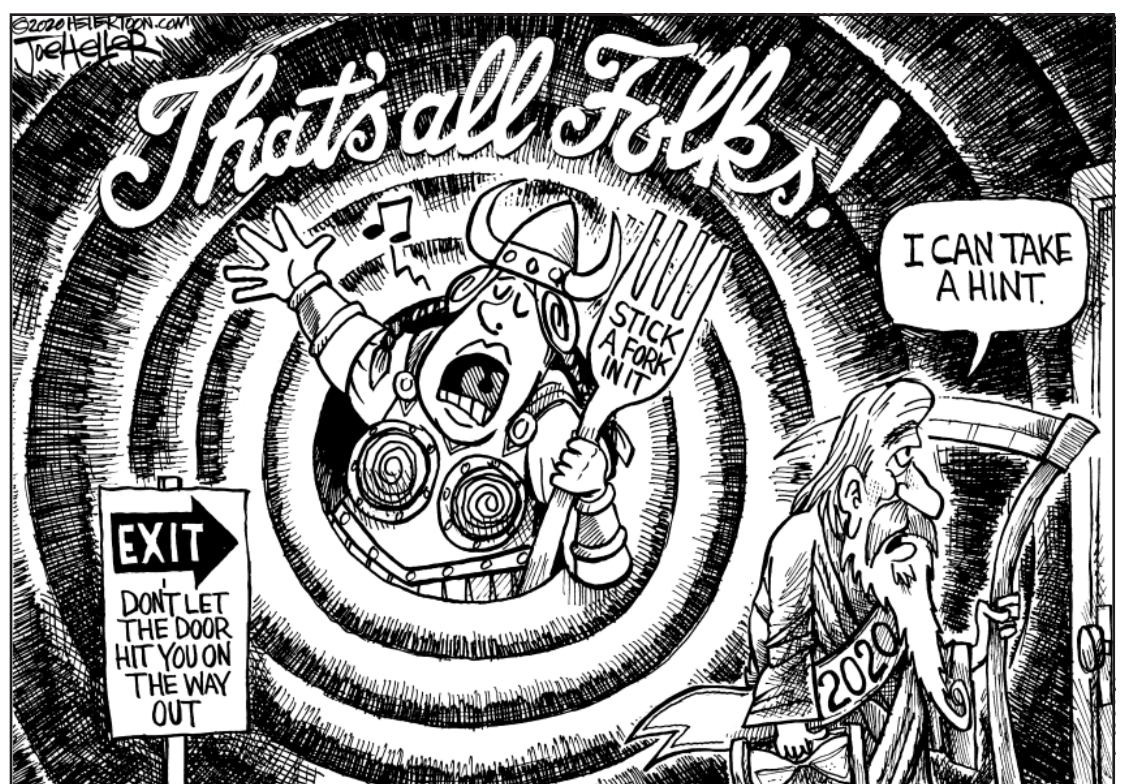
I think about people long ago who watched as the days grew shorter and the nights got longer and the weather grew colder and their supplies dwindled. When the winter solstice arrived, they needed to assure themselves that the darkness would end. They needed to pull together whatever sort of comforts they could manage and thumb their noses at the cold and dark and growing fear that spring might never come, that the sun might simply disappear one afternoon and never return.

So they had a party. I'm sure most of the parties were small, as Peter's and mine was. But they would eat something special and haul something green into the house and build a bigger fire than usual and reassure themselves that the dark and cold and loneliness would end and a better day would come.

And that's what we did this year. We huddled around our Zoom and our oversized tree and ate a little extra peppermint ice cream and Peter's good ginger cookies and were grateful for everything we have and more grateful yet that this time — this dark time — will slowly but surely be coming to an end.

Till next time...

Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.



Vaccine

◀ From Front Page

One of those anxious to be first in line was Deb Pratt, medical lab assistant and phlebotomist at CMMC.

"I was very excited. I felt like I was helping to protect others," she said.

Pratt's job puts her in direct contact with possible COVID patients as she "swabs" those who are symptomatic or have been identified as close contacts.

"I know there are people who are concerned about getting this vaccine," she said. "I hope they can see me as a role model and maybe feel more comfortable to do it."

Neither Pratt nor Langbehn said they experienced anything other than "a sore arm" as a result of getting the vaccine.

"I wasn't scheduled to get vaccinated yet," Langbehn said. "I was sitting there as they finished at the end of the day Tuesday and they had an extra two doses. We didn't want to waste it, and they asked if I wanted to go, and I said, 'sure.'"

Everyone who received a first dose of vaccine this week will be scheduled for a second dose in a month, as two doses are required for optimal immune response.

Langbehn said the whole process on Tuesday gave him "a little infusion of hope."

"It's a first step, but it's a big first step, for getting on top of this pandemic," he said. "There's a light at the end of the tunnel."



Dr. Kim Schaaf, Dr. Amy LePage, Cheryl Ulrich, Deb Pratt, Amanda Larson and Angela Phelps stand strong against COVID-19 after receiving vaccinations Tuesday afternoon.

Photo courtesy of Steph Prater



(Photo above) CMMC Medical Lab Assistant Deb Pratt gets a first dose of the Moderna vaccine Tuesday from RN Liz Howell.

Photo by Matthew Strissel

FedEx driver Matt Bamfield delivers the first 300 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to the Central Montana Medical Center Tuesday.

Photo courtesy of Steph Pratt

Flying

◀ From Front Page

"We want to provide an opportunity for people to fly and Lewistown has a great airport," said Joel DeVries, who is looking to earn his pilot's license locally.

DeVries and Collins said they were also motivated to reestablish the club when they found it difficult to find instructors for themselves, or a plane to use.

"We asked around a lot and got a lot of 'I can teach you, but I don't have a plane,'" said DeVries.

Although all the details haven't been completely ironed out yet, the club has a good lead on a couple of pilots willing to instruct, and a few possible options for acquiring a plane. Collins said the club will work to purchase its own aircraft, lease a plane from a local pilot, or work out a lease-to-own deal with an aircraft owner.

"A lot of flying clubs are actually able to offset the cost of ownership for plane owners by leasing from them," said Collins.

The club currently has a fundraiser set up online to raise enough money to guarantee one year of lease payments, hangar cost, and insurance.

"Our goal is to make this opportunity as affordable as possible, so we are hoping to fundraise in order to offset some of the initial expenses," Collins stated on the fundraising page.

The club will also be offering a free 10-week ground school virtually, and will conduct one round table session per week to answer questions for potential aviators, beginning in February.

"This is for anyone interested in flying to see if it's something they would like to pursue," said Collins.

The fundraising site states the club plans to charge a one-time membership fee, a monthly fee, and an approximate \$75 per tach hour fee. Tach hours are the actual hours put on the aircraft's engine.

In addition to the cost benefits of joining a flying club, Collins said it is also a social benefit.

"It's a social thing too," said Collins, "The camaraderie and sharing knowledge between pilots allows us to maintain proficiency and keep it safe."

Collins trained to be a commercial pilot and is looking to further his licensing through the club.

"Most members are new to flying, but a couple of us are rusty pilots," said Collins. "I'm a rusty pilot. But I think a lot of the guys just want to learn to fly to be able to go out into the backcountry."

DeVries identifies as one of the new guys. "I wanted to fly for a long time, and was looking for an opportunity to learn," said DeVries.

For more information about the Lewistown Flying Club, the virtual ground school, or to donate, visit lewistownflyingclub.com.

V.A. service officer visits Lewistown

A Veteran's Affairs Service Officer will be in Lewistown on Wednesday Jan. 6, Wednesday Jan. 13 and Wednesday Jan. 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day at the American Legion/VFW Post. Please

be advised to follow health guidelines, wear a mask when meeting in person.

The Lewistown field office is permanently closed. The Great Falls field office will now handle all claims for Judith

Basin and Fergus Counties. Call or email the office in Great Falls for VA questions and claims work at 452-2265, Danarnold@mt.gov, Kbrunken@mt.gov, Chering@mt.gov, or Zachary.slay@mt.gov.

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LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS

OBITUARIES

Jeremy "JD" Daniel Kelsey

Jeremy Daniel Kelsey joined his eternal Heavenly Father on Dec. 13, 2020.

Jeremy "JD" Daniel Kelsey was born Oct. 7, 1980 in Colorado Springs, Colorado at the Fort Carson Army Base, to David and Roxanne "Olemeda" Kelsey.



Jeremy was raised in Wyoming. He loved the outdoors and spent endless hours with his brother Justin creating fun and adventurous activities. He spent many weekends as a child camping with his family. Some of his favorite memories were when his older brother Nick would visit from California. Nick, Jeremy, and Justin got into their share of mischief during those visits.

He left Wyoming in 1996, and moved with his mother and younger brothers to Helena, Montana. Jeremy worked at BMC Building Materials and Construction, Casey Truss plant, and Wheat Montana bakery in Three Forks.

In 2014 he moved to Garneill with his father and stepmother. He fondly referred to the small place as "the ranch." He helped make many improvements to the property during his time there. He went to work at Hi-Heat Industries in 2016 and later moved to Lewistown, where he worked and lived until the time of his death.

Jeremy was very close to all his brothers; he was a devoted brother and always felt a strong responsibility for his younger brothers, Justin and Jacob. He was a caretaker at heart. Jacob remembers Jeremy as his mentor.

Jeremy's heart was especially tender towards his nieces and he enjoyed spending time with Shealey (Shea Shea) and Kealey (K K) in Helena.

Jeremy was a strong-willed independent thinker and had fervent political opinions. He was a patriotic American with passionate views on world events. In 2016 he attended the Trump rally in Great Falls with his good friend Bryan Omerza. He was so excited and proud that he experienced this piece of American history and got to show support for his candidate. He was always up for a good verbal sparring with anyone who wanted to "talk politics" or discuss the affairs of the world.

He had a "get 'r done" attitude at work and thrived in the production environment of the truss plants and Hi-Heat Industries Inc. He made many friends at Hi-Heat over the years. His hefty boisterous voice could be heard clearly on the Hi-Heat production floor. Working on difficult and challenging projects sparked his creative side and he took great pride when he mastered them.

Jeremy is preceded in death by his grandfathers, David Olemeda and Earl Kelsey.

Jeremy is survived by his mother, Roxanne Olemeda, Helena, and father David Kelsey, Wyoming; grandmothers Maria Corinna Olemeda of Fountain, Colorado and Judith Kelsey of Basin, Wyoming; brothers Nicholas (Ashley) Kelsey of Prescott, Arizona, Justin "Scott" (Shadow) Kelsey of Helena and Jacob Kelsey of Helena; nieces Ashlyn, Shealey, Kealey, Makiyaa Rose, and nephews Aidan and Dylan; his partner, Heidi Craig of Lewistown, and his stepmother, Tracy Schmidt of Lewistown; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Our son, grandson, brother, uncle, nephew, cousin, and friend has left us far too soon.

You knew you were in his "circle" if you ever heard him say to you "Love ya, man!"

At this sorrowful time, we take comfort in the fact Jeremy is now at eternal peace and he is in paradise with his loving Heavenly Father. His physical presence on this earth is now absent; however, the spark he left in our hearts will never be extinguished.

Our activities in Heaven are somewhat unclear to us in this earthly realm we now inhabit; however, we have this assurance that in the Heavenly realm Jeremy is now in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ. Praising his Savior, and I will guarantee you his voice is clearly heard.

He is gone from us now, but Jeremy's passionate, energetic, enthusiastic presence will never be forgotten by those of us who had the privilege of knowing and loving him. Jeremy loved hard and those of us who were fortunate enough to experience his love have received a great gift we will cherish forever.

Rest in peace Jeremy, "JD", "J" until we see you again in paradise.

A service in Celebration of Jeremy's life will be held at the Celebration Community Fellowship, 361 West Frontage Road, Lewistown Montana on Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021 at 2 p.m.

He's got a message

Brandon Beriault holds a protest sign in front of the News-Argus on Thursday. Beriault says he does not think liberty can survive if everyone is living in fear of the virus. He also believes the economy will suffer if fear takes over.

Photo by Deb Hill



Montana expands Parenting Website; infants all the way to teens

Officials with the Department of Public Health and Human Services announced the expansion of ParentingMontana.org, a website created specifically for parents and those in a parenting role.

The expansion includes new resources that provide practical tools to support parents of children 0-4, information for current foster parents and those considering fostering, increased access to the information through audio files, informative "how-to" videos, and a new podcast series featuring national parenting experts all incorporated into the newly designed website. ParentingMontana.org is developed by the Center for Health and Safety Culture at Montana State University.

"DPHHS is committed to supporting Montana's parents and children," said Jamie Palagi, DPHHS Early Childhood and Family Support Division administrator. "ParentingMontana.org provides timely information at the fingertips of parents, youth, prevention specialists, and counselors in easy-to-use formats. We all want what's best for our children, and this website helps address challenges with helpful suggestions and tips grounded in research and best practices."

Palagi said the early years of a child's life are vital to their development. She noted the wide range of information the website provides for the 0-4 years group covers building confidence, reading, setting routines, handling tantrums, instilling empathy, developing resilience and more are addressed in tools for parents of infants.

"Social and emotional development is critical during early childhood and it can be challenging for parents to manage and know how to support healthy development," Palagi said. "Adding specific information for 0-4-year-olds provides practical tools to support parents of young children to be the best they can be and give their children a healthy start in life."

Palagi said the mental, emotional, and behavioral health of children is shaped by their earliest interactions with those caring for them.

Research shows the mental, emotional, and behavioral development of children directly impacts their academic and health-related outcomes in childhood and adulthood. Parents and those in a parenting role have a unique opportunity to influence and teach the social and emotional skills that children need to bolster their MEB health. The website provides parents tools for a wide range of issues that walk parents

through a five-step process of skill development.

The new foster parent section of the website helps answer questions of those considering foster care, helps prepare those who have decided to move forward, and includes a section that focuses on the first 24 hours, first week and first six weeks after a child is placed in a foster care. "The first few days and weeks are critical for both foster parents and children, and the website will be a tremendous resource for foster parents going forward," said DPHHS Child and Family Services Division Administrator Marti Vining. "We are always looking to improve how we communicate and provide information to foster parents, and this is an excellent addition."

Vining urges those interested in becoming licensed foster parents to call 1-866-936-7837 (866-9Foster) or by going online and filling out a Foster Care Inquiry Form here <https://dphhs.mt.gov/CFSD/Fosterparent/fostercareinquiryform>

The website also includes tools for parents of children ages 5-19 in audio format. Busy parents can now access the popular tools in multiple ways; as web pages, as pdf files, and now as audio files. Another addition to the website is podcasts featuring national parenting experts.

One podcast features "Ways to Grow a Healthy Parenting Relationship," and the other podcast is about an often-challenging topic for parents, "Guidance and Discipline for Skill Building."

In addition to tools for parents, ParentingMontana.org has a toolkit of resources for community prevention coordinators to get the word out across Montana and to help facilitate this information with parents. Resources for engaging teachers, health-care providers, law enforcement, and other community liaisons are available in the coordinator toolkit.

ParentingMontana.org first launched in 2019 with a set of resources to support the success of Montana's children from kindergarten through the teen years. The website also includes a Media section, which can be used to share resources with others, including video, radio and print materials. These can be shared on social media, in newsletters, or through traditional channels such as television, radio, and direct mail. All the tools and information on the website can be easily viewed, downloaded, or shared electronically. The website also has a link of how Montanans can connect with a Prevention Coordinator in their area.

2020 Revision of Montana Forest Action Plan finalized Will be headed to Governor's office

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation announced it has released the finalized 2020 revision of the Montana Forest Action Plan.

DNRC delivered the completed plan to Governor Steve Bullock, and also submitted the final version to the USDA Forest Service. The Montana Forest Action Plan is Montana's all lands, all hands plan for addressing forest health and wildfire risk and will help guide forest restoration and management efforts across the state for the next 10 years.

"The well-being of our forests is an issue that concerns all Montanans. Whether it's preventing catastrophic fire or making sure our forest products industry is strong, Montana's forests need us to reach across fence lines and work together to improve forest health and reduce wildfire risk," said Bullock. "Through the work of the Montana Forest Action Advisory Council, all Montanans can see themselves and the diverse needs of our communities represented in the Montana Forest Action Plan. I look forward to seeing the further collaboration that comes from putting this plan into action across the state."

Under the 2008 Farm Bill, Congress tasked states and territories with assessing the condition of trees and forests within

their boundaries, regardless of ownership, and developing strategies to; conserve working forest landscapes, protect forests from harm, and enhance public benefits from trees and forests. States who submit a Forest Action Plan qualify for federal funding from USDA Forest Service's State and Private Forestry. Since 2010, Montana has received just under \$50 million in federal funding as a result of completing the first Montana Forest Action Plan in 2010. The current revision of the Montana Forest Action Plan was written to go beyond the basic requirements of a Forest Action Plan and will facilitate more collaboration and coordination between agencies, local government, and other partners to accelerate the pace and scale of cross-boundary forest restoration and management.

"At DNRC, we work every day to make sure that the state's natural resources continue to provide all the benefits we've come to know and expect from our landscapes. The Montana Forest Action Plan is one more tool we have to target collective investments and capacity that are needed to promote and protect our forests and local communities," said John Tubbs, DNRC director.

As a part of his Forests in Focus 2.0: a Cross-Boundary Col-

laborative Approach initiative, Bullock called for the revision of Montanan's state Forest Action Plan. With DNRC as the key convener, the Montana Forest Action Plan was developed by the Montana Forest Action Advisory Council, a statewide group of proven collaborators appointed by Governor Steve Bullock who worked together to develop and advise on measures needed to address forest health issues and reduce wildfire risk to communities and infrastructure.

The 2020 revision of the Montana Forest Action Plan is made up three components:

- Statewide Assessment of Forest Conditions, the Priority Areas for Focused Attention;
- A set of recommended goals and strategies that address forest health; wildfire risk; working forests and economies; habitat and biodiversity; human health; urban and community forestry;
- Sustaining cross-boundary work.

Within the plan, 3.8 million acres of forested land across the state were identified as Priority Areas for Focused Attention, which represent areas across the state with the biggest opportunities for cross-boundary, collaborative forest restoration and management to take place and have a meaningful impact.

With the release of the plan, DNRC began a formal solicitation process for forest management and restoration projects that exemplify the goals and strategies outlined in the plan. Bullock recently bolstered this initiative by announcing that the State of Montana will allocate \$4.5 million from the state's Fire Suppression Fund to help implement the Montana Forest Action Plan and fund cross-boundary, collaborative projects in addition to \$500,000 from the USDA Forest Service. Such projects should utilize the funds to help accelerate the pace and scale of forest restoration and management on Montana's forested lands to reduce wildfire risk to Montana communities and infrastructure and improve forest health. To begin allocating portions of this funding, DNRC initiated a Request for Proposals process and all project proposals are due January 29, 2021.

In addition to funding cross boundary, landscape scale projects in Montana, the Montana Forest Advisory Team and supporting agencies intend to utilize the Montana Forest Action Plan and the results of the initial funding allocation to better compete at the national level for additional funding opportunities.

Additional information on the RFP or the initial funding is available at the following link: <https://www.montaneforestactionplan.org/pages/request-for-proposals>.

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a Happy New Year*

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Support for frontline workers



Erin Knerr, (left) vice president and COO of Fergus Federal Credit Union, stands next to a banner for Hometown Heroes at the Central Montana Medical Center Wednesday. The Credit Union donated \$3,000 to the program, which provides food and beverage gifts to frontline workers. Hometown Heroes organizer Whitney Brady (right) joined Knerr to recognize the credit union for its support of the program.

Photo by Cindy Hall

AT THE HEAD OF THE CLASS MSU students named to fall semester 2020 honor rolls

Montana State University has announced its undergraduate honor rolls for fall semester 2020.

There are two MSU honor roll lists: the President's List and the Dean's List. To be eligible for the lists, students must be enrolled in at least 12 college-level credits. This honor roll list was current as of Dec. 22 and includes all registration corrections or grade changes processed to that date.

The 1,546 students with a perfect 4.0 grade point average for the semester were named to the President's List. An asterisk follows their names below.

The Dean's List includes the 3,834 students earning grade point averages of 3.5 or above for the semester.

Montana students named to MSU's President's or Dean's lists, ordered according to their hometowns, follow. The full list of students is available at <https://www.montana.edu/news/20713/msu-students-named-to-fall-semester-2020-honor-rolls>.

Lewistown: Cole Ayers, Becca Bawden*, Cassidy Bawden*, Danielle Birdwell, Wyatt Blythe, Jonathan Chen, Allison Denton, Annie Franz*, Jessica Granger*, Tanner Mannin*, Melissa Mueller, Kodi Myhre, Alysah Southworth, Katherine Strohm, Tanner Trafton*, Nicole Woollett

Denton: Conner Bokma, Kein Carpenter, Parker Donaldson, Morgan Ward

Hilger: Nicholas Sweeney

Hobson: Chloe Derks*, Isabella Long, Rachael Stevenson, Alyssa Thomas, Morgan Wertheimer*

Moccasin: Kristen Vincent

Moore: Jessica Horan*, Kaitlyn Weinheimer

Stanford: Sarah Hughes, Kelsey Westveer

Winifred: Samantha DeMars, Anna Slivka

Winnett: Molly Nunn

Major construction complete for Stanford Airport Improvement Project

By MELODY MONTGOMERY
Special to the News-Argus

The largest project in Judith Basin during 2020, improvements to the airport, is now for the most part complete, other than paperwork and small finishing items, Judith Basin County Commissioner Jim Moore said, following a tour of the facilities with other commissioners, the engineer and airport manager a couple of weeks ago.

This approximately \$3.2 million dollar project involved improving and upgrading the Stanford Airport/Biggerstaff Field. It had been in the works 10 years and involves the reconstruction and rehabilitation of runways, taxiways and aprons at the Stanford airport.

To fund this project, limiting the tax burden to local residents, Judith Basin County had been saving up federal dollars for a decade. In 2019, the Stanford Airport was one of 13 rural airports in the state to receive federal funds through the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Pro-

gram. With additional funding becoming available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), the total project was fully funded.

Schellinger Construction began work on Aug. 10.

On Dec. 9, Commissioners met with Lance Bowser and Forrest Walker of Robert Peccia and Associates, as well as Airport Manager Tyler Youderian, to go over the final report on the Biggerstaff Stanford Airport rebuild. Youderian is president of the Stanford Flyers Club, Inc., a non-profit formed in January 2017.

"It's a very nice facility, especially with the lighting package," said Youderian. "It is 20 years of life added to the airport. It feels ice to see it completed, and to have the commissioners' and communities' support."

Airport uses

While rural, the Stanford airport is used for a number of services. For example is utilized by Air Force helicopters, National Air Guard, Mercy Flight, fire fighters, pipeline



Shown here is the Stanford Airport/Biggerstaff Field before the upgrades. Through the Stanford Flyers Club, those landing at the airport in Stanford can receive full aviation services, including access to a courtesy car, and in the future, bathrooms, and a pilots' lounge.

Photo courtesy of Tyler Youderian

patrol, instructional flights, agriculture landowners and local aircraft owners and pilots, families, tourists, business travelers, pilots like the Stanford Flyer's Club.

Montana State Fund presents PPE grants to 37 Montana classrooms

Montana State Fund, Montana's largest workers' compensation insurance company, presented personal protective equipment grants to 37 classrooms across Montana. The grants, which are part of MSF's Growing a Safer Montana program, usually include safety eye protection, fall protection gear, gloves and ear

protection, among other equipment, and are intended to help students understand the importance of operating safely in their environment.

"Through our Growing a Safer Montana initiative, we are committed to improving Montana's workplace safety culture," said MSF

President and CEO Laurence Hubbard. "We can only improve the safety culture through education and reinforcement of positive safety habits. If we start in the classroom, the next generation of Montana's workforce will be better equipped when they step onto the job site. Our goal is to send students and workers home

safely to their families at the end of each day."

The Growing a Safer Montana initiative began in 2017 and is available to high school trades and industry classrooms statewide. The grant maximums are up to \$750 in value resulting in \$30,000 in safety grants for Montana schools.

Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting moved to Dec. 30

The Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting originally scheduled for Dec 22 has been moved to Dec. 30 from 9 to 10 a.m. via Zoom. The only item on the agenda is to approve meeting minutes from the previous meetings. There will be

no other subject matter.

Details on how to access the meeting will be posted on fwp.mt.gov closer to the meeting date. The meeting will also be audio streamed online at fwp.mt.gov.

Commission meetings are

fully accessible to those with special needs. To request arrangements, call FWP at 406-444-3186.

FWP's website offers live streamed audio of each Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting.

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9	2	7	5	3	8	6	1	4
7	8	4	2	5	3	9	6	1
6	3	2	9	7	1	4	5	8
5	9	1	8	6	4	3	7	2

Level: Advanced



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Taylor Grazing Act, part 1

Central Montana Coalition investigates historic law and bison compatibility

By MELODY MONTGOMERY
Special to the News-Argus

With an area of 1.1 million acres spanning approximately 125 miles along the Missouri River, Montana's Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge (the CMR) is the second-largest wildlife refuge in the continental United States.

The CMR was created initially as the Fort Peck Game Range in 1936, and connects on its west end with the 377,000-acre Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (the Monument), established in 2001.

The CMR is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Monument is managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Both of these federal entities fall under the Department of the Interior.

While this public land and wildlife corridor (i.e., the Monument and CMR) has existed for decades, recently the region has become the target area of a non-profit entity.

Like the Monument that was established in 2001, also established in 2001 was the Prairie Foundation, later renamed the American Prairie Reserve (the APR). Its stated mission is "to create the largest nature reserve in the contiguous United States, a refuge for people and wildlife preserved forever as part of America's heritage," according to the APR's website.

This mission involves gaining control of the private land surrounding existing public land.

While the APR is classified as a non-profit, the land it purchases through donors remains private land.

The APR currently holds, or has plans to hold, land in a total of seven Montana counties. These are Petroleum, Phillips, Valley, McCone, Fergus, Blaine and Garfield, as explained by the APR's Senior External Relations Manager Beth Saboe in 2019.

In order for APR to amass its goal of approximately 3.5 million acres of Montana (an area approximately the size of Connecticut), the APR must purchase hundreds of Montana ranches.

Eighty percent of the APR's overarching goal for its land mass is already freely accessible public land belonging to the people of the United States, when taking into account the existent CMR and Monument.

Regarding the other 20 percent, to date,

the APR has completed 29 land acquisitions and holds 419,000 acres of both public and private land.

Regarding the private land acquired by the APR, more than one historic Central Montana ranch has been purchased south of the Missouri River.

In 2016, the APR purchased the 50,000-acre PN Ranch in Fergus County, which had been priced at \$21.5 million, according to the real estate company Hall and Hall. The PN Ranch is 22 miles north of Winifred. This notable ranch was among the oldest working ranches in Montana. It is located where the Judith River joins the Missouri River.

In 2017, the APR purchased the 46,000-plus-acre Two Crow Ranch in Petroleum County, advertised at \$7.95 million, according to Rocky Mountain Ranch Realty. The Two Crow connects to the CMR.

After these purchases, residents of Fergus and Petroleum counties became more involved, since the APR was now in their backyard.

"For us struggling north of the river for over a decade trying to maintain our economies while the APR purchased ranches, the energy that came from Fergus and Petroleum counties was a godsend," said Valley County Commissioner John Fahlgren.

Banners to band together

Considering that the second-largest wildlife refuge in the continental U.S. already exists in the APR's target area, some locals began to question the APR's end goal and sincerity.

To help protect and preserve agriculture and food production, a group of concerned individuals began a campaign called "Save the Cowboy" and created banners to bring awareness to the threat the APR poses to agriculture and Montana. To date, 1,189 banners have been distributed.

"The banners helped gain a lot of momentum," said Fergus County Commissioner Ross Butcher, "but we still need to voice our concerns."

This group, Save the Cowboy, and others, held fundraisers to raise money to investigate the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, specifically as it applies, or not, to the grazing of bison on public lands.

"We knew we could not match the APR dollar for dollar [regarding the purchase of



A banner for Save the Cowboy is displayed on a ranch gate. Banners were sold as fundraisers for an effort to stop the American Prairie Reserve's mission to create a 3.5 million acre preserve in Central Montana.

Photo courtesy of Judith Basin Press

ranches], so we looked to the law," said Laura Boyce, a Central Montana rancher who, with many others, has assisted in fundraising for the analysis of the Taylor Grazing Act.

Editor's note: Please see next Saturday's Ag page for part two of this story, which explains the group's review of the Taylor Grazing Act with regard to bison.

APR's History of bison introduction

The APR introduced bison to their landholdings 15 years ago.

In 2005, the APR first imported 16 bison from Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota, 20 in 2006 and 22 in 2007. In 2008, the APR imported 10 bison from the Nature Conservancy Kettle Grasslands Preserve in Iowa. In 2010, the APR imported 93 bison from Elk Island National Park in Alberta, Canada, 72 in 2012 and 73 in 2014, according to the APR's website.

In 2017, the APR asked the Bureau of Land Management for yearlong bison grazing on 18 land allotments and 20 state leases for 290,000 acres of public land, while also asking to remove fences as part of the APR's grazing strategy.

In 2019, the APR revised its application to be able to graze bison seasonally on five BLM grazing allotments and five state leases, totaling approximately 48,000 public acres.

This application is pending.

GUEST OPINION

Ag parity pays producers the true value of their commodities

By BRUCE SHULTZ

In the late 1920s, the federal government understood healthy farm economies make our country stronger. The agriculture parity concept was created to ensure farmers received fair prices for their back-breaking work. The first effort was vetoed by President Calvin Coolidge. But then, the Great Depression caused farmers to go broke, as their purchasing power declined year after year. Finally, the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 contained legislation to restore farm prices back to 1910-1914 levels, a period of great prosperity for farmers.

In 1941, the federal government took a step further, creating additional ag parity with its War Powers Act. The Steagall Amendment guaranteed crop prices at a 90% level of average farm commodity prices that occurred between 1910 and 1914. Inflation was computed into the calculations. Because of WWII, many parts of the globe were in food crisis. The U.S. put into place commodity price supports to ensure America and our allies would not go hungry. Because of that rational decision, U.S. farmers became profitable so they could remain on the land, ensuring we had enough food to win the war. The Steagall Amendment was written to expire just two years after WWII. The idea of parity lasted

until the Truman administration.

When President Eisenhower left office, he warned people about the military industrial complex. Unfortunately, he could not have foreseen the creation of today's agricultural industrial complex. Once parity was largely removed from the nation's agricultural policy, farmers have increasingly felt economic market pressure created by large multinational food processing corporations. The unchecked concentration of ag companies has increased low price market pressure, an example of this is the fact that just four companies process 85% of cattle in the U.S.

What parity really boils down to is paying producers what the true value of their commodities are, incorporating inflation costs to keep farmers profitable. If we look at historical inflation rates, one dollar in 1910 is worth \$22.95 in 2010. That same year, a bushel of wheat was worth \$1. That means the 2010 value of a bushel of wheat should be \$22.95. Unfortunately, in January 2010, the price of wheat was only \$5.69. That was a far cry from the rate of inflation.

We can also look at farmers' income through the lens of inflation. Even when you use production per acre, it still does not add up for farmers. In 1910, farmers harvested 12.4 bushels per acre; in 2010 it was

45 bushels per acre. If you take the acre value in 1910 one acre produced \$12.40. The price for wheat in Kansas was \$4.40. This equals \$198 per acre. Using inflation that \$12.40 per acre should have been \$284.62 in 2010. This demonstrates how the American farmer is falling behind the rest of society economically. I am not even going to bring up the rising input costs.

To put it simply, farmers are being left behind with our current system of industrial agriculture. Family farms are being squeezed out of business and corporate farms are taking their place. Producers must come together and spotlight dwindling rural economic conditions to our government leaders and emphasize the truth of what is going on within our food system. If the U.S. wants to continue to have high-quality and reliable food supplies, then we must make family farms truly profitable.

Bruce Shultz of Raynesford is Vice-President of the National Farmers Organization.

Central Montana Grain Market

Date	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat
Dec. 25		
Dec. 24	No Market -- Holiday	
Dec. 23	5.84	5.54
Dec. 22	5.77	5.47
Dec. 21	5.68	5.45
Dec. 18	5.64	5.46
Dec. 17	5.61	5.36
Dec. 16	5.52	5.28
Dec. 15	5.65	5.34
Dec. 14	5.61	5.32

Dec. 11 5.80 5.47
Dec. 10 5.57 5.36
Dec. 9 5.41 5.26
Dec. 8 5.35 5.19
Dec. 7 5.36 5.23

Prices are based on quality grades of 11.5 for w.w. and 14 for s.w.

Weekend prices tend to be set by Friday prices. Price affected by quality.

Courtesy of Central Montana WIFE

That's a lot of ribs

Farmers Union donates to the Montana Food Bank Network

Montana Farmers and Farmers Union Enterprises made another sizeable in-kind donation of 38,000 pounds of pork ribs to the Montana Food Bank Network. The ribs are from Redwood Farms and will be distributed by the Montana Food Bank Network. Redwood Farms is one of the entities in the Farmers Union family of businesses owned by Farmers Union Enterprises.

MFU and FUE donated 30,000 pounds of pork ribs in May to the Montana Food Bank Network. Jan Tusick serves on the Board of Directors for Montana Farmers Union. Tusick was at the Montana Food Bank Network to represent the organization and present the donation. "I joined Farmers Union years ago because I knew it was the organization that truly represented family farmers in Montana," said Tusick. "This is a really important outreach that Farmers Union is doing to really help our communities in Montana get better access to good meat products that they need for their families."

The Flathead Food Bank was a recipient of the May pork donation and hopes to be a recipient of the second pork donation. Flathead Food Bank Executive Director Jamie Quinn says the organization is very appreciative of the donation. "Thank you Montana Farmers Union for supporting food banks across Montana with healthy Farmers Union sourced pork. Your care and hard work will bring smiles and full stomachs to your neighbors."

The Blackfeet Food Pantry was also a recipient of the May pork donation. Pantry director Earl Heavy Runner said, "Thanks for the ribs, they help lessen the burden for the families here on the reservation."

Last May FUE donated 150,000 pounds of pork to various food pantries in the five states it supports including North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Montana was the



Jan Tusick holds up a package of donated ribs at the Montana Food Bank Network storage facility, where Gayle Carlson is CEO. The Montana Farmers Union donated 38,000 pounds of ribs. Photo courtesy of MFU

first stop on the December donation schedule. When it's all said and done each of the five states will have made donations of pork ribs to their respective food banks. "We are so excited to have this partnership with Montana Farmers Union," said Gayle Carlson, CEO of the Montana Food Bank Network. "We received 30,000 pounds of donation in May right when we were hitting some pretty tough times as far as resourcing foods and transportation so that was a huge boost for us right at the beginning of the pandemic. Now we have another 38,000 pounds. It is a tremendous gift for us. It is high-quality, it is a level of protein that is rare for us to get so we are very grateful for that."

Farmers Union Enterprises

is a partnership with Farmers Union organizations in North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota and Wisconsin that own several value added businesses like Redwood Farms. Redwood Farms supplies premium pork products to our Founding Farmers restaurants in the DC area as well as to other high-end restaurants in New York, Chicago and other cities across the U.S.

"We are pleased to make a second donation of pork ribs to the Montana Food Bank Network," said Walter Schweitzer, president of Montana Farmers Union. "Montana Farmers Union and Farmers Union Enterprise are all about supporting the family farm and helping to feed our friends and neighbors who are facing food insecurity."

Lewistown Precipitation



Dec. 2020:	0.38
Oct. 1, 2020 to Date:	2.05
2020 Year to Date:	14.21
Normal Oct. 1 to Date:	2.30
Normal Year to Date:	16.65
2019 Year to Date:	18.00

Lewistown Livestock Auction

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT
Central Montana's Market
Tuesday Sales

Merry Christmas from L L A!

Upcoming Sales

Jan. 5th - All Class Cattle & Feeder Sale
Jan. 12th - All Class Cattle & Feeder Sale
Jan. 19th - All Class and Stock Cow Central January Bred Cow Special
Jan. 26th - All Class Cattle & Feeder Sale

Feb. 2nd -Heart of the Future
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Fergus High School Ugly Sweaters



Fergus High School students enjoying the Christmas holidays with the traditional wearing of the "Ugly Sweaters" Dec. 21 and 22. Students also enjoyed the season with a classroom door decoration contest, trivia contest and lots of candy canes.

Photo courtesy of Fergus High School




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Landon Farrar scores a touchdown during this season's game against Miles City. Photos by Matthew Strissel

Farrar, Potter named alternates to Shrine Game

By MATTHEW STRISSEL
Sports Editor

Two Fergus High School football players have been selected as alternates for the 74th annual East/West Shrine Game. Players are nominated by their schools and coaches across the state as the "best of the best" to participate.

Fergus Golden Eagle Landon Farrar was chosen for an alternate to the East team as an inside linebacker. The 6-foot, 200-pound senior was named to the Class A All-State and All-Conference teams as a linebacker. As a junior, he made the Eastern A Second Team All-Conference as a linebacker.

Fergus senior running back Keaton Potter was also chosen as an alternate for the East team at the 2021 Shrine Game. The 6-foot-2, 185-pound player was chosen among hundreds of nominees to be named as one of the best players in the state.

Potter was a 2020 All-State and Eastern A First Team All-Conference selection as running back this year. Playing iron man football, he also made the Second Team All-Conference as an outside linebacker. His junior year, Potter made the Second Team All-Conference as a running back in 2019.

Both players have shown extraordinary skill on the football field over their football careers, culminating in being named to the roster of the coveted annual East/West Shrine Game.



Keaton Potter runs the ball toward the endzone during the football game against Havre this year.

CIVIC CENTER CALENDAR

(may be subject to change)

Dec. 28, 2020 – Jan. 2, 2021

The Civic Center will close early on Thursday, Dec. 31, at 5 p.m., and be closed all day on New Years Day, Jan. 1. Happy New Year.

OPEN GYMS:

Monday	10:30–noon, 1:15–6, 7:30–8:50 p.m.
Tuesday	10:30–noon, 1:15–6, 7:30–8:50 p.m.
Wednesday	10:30–noon, 1:15–8:50 p.m.
Thursday	10:30–noon, 1:15–4:50 p.m.
Friday	Closed for New Years
Saturday	9:15 a.m.–3:50 p.m.
Sunday	12:40–4:20 p.m.

Private Group Rental	Mon., Tues., 7–7:30 p.m.
Pickleball	Mon.–Thurs., 8:30–10:30 a.m.
HEMA	Postponed until further notice
Noon Rec.	Mon.–Thurs. noon–1 p.m.
Walk and Jog	Mon.–Thurs. 7–8:30 a.m.
Pilates	Mon., noon; Thurs., 9 a.m.
Women's Exercise	Tues.–Thurs. 9 a.m.
Strong Women	Tues.–Thurs. noon–1 p.m.
Parent/Tot	Tuesday 10:30 a.m.–noon
Home School	Wednesday 1:15–3:15 p.m.
Senior Rifle	Wed., Thurs., 6 p.m.
Junior Rifle	Mon., Tues. 6 p.m.

Scores: Prone – Tayson Luna, 45
Emma Farley, 40
Sitting – Justine Curry, 40
Kneeling – Ethan Cox, 38
Jenna Hodik, 40
Offhand – Cole Carlson, 41
Tori Butcher, 33
Distinguished – Rafe Bruchez, 48
Chane Carlson, 44
Sayer Carlson, 46
Jr. Top Master – Gabe Berg, 49

Women's volleyball schedule:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Travelin' Sailors | 5. Anything for Sets |
| 2. Fireballs | 6. Did Someone Say Pancakes? |
| 3. This-N-That | 7. Victorious Secrets |
| 4. Crazy Ones | 8. Has Beens |

No games until Jan. 7. Happy Holidays.

The Civic Center rents ice skates, cross-country skis and snowshoes.

Co-Ed volleyball registration is now taking place at the Civic Center. There is a team entry fee. Roster deadline is extended to Thursday, Dec. 17. Roster sheets can be picked up in the Civic Center office. Anyone 16 years of age or older is eligible to play. Any questions, contact Civic Center at 535-3045. We still could use more teams. League play will start Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Youth soccer coaches and parents of players please return equipment and jerseys to the Civic Center. Thanks to everyone who coached, played, officiated, spectated. See you next season.

Reminder of COVID rules:

- To enter the building, we recommend wearing a mask.
- When exercising, you may take off your mask.
- Sanitize hands and then you must sign in.
- Any equipment used, you must sanitize when done.

Central Montana Rifle Club

Match #3 – Dec. 16-17, 2020

Denton at Winifred	Class	Actual	Hdcp
D. Weinheimer	Shp	(358)	372
B. Barber		308	384
D. Gerer	TM	(394)	394
R. Boling	Ex	353	371
E. Econom	Ex	(360)	370
K. Hatlelid	EE	(361)	
		1473	1891

Winifred

S. Ehlert	Shp	354	390
J. Butcher	EE	(379)	388
G. Wichman	M	(379)	
G. Hinz	Mks	349	
N. Butcher	Mks	(358)	386
C. Isom		288	390
E. Butcher	Shp	(356)	389
		1472	1943

Lewistown at Kolin

D. Hrubes	Shp	(372)	388
N. Passow	Ex	(369)	389
T. Moline	M	(381)	383
M. Solheim	Mks	305	
B. Maxwell	EE	(362)	366
L. Strouf	Shp	352	380
		1484	1906

Kolin

B. Morris	M	(379)	382
D. Morris	Ex	(370)	382
J. Vogl	EE	(372)	380
K. Morris		218	
J. Morris	Mks	343	377
Z. Roberts		323	
P. Morris	Ex	(358)	374
		1479	1895

Denton	4389	1891
Kolin	4034	1895
Lewistown	4498	1906
Winifred	4442	1943

Lewistown keeps both traveling trophies and receives a star on each.

High Scores of the week

D. Gerer	394
TM	--
M	T. Moline 381
EE	J. Butcher 379
Ex	D. Morris 370
Shp	R. Hrubes 372
Mks	N. Butcher 358

LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS Athlete of the Week



Seth Norslien

Your CMMC Athlete of the Week is Fergus High School senior football player Seth Norslien.

Norslien recently signed on to play football in college for the University of Montana - Western in Dillon.

Seth is a two-time Eastern A All-Conference selection and was named captain of the Fergus Golden Eagles football team twice. He helped lead the Golden Eagles to three-straight playoff appearances.

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Snowy Lanes Bowling Scores

Dec. 15 – Dec. 22

Women

Wed. Afternoon Ladies: Wanda Kolstad 179-481, Teresa Lamphier 178-477(+105), Tia Bedosky 169(+43).

Wed. Doubles: Becky Baszczuk 208-509, Alyssa Schrock 192, Kayla Reeve 190-515, Cherie Errecart 186-552.

Wed. Pinetoppers: Becky Baszczuk 212-560, Karin Longshore 194-489.

Thursday Seniors: Norma Thomas 186.

Thurs. Trio: Terri Waltari 182-536.

Sun. Mixed: Carole Buckner 202-539, Christy Sapp 176-447(+108), Kayla Reeve 175-492.

Mon. Doubles: Dez Bergstrom 214-562, Mary Hajenga 187.

Tues. Skyliners: Jeanna Mane 201-486, Karin Longshore 175-482.

Men

Wed. Doubles: Trent Reeve 217-565, Bill Baldwin 202, Mark Malone 201, Jason Grove 178(+48).

Thurs. Trio: Kurt Erlandson 244-613, Trent Reeve 207, Jake Grensten 197(+59).

Thurs. Merchant: Fred Wood 227, Rex Coleman 225-650, Ike Waltari 209-554, Jim Rasmussen 200-552.

Sun. Mixed: Rex Coleman 225-616, Dewey Rosman 223, Trent Reeve 220-599, Fred Wood 219, Tim Schultz 175(+53).

Mon. Commercial: Calvin Baldry 227-573, Rex Martin 223, Jim Rasmussen 222-605, Tyler Thomas 214-568, Joe Goodwin 214, Ed Sleater 208.

Mon. Doubles: Gary Mane 226-608, Rex Coleman 217-597, Dewey Rosman 213-566, Sam Anderson 202.

Tues. Trio: Merl Coats 219, Larry Phillips 218, Dwaine Collins 198(+46).

Tues. Skyliners: Dave Pillar 237-608, Gary Mane 232-633, Kameron Pearson 223, Worm Granot 167(+43).

Youth

Friday Bumpers: Emilea Bowen 120, Karbin Hrubes 109, Emmit Hardy 93.

Friday Juniors: Tanner Crowder 141-327, Trapper Luna 139-375, Trent Grover 132-374, Chris Bulloch 127-373, Tayson Luna 125-326, James Maxwell 124-315, Theda Trombley 119-311, Jay Beriault 119, Sophie Mad-dux 108.

'TIS THE SEASON TO PLAY HOCKEY



Justin Maier, Pete Smith and Terry Watson play the first recreation division hockey game of the season at the Lewistown Ice Rink on Wednesday, Dec. 23. This year there are three divisions: Novice, for beginners, Recreation, for players who have had some experience, and the newly formed Speed division, for more advanced players.

Photo courtesy of Bre Warren

Have a story to tell?

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LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS

Spotlight

on

Winifred



Ella Shultz: A future world traveler

By **MATTHEW STRISSEL**
Staff Writer

Among the many things to appreciate about Winifred, Ella Shultz enjoys the opportunity to participate in different activities, such as volleyball and track and field, even though it's a small town.

"There are not as many things to do in a small town, but at the same time, you get more options available to you," Shultz said. "With other larger schools, there aren't as many options."

When she was younger, Shultz wanted to be a cosmetologist. As she got older, the Winifred sophomore has shifted gears and is exploring new options.

Her favorite subject in school is English because she likes the subject. Outside of school, Shultz participates in volleyball and track and field. She played basketball last year and in junior high.

"I like track because it's more of an individual sport, allowing you to do what you are best at," Shultz said. "Volleyball is fun to play with the team."

Shultz said if she could go any-

where in the world, she would go to Jamaica because it looks like really pretty place. In fact, she would like to go many places, if given the opportunity.

"I want to travel quite a bit," Shultz said. "I'd like to go to Hawaii, and Alaska in the summer, and quite a few places."

For the near-term future, what Shultz is looking forward to the most next year is hopefully not having to wear masks everywhere.

Shultz has an older brother and a younger sister, who she appreciates very much.

"I'm most thankful for my family and good friends around here," Shultz said.

She is looking forward to the upcoming spring season when she will hopefully be able to participate in track and field.

Winifred sophomore Ella Shultz is looking forward to traveling the world when it's possible.

Photo courtesy of Ella Shultz



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Big, BIG Christmas gift



Representatives of Central Montana rural fire districts, ambulance and DES services line up with checks to illustrate the \$15,000 in donations the Central Montana Tavern Association made recently. The funding comes from fundraisers, although according to CMTA Treasurer Mike Lamphier, and also from dues paid by members of the organization. Since 2012 the organization has donated nearly to \$90,000 to local first responders.

Photo courtesy of Mike Lamphier

Montana generates \$892 million from its National Parks annually

With air travel down, many Americans are hitting the roads during COVID-19. Assuming local regulations allow for it, exploring the outdoors can be a good way to vacation safely during this turbulent time. Fortunately, many National Park System parks remain open with fewer visitors than during a normal year.

The National Park System is managed by the National Park Service which oversees 422 different parks that span over 80 million acres across all 50 states. While some of the most visited parks are recreational areas, parkways, and national parks, the National Park System is comprised of many different types of parks, including monuments, memorials, battlefields, and historic sites. In fact, less than one-third of annual visits are visits to the 62 parks with "national park" in their name.

In a typical year, there are over 330 million visitors to parks in the National Park System. Last year, travel to these parks netted over \$40 billion in economic benefit across the U.S. and supported over 340 thousand jobs. This enormous amount of tourism and travel helps

to support many "gateway towns" near parks throughout the country. Money spent by tourists at hotels and motels, restaurants, and gas stations is often the lifeblood of these small economies.

During 2020, there's been almost a 25% decline in visits to the National Park System, which will impact these communities and their economies. However, even with social distancing orders in place, outdoor recreation and visiting these areas can be a COVID-safe activity.

To find the states that offer the best access to the National Park System, researchers at Outdoorsy looked at data from the National Park Service's National Park Service Visitor Use Statistics. They ranked states based on the number of NPS-managed parks that are partially or fully contained within the state. They also included the annual visits to the NPS parks in each state, a measure of the economic benefit from NPS park tourism, and the name of the most visited park in each state.

The analysis found that in Montana, 5,547,209 people visit the eight national parks annually, which generates \$892,300,000 in revenue for the state per year.

FWP taking comments on proposed commercial bait seining waterbodies

At its December meeting, the Fish and Wildlife Commission endorsed the proposed list of approved waterbodies for commercial bait seining.

A commercial bait seining license is required for anyone 15 years of age or older to seine and transport bait fish for commercial purposes or for anyone who seines for and has in their possession more than 24 dozen non-game bait fish. The commission may designate waters allowed for this purpose and the department describes these waters annually in the Commercial Bait Seining Application Form. Approved seining waters are regularly monitored for invasive species and pathogens and

maintain adequate population abundance to accommodate bait collection.

Proposed changes to the approved waterbodies list include the addition of four waterbodies to allow commercial bait seining, removal of four waterbodies due to conservation concerns or unviable bait fish populations, and additional clarification for two waterbodies.

The full list of approved waterbodies and proposed changes can be found on the FWP website.

The department will accept comments on the proposed commercial bait seining waterbodies until Jan. 20, 2021. Please submit comments below, or via mail to FWP Bait Seining, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620.

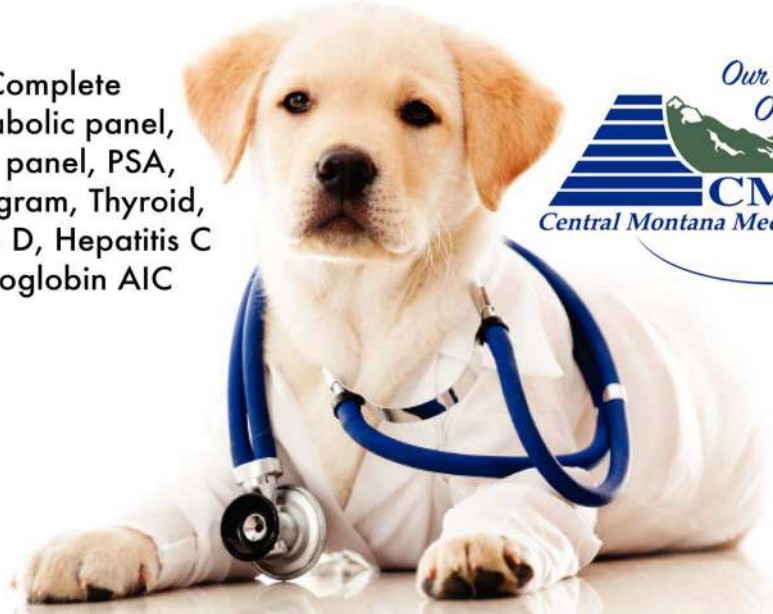
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December Fun



Lewis and Clark sixth grader Carlynn Garoutte sings a solo in the Lewis and Clark December concert. Photos courtesy of Danny Wirtzberger



Sixth graders Lexi Vanek, Phoebe Gee, Kenadee Simac and Breana Ruff play a round of Frisbee golf at Pine Meadows.



Students from Mrs. Fox's fifth grade class play Simon Says after a round of Frisbee golf at Pine Meadows Golf Course.



Taylor Phillips plays a flute in the Lewis and Clark December concert.

Feeling the Love

Garfield staff members stand in front of the Hometown Heroes banner at their school. In addition to the banner, the Hometown Heroes program provides treats and beverages to frontline workers as a show of community support for the work they do. Pictured are (front row, from left) Pam Roberts, Lanna Schoenfelder, Maria Henderson, Bradley Clark; (back row from left) Leah Strouf, Nicole Karhi, Makayla Hensen, Chiara VanderBeek, Alysann Karhi, Lori Brown-Chauvet, Tace Patten, Sue Standley, Audrey Boling, Emily Louis, Rachael Swimley, Bridget Sparks. Not pictured are Megan Hicks, Amanda Bateman, Jean Irish, Amber Marks, Brenda Gruener, Lauren Wright, Orin Johnson, Nycole LaRowe, Judy Fry, Sandy McRae, Misti Rhyner, Jennifer Johnson, Lisa Charbonneau, and Fleeta O'Dell.

Photo courtesy of Matthew Lewis



OPI awaits details on COVID-19 relief funding for schools

The Montana Office of Public Instruction awaits President Trump's signature on the economic stimulus package Congress passed Monday in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The bill intends to distribute relief funds to small businesses, individuals, and education, including K-12 schools. "Despite the major impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has had on Montana, our teachers and families continue to overcome the challenges and ensure our students receive a high-quality education. I continue to collaborate with school and local leaders to seek pathways that will ensure every student's needs are met," Arntzen said. "As we engage Montana parents and teachers, it is imperative that they be given every tool available to ensure student success."

The new congressional package is said to provide over \$900 billion in economic relief, with \$54.3 billion estimated for the nation's K-12 public schools. This is nearly four times the amount disbursed nationally to K-12 public schools through the CARES ACT passed in March.

Montana may receive approximately \$160 million, compared to the \$41 million that the Office of Public Instruction distributed in June. These new funds are expected to be allocated through the same Title 1 formula designed to meet economically disadvantaged students' needs.

Additional funds will go to higher education and broadband access that includes dedicated enhancement of education connectivity for distance learning.

The Office of Public Instruction will send updates as new information and guidance is released, Arntzen said.

Health & Wellness



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827 N.E. Main (by ShopKo)
406-206-2200 / 888-623-2222
www.alsministorage.com

Circle Storage
Units Now Available
All Sizes
Clean • Secure • Great Rates!
406.366.3178

★ **Apartment**

LEWIS WILLOWS APARTMENTS- 714 2nd Ave. S, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms right on Spring Creek. Water, sewer, garbage provided. Covered parking & storage. 3 blocks from downtown. On-site manager. Sorry - no pets. 406-538-2956 after 6 pm please.

★ **Help Wanted**

MEADOWS APARTMENTS 603 W. Brassey
62+ or Disabled
1 & 2 Bedrooms Available
Rent Based on Income
Utilities Included
Laundry On-site
538-8532
meadows@thiestalle.com
www.thiestalle.com/meadows

★ **Help Wanted**

MONTANA MENTAL HEALTH NURSING CARE CENTER
800 Casino Creek Drive, Lewistown MT 59457
CNA CLASSES
Classes will be held in the evening from January 18th, 2021 to February 5th, 2021. Monday - Thursday, 6p.m. - 10p.m., Fridays, all-day.
Starting pay- \$14.50/hr + benefits + COVID differential of \$4
Posting will close on January 6th, please apply online.
Apply online at <http://statecareers.mt.gov/>

★ **Help Wanted**

MONTANA MENTAL HEALTH NURSING CARE CENTER
800 Casino Creek Drive, Lewistown MT 59457
Is accepting applications online for the following employment opportunities:
 FOOD SERVICE - 11.00/hr
- 2 Part-time, temporary positions
- Part-time + benefits
 BUSINESS OFFICE SPECIALIST - 14.63/hr
- Full-time + full benefits
 CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE - 14.50/hr
- Full-time and part-time, variable shifts available. Must be certified in the State of Montana
 REGISTERED NURSE - 31.50/hr
- 1 Part-time night position, shift differential pay
- 1 Full-time night position
 LAUNDRY - 10.95/hr
- Part-time, plus benefits. Available January 4, 2021
These positions include benefits, such as: vacation pay, sick leave, paid holidays and INCREDIBLE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION
TOWARDS: HEALTH INSURANCE & RETIREMENT PACKAGE
\$1054.00 monthly
8% match
Apply online at <http://statecareers.mt.gov/>

Now Hiring at Central Montana Medical Center

- ▲ **ADMINISTRATION**
Chief Financial Officer, Full-time
- ▲ **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**
Attendants, Full-time- \$1,500 sign-on bonus
- ▲ **HME/DME**
HME Customer Service Technician, Full-time/Part-time
- ▲ **HOME HEALTH**
RN, Full-time- \$5,000 sign on bonus
- ▲ **INFUSION SERVICES**
Registered Nurse, Full-time/Part-time
- ▲ **IT**
IT Systems Support, Full-time
- ▲ **LAB**
MLS/MLT Generalist, Full-time
MLS/MLT Microbiology, Full-time, exp. preferred
- ▲ **MED/SURG**
Ward Clerk/CNA openings, Full-time- \$1,500 sign on bonus
RNs, Full-time- \$5,000 sign on bonus
RNs, Part-time & Per-diem
- ▲ **NURSING ADMIN**
Chief Nursing Officer, Full-time
- ▲ **NUTRITIONAL SERVICES**
Food Service Workers & Cooks, Full-time \$1,500 sign-on bonus
- ▲ **PURCHASING**
Receiving & Distribution Clerk, Full-time
- ▲ **PHYSICIAN CLINIC**
RN, Full-time
- ▲ **QUALITY IMPROVEMENT**
QI RN, Full-time
QI Analyst, Full-time
- ▲ **RADIOLOGY**
Radiology Tech, Full-time
- ▲ **REHAB SERVICES**
Occupational Therapist, Full-time
Rehab Services Manager, Full-time/ OT, PT or SLP degree required. 8 yrs clinical exp and 3 yrs supervisory exp req.
Departmental Assistant, Full-time
- ▲ **RESPIRATORY THERAPY**
Registered Respiratory Therapist, Full-time
- ▲ **SURGICAL SERVICES/OR**
OR RN, Full-time
Surgical Scrub Tech, Full-time

Phone: 406-535-6213 www.cmmc.health

Now Hiring at Central Montana Nursing and Rehab Center

5 Star Quality Rated
2020 Pinnacle Customer Experience Award™
2020 American Health Care Association Quality Initiative Recognition

- ❖ Infection Control Preventionist
- ❖ RN/LPN- Full-time \$5,000 SIGN-ON BONUS
- ❖ CNA- \$2,000 SIGN-ON BONUS
- ❖ Payroll/ Accounts Payable- 20 hrs/ week

EmpRes Healthcare 100% Employee Owned
Phone: (406) 535-6229
410 Wendell Ave. Lewistown, MT
Apply online at www.empres.com

"Great to work with people who care. Great benefits as well."

MONTANA MENTAL HEALTH NURSING CARE CENTER
800 Casino Creek Drive, Lewistown MT 59457
Is accepting applications online for the following employment opportunities:
 FOOD SERVICE - 11.00/hr
- 2 Part-time, temporary positions
- Part-time + benefits
 BUSINESS OFFICE SPECIALIST - 14.63/hr
- Full-time + full benefits
 CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE - 14.50/hr
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TOWARDS: HEALTH INSURANCE & RETIREMENT PACKAGE
\$1054.00 monthly
8% match
Apply online at <http://statecareers.mt.gov/>

R.S.D. Inc./Snowy Mountain Industries is hiring:

R.S.D. Inc. proudly provides services to people with disabilities in Billings, Hardin, Lewistown and Red Lodge. The mission of R.S.D. Inc. is to encourage, support and assist each person with disabilities whom we serve to make choices in his/her life and expand his/her opportunities for growth and personal development.

- GROUP HOME HAB TECHS - VARIOUS SHIFTS
- SMI DAY HAB TECHS
- ASSISTANT GROUP HOME MANAGER
- GROUP HOME RELIEF OVERNIGHT HAB TECH

To apply contact Shari at 132 Wunderlin Lewistown, MT 59457, or call 406-538-5130. Positions open until filled. RSD, Inc. is an EOE, providing reasonable accommodations as needed, and a drug free workplace.

★ Office/Storage

Boyd Creek PROPERTIES
 • MINI STORAGE
 • WAREHOUSE
 • SHOP/OFFICE
 Phone 535-2707

★ Misc. For Sale

CUSTOM ROUGH CUT LUMBER, Call 406-374-2406.

NOTARY STAMPS: News-Argus Printing can provide you with the new style Notary Stamps when your current commission expires. Stop in or call for information on these and any other stamp need you have. 406-535-3401 or 800-879-5627.

SEASONED CUT AND SPLIT FIREWOOD- Douglas Fir and Lodgepole. \$225/ cord delivered within 30 miles of Lewistown. \$200/ cord if you haul. Discounts for multiple cords. 406-538-6420.

★ Firearms

WANTED: Old Lever Winchesters, Marlins Savages, Sako & Weatherby rifles. Appraisals/estates. Triangle Guns 406- 538-5394.

★ Services

Tired of high cable prices?

With DISH, you can get 190 Channels from

\$47.99/mo.

Includes free standard installation, free HD DVR, and a 2-Year TV Price Guarantee. Offer ends 1/31/21. Price requires pre-existing or purchase of over-the-air antenna.

Plus, order now and receive a

\$100 Rebate

when you mention "cable increase" at time of purchase. Rebate courtesy of Eagle Satellite.

Call your DISH Premier Local Retailer, today!

Eagle Satellite **dish** Premier Local Retailer
 406-728-9999

★ Hay/Seed

HAY FOR SALE- RFW AVAILABLE. Call 406-462-5611.

HAY- SMALL SQUARES- 1ST CUTTING ALFALFA, \$5. 2nd cutting alfalfa, \$6. Delivery available- Get it before deer eat it all. 406-567-3118.

SMALL SQUARE BALES- ALFALFA/ GRASS MIX and straight grass, \$6/ bale. 406-535-6634.

★ Pasture

IN NEED OF PASTURE FOR 25- 100+ pair. 406-799-2997.

★ Services

★ Legals

KRIS A. BIRDWELL STOGSDILL & BIRDWELL, P.C.
 ATTORNEY AT LAW
 224 W. MAIN STREET, SUITE 511
 LEWISTOWN, MONTANA 59457
 TELEPHONE: (406) 538-2623
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 MONTANA TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, FERGUS COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HARRY R. VAN DER HAGEN, Deceased. Probate No. DP-2020-59

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, by the undersigned, to all persons having claims against said deceased, to present said claims within four (4) months after the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to the undersigned, Return Receipt Requested, at the address below, or filed with the Clerk of Court, Courthouse, Lewistown, Montana.

DATED this 10th day of December, 2020.

/s/ JODI RUCKMAN, JODI RUCKMAN


c/o Kris A. Birdwell, Attorney at Law, STOGSDILL & BIRDWELL, P.C., 224 West Main, Suite 511, Lewistown, MT 59457

(Publish: December 12, 19 & 26, 2020)
 MNAXLP

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO MID-RIVERS PHONE & INTERNET CUSTOMERS

Mid-Rivers Communications offers Lifeline low-income assistance to qualifying subscribers with discounts of \$5.25 per month on phone, or \$9.25 per month on qualifying Internet or bundled services. Larger discounts are available to qualifying customers on Tribal Lands. These assistance services are non-transferable and allow for only one discount per qualifying household. Eligibility standards for these assistance programs are determined by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Lifeline discounts for stand-alone phone service are scheduled to be phased out by the FCC, decreasing by \$2 per year. Please contact your nearest Mid-Rivers office, call us at 1-800-452-2288, or visit www.midrivers.com/low-income-assistance.html for more information. (Publish: December 26, 2020)
 MNAXLP

Dust Storm



A dust storm northeast of Moccasin, near Kolin, on Sunday, Dec. 19, blotted out visibility over a good portion of land. Due to the Louse Creek Fire at the start of September, there was little soil protection. With the windy and dry conditions, it was very fortunate there was not another fire in Judith Basin over the windy weekend.

Photo courtesy of David Wichman

Looking for a new ride?



Search loads of listings for every form of transportation, from cars to bicycles in the Lewistown News-Argus classifieds

STATEWIDE ADVERTISING

Have your ad seen in 69 newspapers across the state of Montana for ONLY \$149!!!
 Call 406-535-3401 for more information TODAY!

HELP WANTED

***ONLINE TEACHER CERTIFICATION OFFERED THROUGH** Montana Western. Programs designed for teachers seeking advancement and individuals interested in becoming a teacher. Accessible wherever you are. Call (406) 683-7537 for more information.

FOR SALE

***IF YOU ARE READING THIS AD,** you can see that classified advertising works! Reach over 400,000 readers in Montana and beyond to promote your product, service, event and business. To get results, contact this newspaper, or the Montana Newspaper Association at [email stacy@mtnewspapers.com](mailto:stacy@mtnewspapers.com) or member@mtnewspapers.com. 25 words for the small investment of \$149.

Deadline for advertising is 3 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Statewide Advertising (SCAN) reaches nearly 400,000 readers in 69 newspapers (64 weekly & 5 daily) across Montana for \$149 for 25 words or less (\$4.30/ word for extra words). Make sure that your ad is seen by as many people as possible for only \$2.16 per newspaper, a HUGE savings over what it would cost to advertise in each paper individually. And 3 times FREE in the News-Argus!

Don't Leave it to Chance...

Get your 'message' heard!

Letters to the editor are published every issue and on our website.



Send your letter to editor@lewistownnews.com or stop by for a visit at 521 W. Main

★ Services

★ Services

★ Services

★ Services

★ Services

★ Services

AT YOUR SERVICE

YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

DERHEIM GENERAL CONSTRUCTION- Concrete-Framing, Ted Derheim 406-366-0138.

CARPENTRY- DOORS, WINDOWS, TRIM & FINISH, drywall repair, remodel projects. Licensed & insured. Call or text Rob Huberman, 406-350-1570.

BINDERY- Binders and related looseleaf products. We can also cut the bindings off your text books. News-Argus Printing 406-535-3401.

Call Today to place your services ad!

Special monthly rates.

NEED HELP?

Your Local Merchants are... AT YOUR SERVICE!

Fencin - n - Moore, LLC
 374-2406 or 366-5350
 New Fence • Fence Repair
 Custom Sawing
 Glen Miller
 549 Kirkemindes Road
 Moore, MT 59464

EXCAVATING
 • Septic Tanks • Drain Fields
 • Waterlines • Sewer Lines
 • Footings • Basements
 • Gravel • Demolition
BESEL CONSTRUCTION
 LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
 Ray Besel • 538-8869

Scott Oleson Construction
 Licensed & Insured
 General Construction & Home Repairs
No Job Too Small
 406-579-3411

Call 406-535-3401 or email classified@lewistownnews.com

CENTRAL MONTANA

WHEELS & DEALS



In Celebration of the Birth of our Savior we will be closed December 25th & 26th so that all of us can spend time with our families

Merry Christmas

From all of us at

Courtesy MOTORS INC.
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA

Tip of the Week

How to prepare for an out-of-town breakdown

Though no one wants to think about the possibility of a vehicle breakdown while out of town, such things do happen. How prepared drivers are can go a long way toward determining how affected they and their passengers will be if this happens.

- Get a checkup before skipping town
- Examine your options in regard to emergency roadside assistance.
- Inspect tires, including your spare
- Bring along some basic tools



Park it in the **CLASSIFIEDS** and watch it go fast!



LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS

★ 4x4s/Trucks

1996 F250 FORD PICKUP WITH HYDROBED. 406-462-5329.

When will self-driving cars hit the road?

Tech aficionados often know when the latest gizmos and gadgets are slated to hit the market and be made available to consumers. Anticipation tends to build around everything from the latest version of a popular smartphone to a new incarnation of a beloved gaming system. But perhaps no advancement in technology is as highly anticipated as the self-driving car. Industry experts note that the hype around self-driving cars, sometimes referred to as autonomous vehicles, has existed since 2004, when United States military experiments involving self-driving vehicles in the Mojave Desert garnered both attention and excitement. That anticipation and excitement waned as 2004 was left further and further behind in the rearview mirror, but the race to become the first auto manufacturer to build and offer driverless vehicles is still very much on. For example, in 2018 General Motors indicated its intent to make a fleet of self-driving taxis available in San Francisco by 2020. That did not come to fruition, though other auto manufacturers, notably Tesla, have indicated they have their eyes on potentially offering autonomous taxis in 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic complicated, and likely delayed, the arrival of self-driving automobiles, though it remains to be seen just how much the pandemic affected the arrival of driverless vehicles. A recent report from Bloomberg New Energy Finance noted that many auto manufacturers who have worked on self-driving technology had initially set their sights on deployment in 2021. However, lab closures and social distancing measures enacted in response to the pandemic may have made it highly unlikely that 2021 will be the year the world sees its first fleet of self-driving taxis hit the road.

Early Deadline Notice

All classified advertising for the Saturday, January 2nd paper needs to be submitted by Wednesday, December 30th at 5 p.m.

Black and White?

Not Us



LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS

Central Montana Automotive Experts

Courtesy MOTORS INC.
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA

Brandon W. Cowen

116 5th Ave South
Lewistown, MT 59457
406-538-7417

bwcowen@midrivers.com
www.courtesymotorsmt.com



Jim Karhi
Owner

403 1st Ave South
Lewistown, MT 59457

800.662.8771
406.538.8771
406.538.3658 - Fax

BRICKYARD Diesel REPAIR

Josh Rouns
Owner/ Manager
406-535-6913
Cell: 406-366-1139
Fax : 406-535-6914

**BRICKYARD DIESEL REPAIR LLC
MACHINE - WELDING**

Trucks • Heavy Equipment • Cranes • Forklifts
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Service Center



Courtesy MOTORS INC.
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA

Sales • Service • Parts • Collision Repair



Sales and Service are just a phone call away!

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