

The Havre Weekly Chronicle

Serving Havre and Hill County since 1914

Thursday, March 27, 2025

GoFundMe account set to help victim of RV fire in Havre

Tim Leeds

tleeds@havredailynews.com

A fundraiser is underway to help pay for the recovery of a Havre man severely burned in an explosion in an RV on McKinnley Avenue Feb. 23.

Kim Wavrick is asking the community for help covering expenses while her son Levi continues to recover in the ICU of a Salt Lake City hospital nearly one month after the RV explosion.

Levi Wavrick suffered severe burns and other injuries which have required multiple surgeries and treatments. Now his family is realizing how much this will cost.

"Truthfully we were very overwhelmed and naive when this first happened. The future was so uncertain we were just looking to get him through moment by moment," Kim Wavrick wrote on GoFundMe. "As Levi has pro-

gressed and we are able to see the future we know he's got rehabilitation that will last for years and the full impact of that in his life is much clearer."

Shelley Shellenberger, Levi's aunt, said he actually is recovering remarkably well considering the severity of his injuries.

He said he suffered third-degree burns on 30 percent of his body, including his hands, wrists, arms, neck and back, but was being checked over this week might be released from ICU and could be released in two weeks.

He would have to stay in Utah another week while his family learns to care for him and do his wound therapy, and would go to Arizona with his mother after that, Shellenberger said.

She said his girlfriend, who was living with him in the RV, also was injured in the fire.

■ See **GoFundMe** Page A2

'Oliver' comes to Havre High



Mr. Sowerberry (Jesse Lee), Mr. Bumble (Casey Pratt), Mrs. Sowerberry (Autumn Dark), and Oliver (Hawk Messinger) rehearse a scene from the Montana Actors' Theatre production of 'Oliver,' the Lionel Bartz musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic 'Oliver Twist.' The play premieres at the Havre High School Theatre tonight at 7:30 p.m., with 7:30 p.m. shows Friday and Saturday and Thursday-Saturday of next week and 2 p.m. performances this Saturday and next Saturday.

weekend.

A world-famous, legendary skier considered the founder of modern extreme skiing hit the slopes and visited with people at Bear Paw Ski Bowl over the



Diamonds.

Ski bowl manager Dave Martins said Glen Plake loved Bear Paw Ski Bowl and said the terrain offered a variety of Greens to Double Black

honed his skills through ski racing and free skiing between stints on the U.S. National Moguls Ski Team circuit. He was later crowned three-time World Hot Dog skiing champion. In 1988 his performance in the Greg Stump production, "Blizzard of Aahhs," launched a whole new genre of ski films which had major impact on the way people viewed skiing and its possibilities. Other major and influential film appearances have included "Steep," "The Edge of Never,"

Courtesy photo

Place has been called the "Pied Piper of Skiing," the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame website said in its entry about his induction in the Hall of Fame Class of 2010. With his signature, multi-colored Mohawk hairstyle — Martins said his hair was pink while he was at Bear Paw — he is the most recognizable and quite possibly the best-known skier in the world. From his appearances at the smallest of ski areas in the United States to his descents of the world's most challenging mountains and his innumerable film, television and print media appearances, Glen has done more than anyone to promote the love for skiing to millions of people.

The site adds that Plake is famous for his surprise visits to local ski areas — like Bear Paw. Traveling in his motor home with his wife, Kimberly, Plake spends time visiting



Courtesy photo

"License to Thrill," and "Fistful of Moguls" to name a few.

The site adds that Plake is a strong believer in the importance of these areas as the foundation of skiing in

■ See **Celebrity** Page A2

small to medium-sized ski areas to be with and encourage the local patrons of the sport.

He is a strong believer in the importance of these areas as the foundation of skiing in

Border patrol apprehends gang members in Sweetgrass area of responsibility

Tim Leeds

tleeds@havredailynews.com

U.S. Border Patrol announced that agents with the Havre Sector of the patrol March arrested a woman, and three illegal aliens identified as members of the Venezuelan Tren de Aragua Gang, on suspicion of illegally smuggling the three aliens into the United States.

A spokesman for Border Patrol said the arrest occurred in the area of responsibility of the Sweetgrass Border Patrol Station.

Tren de Aragua is a group based out of Venezuela is a transnational criminal group that has made attacks in multiple countries including the United States.

A Facebook post by the U.S. Border Patrol Havre Sector said the smuggler, a U.S. citizen, would be prosecuted under federal law for bringing in and harboring aliens and the three aliens would be charged under federal law with entry of removed aliens and improper entry by an alien.

Friday's Weather

Complete forecast / A2



44°
26°

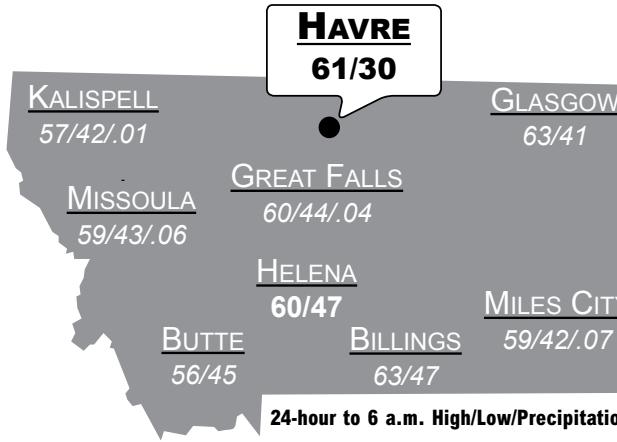
Morning showers

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DAILY \$1.00



Montana Weather through 6 a.m. Tuesday Extended Forecast from <http://www.weather.com> Weather Almanac for 3/25

Thur 3/27	Fri 3/28	Sat 3/29	Sun 3/30	Mon 3/31	Tues 4/1	Wed 4/2
63/32 Cloudy.	44/26 Morning showers.	39/26 Morning snow.	42/26 Mostly cloudy.	47/29 Mostly cloudy.	48/29 Mostly cloudy.	50/29 Mostly cloudy.

High/low: 61/39
Normal high/low: 48/24
Record high: 76 in 2007
Record low: -17 in 1965
State high: 64 in Fort Benton
State low: 27 in Malta
Precip in March: .33
Normal monthly precip: .35
Precip for year: 1.76
Normal yearly precip: 1.16
Sunset tonight: 7:40
Sunrise Friday: 7:04

Business Hours

The Havre Weekly Chronicle office is open to the public and ready to serve our customers.

- We are open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to serve you.
- If you are a current business subscriber and are

closed, please call the office at 265-6795 and make alternative delivery arrangements.

- If your paper doesn't arrive, please call our office.
- The printed edition will be delivered via USPS on Thursdays.

The Havre Weekly Chronicle Deadlines

Display Advertising deadline is 12 p.m., Mondays prior to run date.
Classified Advertising deadline is 12 p.m., Mondays prior to run date.
Parents wishing to participate in sports boosters are encouraged to submit their messages of support via email.
Please write to addirector@havredailynews.com.

The Havre Weekly Chronicle

Ponderosa Publications

119 Second St., P.O. Box 431
Havre, MT 59501-0431
Email: news@havredailynews.com
Telephone: (406) 265-6795

Subscription Rates:
In County: \$52.00* per year
Out of County: \$62.00* per year

Periodicals postage paid at
Havre, MT 59501.
Published weekly every Thursday
except for some holidays.
Our office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:00
p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Postmaster:
Please send address changes to
Havre Weekly Chronicle,
P.O. Box 431,
Havre, MT 59501-0431

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LETTERS / GUEST COLUMNS POLICY

The Havre Daily News welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns. All letters — typed, written or submitted electronically — must include the author's name, address, and telephone number for confirmation purposes. We ask that you limit your letter to 400 words. We will not print more than one letter per person per month. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, clarity, accuracy and taste, and to withhold letters containing misrepresentation of fact. The decision whether to publish is at the sole discretion of the Havre Weekly Chronicle. Published letters are the opinion of the writer and are not the opinion of the Havre Weekly Chronicle.

OBITUARIES

To place an obituary, please call 406-265-6795 Monday - Friday or email obituaries@havredailynews.com. Obituaries are charged out at 40¢ per word, and \$30 for each photograph running with the obituary.

Death notices: Free. When born. When died. When funeral.

• FORTY-SEVEN AWARDS, 2022
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Havre

WEEKLY CHRONICLE

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GoFundMe

Continued from page A1

His brother, Zack Wavrick, whose driveway the RV was in when the fire occurred, helped with the fire and getting them

out of the RV, Shellenberger said.

The GoFundMe Wavrick started to pay Levi Wavrick's

bills has raised more than \$10,000, however they now believe the cost of his recovery will be closer to \$75,000. People

can go to <https://www.gofundme.com/f/aid-levis-journey-to-recovery> to donate to the fund.

MAT

Continued from page A1

reviews are good, the script is noticed, and it goes on from there," he added. "We as a company won't, of course, but the script could get picked up and moved up the 'food chain,' as they say. Our actors, too, could get noticed, which would be fantastic."

The play, set on a small Montana wheat farm, revolves around the family dynamics of six adult children who come together from across the U.S. to help with the harvest after their father becomes too sick to run the farm.

"It's about this family coming to grips with, not just their relationship with each other and their relationship with their parents, but also the changing dynamics of this small family farm," Pyette said before its Havre premiere.

It already has been picked up by other companies, being performed in Anaconda last April by the Anaconda Ensemble Theatre and in Missoula by Rooted Theatre Co. in August 2024.

It is also not the first time a Pyette play has hit the big stage. His play "The Dead of Winter" was performed in London in the Union Theatre by MAT as part of MAT co-founder Grant Olson's graduate work at Kings

College London.

He said he submitted the play to MRT in Manhattan, and they contacted him and the plans went ahead from there.

"I think one of the important things to note is that just getting accepted by MRT is amazing," he added. They turn down about 98% of the scripts that are submitted to them. In addition, originally, they were going to cast and build the show there, but after quite a few conversations, and after their director was convinced that this will be an absolutely professional production, we decided that MAT could bring so much more authenticity to the story. So, while they don't finance it, they do produce it - which puts their reputation at risk. They are basically 'vouching' for MAT and believe both in the script and our ability to stage it professionally. They've also indicated that there is a great deal of interest in rural America right now and this is the perfect story to tell at this time."

The MAT troupe in

Manhattan includes Pyette, who

will direct the play, and Olson as

Alan, as well as State Manager

Andi Daniel and Pam Veis as

Anna, T.C. Knutson as James

Jr., Brian Gregoire as Micky,

Tylyn Turner as Sarah, Chad

Zuelke as John, Aylan Pratt as Samuel and Samantha Pollington as June.

"As you can see, we have some from the original production in Havre, but some new faces as well," Pyette said, adding, "all seasoned MAT veterans."

He said Manhattan Repertory Theatre originally wanted to put the play on itself, but Pyette persuaded them that having MAT do it would bring more to the production.

"We just knew that New York

actors, as good as they are,

could not understand the rural,

farm lifestyle that is necessary

to tell this story," he said. "They

just wouldn't have the frame of

reference. While this is a uni-

versal story and one that reso-

nates with families that don't

come from ag backgrounds, we

do need a cast that understands

that life. After many conversa-

tions with MRT, we all came to

the conclusion that this was the

best fit. Our publicist is thrill-

ed by this idea and can't wait to

market such a unique project."

Fundraising is underway,

with AgWest giving a \$3,000

grant through its Rural

Community Grant Program and,

since then, \$1,500 from Frontline

Ag Solutions and \$1,000 from the

local Mountain View Co-op.

"But we are no where near covering all expenses," Pyette said. "To guild the set, transport it to NY, get the cast/crew there, house them, etc., we need to raise about \$85k. This is a large amount of money, but we're pretty confident. Arleen Rice has been working with me and we are approaching many of the large ag companies across the state. We also have many applica-

tions out there to foundations, etc. But yes, much more fund-raising.

"MAT itself has pledged money to the project as well as some private individuals and at this point we're at \$25,500," he said. "We will, of course, accept support from anyone who wants to donate! We know that MAT asks a great deal of financial support from this community and we don't want to impact our regular season with this special project, so we are really focusing on large ag companies and state-wide organizations and foundations, but that's not to say we won't accept funding! There are a great many people in this area that have ties to a show like this and we'd love for them to help us take a story about rural Montana to the big stage!"

"And he told the kids, 'more outside time, less screen time'" Martins added.

Celebrity

Continued from page A1

America.

"Much of his and his wife, Kimberly's, time was spent

teaching kids some fun skiing skill exercises as well as making runs with kids and adults alike."

Martins said. "It was a fabulous and memorable day at Bear Paw."

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COMMUNITY

About Town

Today

Pinochle Thursday, 1 - 3 p.m., North Central Senior Center. People of all levels and abilities can call 406-265-5464, or just show up to play.

Block Party, 3:30 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library, with Legos, building blocks and board games provided. This event is free and open to the public.

Lap swim, 6 - 9 a.m., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Havre Community Pool.

Friday, March 28

Yarn Circle, 4 - 6 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library. This program is free and open to the public. All crafts are welcomed. Refreshments will be provided.

Lap swim, 6 - 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Havre Community Pool.

Monday, March 31

Pool in the backroom, Monday-Friday, 1 - 3 p.m., North Central Senior Center, 2 2nd St. W.

Lap swim, 6 - 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Havre Community Pool.

Aqua exercise, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Havre Community Pool.

Tuesday, April 1

Burgers and Bingo fundraiser, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., Bingo starts 6:30 p.m., Eagles Club. Dinner proceeds and some proceeds from bingo, go toward Eagles Club projects.

Tuesday Bingo, 1 - 3 p.m., North Central Senior Center, 2 2nd St. W. Cost is \$1/card for the afternoon. Pays 100% of amount paid in. Open to community members 18 and older.

Talk on Tuesdays, noon - 1 p.m. Havre-Hill County Library, to share a favorite book, a recently read book or a story to tell. Feel free to bring a lunch. This program is free and open to the public.

Just Breathe, with relaxing coloring, puzzles, music and refreshments, 4 - 6 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library. This weekly event is free and open to the public.

Lap swim, 6 - 9 a.m., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Havre Community Pool.

Wednesday, April 2

Come Play Cribbage, 6 p.m., Elks Lodge, 321 2nd St. The community is invited to come play cribbage every Wednesday. Boards and cards are provided or people can bring their own.

Coffee Club Wednesdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m., North Central Senior Center. Drop-ins and newcomers welcome.

Books and Babies, 10:15 a.m., Havre-Hill County Library. Children aged 0-5 and caregivers are encouraged to attend but all are welcome. This program is free and open to the public.

Storytime, for children 0-5 years, 10:30 a.m., Havre-Hill County Library, with activities to follow. This program is free and open to the public.

Crafternoon, 3:30 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library, for kids 6 and older. This crafting event is free, with all supplies provided.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group, 4:30 - 6 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library. This is a bi-monthly meeting for caregivers. For info, call 406-390-1551 or 406-301-3758.

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OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Trump voters not getting what they wanted

Editorial,
When I ask our Montana congressmen why they aren't speaking out against Trump's chaos, cruelty and corruption they tell me that this is what a majority of the voters asked for. To me, that doesn't pass the smell test. Compare some of the things that Trump voters wanted to what is happening:

Lower cost of living—now inflation is increasing and set to explode with new tariffs.

More efficient government—now we have total chaos, loss of critical services and little actual savings. Most guardrails against abuse are gone and corruption is rampant.

Common Ground

To the Editor:

There is common ground for those who voted for, or against, Donald Trump to be President of the United States again. First, we can all agree that he won the election. Second, Kamala Harris did not whine and lie to the American people that she really won. And third, since it was a free democratic election, the American people will get the government they deserve.

For those citizens who feel disappointed that a majority of voters chose as their leader a demagogue who believes the rule of law does not apply to him, your duty now is to bear witness to the consequences. And remember. For history's sake.

Stay awake as the herd nods off, and avoids evidence of an insurrection

Lower deficit—now we are about to add \$4.5 billion to the deficit in order to give tax breaks to the wealthy.

A good economy—now we have dropped from being the envy of the world to having the risk of recession. Jobs are being lost, and our ag producers are losing their markets.

More freedom—now we are on the verge of a dictatorship with citizens fearing arrest for exercising their freedom of speech.

This is not the country we want and deserve. It is time for our congressmen to recognize it.

Gordon Whirry
Great Falls

that happened before their very eyes. Observe the idiot wind that blows constantly from the mouths of all those Trump-pets pretending that traitors are patriots. Don't fall for the false equivalencies, like convincing you that their retribution is the same as real justice.

And stop thinking about King Rump. Entertainment is his game. He's the best at keeping everyone distracted while he performs his con. He knows what he's doing. Also, don't waste your time trying to convince your friends and relatives who have slid down the rabbit hole of self-delusion. This election proved Mark Twain was right when he observed: "It is easier to fool a man, than to convince him he has been fooled."

James Tweed
Ocean City, NJ

Protect Our Public Lands

Guest Columnist

Anne Millbrooke

The Bureau of Land Management administers over 19 million mineral acres in Montana. Ninety-five percent of that public land is open for leasing. The MAGA Party and its Corporate Directors complain that this is not enough. I say, It's too much.

They say, log the national forests. I say, No, thank you. I like national forests for the protection of watersheds, which was the stated goal in the creation of the national forest system. I also like national forests as habitat for wildlife, for capture and storage of carbon, and for my peace of mind.

Our public lands, I think, should be for the benefit of the people rather than for the profit of private extractive industries or other profiteering schemers.

Please tell your local, state, and national elected officials: Hands off our public lands!

Please support the public land agencies, employees, and funding necessary for the lands to remain a public resource. Don't let our public lands become scars from extractors' greed, nor polluters' dumping grounds, nor gated resorts for the wealthy.

Public participation in public lands management is part of our cultural and natural heritage.

Tell our congressional delegation — Senators Daines and Sheehy, Congressmen Zinke and Downing — to protect our public lands. Tell your state legislators to protect the state lands as well as the federally administered public lands in the state. Tell your municipal and county officials that you support public lands.

Government is "the servant of the people," according to the 1940 textbook "The Montana Citizen." We control our state and federal governments through not only written constitutions and elections, but also public participation in civic matters in general.

The role of government is to make sure that public resources are available, protected, and well maintained because private success depends on public resources," explained a Basin candidate in a past election. She reiterated, "private success depends on pub-

lic resources (schools, roads, bridges, airports, clean air and water, and much more.)"

That has been the case since colonial governments established hunting regulations, built roads, and operated hospitals, and since the federal government subsidized building canals and railroads, dredging navigable waters, and operating airways, and now providing support for private space flight, satellites, and even Tesla electric cars.

Many greedy hands are currently reaching for our public lands. Polluters, developers, resource extractors, privatizers, they all are greedy for a government handout in the form of our public lands and the resources thereon.

Now is a good time speak up for our public lands—to attend public meetings, to visit officials in their offices, to write or phone your elected representatives, to write letters to the editor, and generally to participate in the civic life of our community and this country.

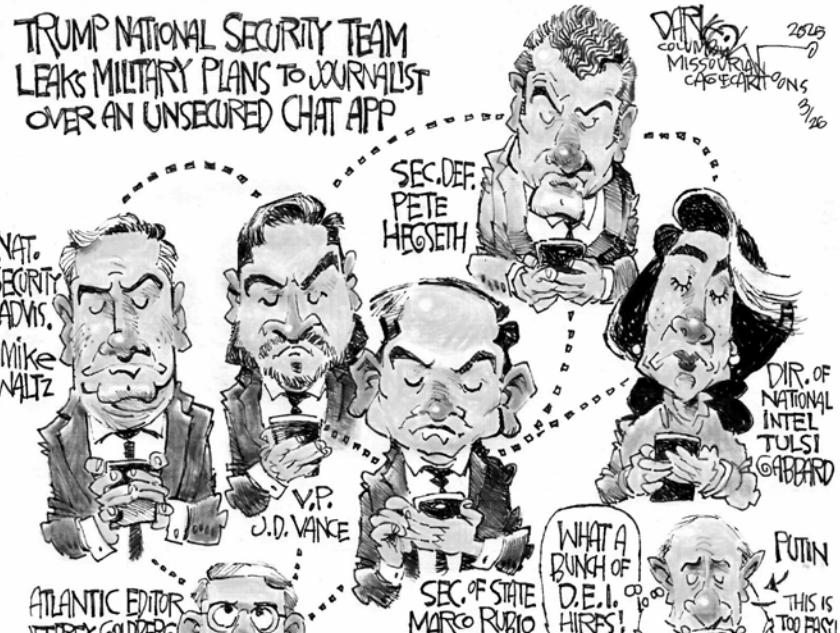
We don't need a superhero, a savior, a dictator, or an oligarchy. We individually and collectively can work for a better world in which our government serves the public interest.

"For the real question is whether the brighter future is really always so distant. What if, on the contrary, it has been here for a long time already, and only our own blindness and weakness has prevented us from seeing it around us and within us, and kept us from developing it?" So wrote Václav Havel while still living under an oppressive totalitarian regime.

Once the public land is gone, it's gone. Whether polluted, or scraped clear of resources, or developed into parcels of commercialism or other privatization, it's gone.

Please help protect our public lands. Speak up for our public lands.

Anne Millbrooke is a writer living in Bozeman



Roadkill with Oatmeal Brain

Looking Out My Backdoor

Sondra Ashton



tive meant pregnant. There has been one Virgin Birth. Why not two? My daughter assured me there have been thousands. Thousands claimed, that is.

I quick-told Michelle and Ana that I am poison. They quick-told Kathy, Crin, and Carol to turn around and go home. No pool therapy today. We'd all been together for a Thai feast, all exposed to one another.

Roadkill-day-three I tried to fake that I felt better. It didn't work. I'm used to pain. I can handle pain, no energy, congestion, fever, chills, swollen glands and all the ugly rest of it. Instead of visiting an archeological ruin, I am one.

The hardest thing for me is oatmeal brain.

I like oatmeal, steaming in the bowl, laced generously with brown sugar, drenched in a lake of milk. Oatmeal brain feels like cold oatmeal got dumped cold into my brain pan and congealed into a lumpy mass, no sugar, no milk. Incapable of thought impulses. Incapable of creativity. Incapable. Rendering me into a state of stasis.

Roadkill-day four found me no

better but I wanted to do just one thing. I had not lifted a finger for any chore since being stricken with the plague. Sweep the floor or wash sheets? I don't sleep on the floor so that was a decision requiring no brain.

The thing about roadkill is that on the first day one knows that the flat slab once carried life. By day four, roadkill resembles a dirty piece of ancient cardboard. Oatmeal brain turns crusty around the blackening edges.

Day five. Can desiccated cardboard be freeze dried and rejuvenated later, kind of a Resurrection?

The days rolled on monotonously. Until one morning, like magic, I knew my body was being reconstituted.

My brain? Since I'm using breakfast food as an analogy, think of it like a progression. Oatmeal to scrambled eggs to the time honored brains and eggs. Might not get any better than that!

Sondra Ashton grew up in Harlem but spent most of her adult life out of state. She returned to see the Hi-Line with a perspective of delight. After several years back in Harlem, Ashton is seeking new experiences in Etzatlan, Mexico. Once a Montanan, always. Read Ashton's essays and other work at <http://montanatumbleweed.blogspot.com/>. Email sondra-jean.ashton@yahoo.com.

Support HB 490: A Crucial Step for Montana's Safety and Resilience

Guest Columnist

Gary Wiens

for every party involved.

A Path Forward

Utilities are obligated to serve, meaning we are required to provide power to our entire service areas, including areas with high wildfire risk. We don't get to pick and choose who we serve, and we can't "drop" high risk members.

HB 490 fairly addresses a real risk that could bankrupt Montana's locally owned electric cooperatives, leaving them unable to continue serving their local communities. It is also important to remember that electric cooperatives are not-for-profit utilities owned by our members. We do not have deep pockets; we only have the pockets of the community members we serve.

We need healthy communities, healthy forests, and healthy utilities — in the face of growing risks in each area, this bill provides a path forward. We ask our co-op members and our state senators to support House Bill 490 and help us create a safer, more resilient Montana.

Clarifying Liability and Cost Shift Claims

Importantly, HB 490 does NOT shield utilities from liability. We will remain fully committed to being held accountable if we are negligent. This bill prohibits the utility from automatically being found at fault, which would unfairly burden our members with the costs of wildfires when their electric utility was not at fault.

Some opponents describe the bill as a cost shift. This is simply not true. The bill is an effort to reduce overall costs by preventing wildfires. By investing in wildfire mitigation, utilities can minimize the risk of wildfires, ultimately saving money

Gary Wiens, CEO, Montana Electric Cooperative's Association, and the general managers of all 25 rural electric cooperatives serving Montana

CHURCH

Out Our Way: Tighten your Cinch

Jeremiah 1:17 "Gird up your loins"

Out our way, when you saddle your horse it is important to check the cinch and make sure it is secure and tight. Doc would try to fake me out by blowing up his tummy when I cinched him — and occasionally I knew him in the ribs to make him blow it out so that the cinch was on tight and would not slip. It was not just because a loose saddle, even with the saddle blanket, can rub a horse's back raw, but because a loose cinch can be really dangerous for the rider.

Many years ago when I served a small church in rural Wyoming, one of my parishioners asked me to help him reset a grave marker in a long abandoned cemetery outside of town. The cemetery had lost its fence and the area was now grazing pasture for a local rancher's herd. The gravestone was tall and cattle used to rub against it as they would a tree, and over time it was knocked off its pedestal.

Ike knew the young man whose grave it was. It belonged to an 18-year-old friend of his who was working cattle and while on a gallop after a stray

calf, the cinch came loose and the saddle and rider fell off. The young man was dragged to death. Ike was there for the funeral and burial, and as we reset the stone he reminded me: "Always check your cinch when you head out."

In ancient times, folks wore long robes with a belt around the waist when working or walking or fighting because an unbelted robe interfered with the wearer's mobility. One could easily get tangled with the robe around the legs, and so when action was required, the first step was to "gird up your loins". Cinch up tight. Be ready and able to do what is needed without interference.

The prophet Jeremiah called on those who served the LORD to "gird up their loins" for the work ahead — casting aside all unnecessary obstacles and distractions to their labors in God's Name, and moving ahead to do the LORD's bidding.

I find there are times when I need to gird up MY loins — or as I prefer to say, "tighten my cinch". I get distracted by petty things that I allow to interfere or even totally block me from being the disciple I am called to be. I, for example, have petty

grudges against people who have somehow annoyed me and allowed that to interfere or even totally block my call to "love my neighbor as I love myself". Resentment and dislike are usually rooted in a "loose cinch" in my theology and spirit. I acknowledge I am merely a "dust eater disciple" despite all my degrees and pedigree as an ordained pastor. The Reverend Doctor can still be a total jerk and, as God's representative, do great harm to the LORD'S work. Of late I have found myself mumbling and grumbling, and in my prayer time the LORD has chastised me for my attitude. "Tighten your cinch before you fall off and are dragged to oblivion", He tells me.

Dear LORD, help me tighten my cinch when, through neglect or sheer pettiness, I allow it to start loosening up. My saddle slides a bit of late, LORD. Help me rein in, dismount, and tighten it again so I may serve You.

Be blessed and be a blessing. May you also tighten your cinch as needed.

Brother Jon, the "dust eater disciple" who is trying to tighten his cinch.

Pastor's Corner: Attention! Attention!

When I first moved to Havre five years ago, I did a lot of reading about Montana's history. I had a lot of time on my hands five years ago... and you might have had some extra time, too, since our society paused normal life in response to the pandemic. With that extra time, I paid attention to my new state.

One thing that struck me from Montana's history was how rich the state was in natural resources, and yet how much of the wealth made from those resources never really benefited the places they had come from. For example, banks from the East Coast owned the mines in Butte, so while it was the miners in Butte doing the heavy (and dirty and dangerous) lifting, most of the money made from the mines was sent out of state. Far, FAR away from the state.

Once farm equipment became SUCH big business, a chunk of the earning potential from farms was also sent out of state, or so asserts the book "Montana: High, Wide, and Handsome" by Joseph Kinsey Howard. He quotes a Montana wheat grower, who said, "With the advent of the tractor, the Montana farmers were paying eastern manufacturers for labor they formerly had provided themselves."

It didn't take me long to learn that another wave of

resource extraction was hitting the state: non-Montanans were (are?) buying up real estate. I kind of patted myself on the back — I might be from out of state, but I haven't bought any real estate yet!

And now we are in the grips of yet another attempt to wrest our precious resources away. This resource isn't unique to Montana, though. It's a resource that everyone has, whether you were born in Montana, or Michigan, or Mozambique. It's the resource of attention.

Attention. Yes, our attention might just be the commodity most likely to make a millionaire (or billionaire) today. Think about how Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook fame made his money. He isn't an oil man or railroad tycoon; he doesn't sell or trade a physical commodity. He deals in attention. When we pay attention to a website — Facebook, or X, or Snapchat, or Amazon — that website generates money. My attention, your attention... all our attention adds up to billions of dollars. And those billions rarely circle back to benefit where they came from.

This Lent, the ELCA Lutherans in town have been focusing on spiritual disciplines. The heart of spiritual disciplines is ATTENTION. Where are we spending our attention? How do we pay attention to God and ourselves through prayer?

How do we pay attention to the Bible — that is, the story of salvation, the stories of our ancestors in the faith, the story of God? How do we pay attention to the physical side of our devotion to God, as seen in our practices of fasting? How do we pay attention to the ways we've sinned and fallen short of the glory of God through confession? How do we pay attention to what we do and why we do it during worship? How do we pay attention to God and ourselves through silence?

There's a lot to pay attention to! But I would so much rather pay this attention — this precious, finite resource — to God than to any CEO. It takes real work and real discipline to wrest our attention away from the devices that have ensnared so many of us. These companies have invested lots of resources in developing ways to hook our attention and never let us go. Yet, God has invested God's own Son, God's very self, in creating and saving and redeeming us and the world. Isn't that something worth paying attention to? Shouldn't the reality of the God who is love be the algorithm that structures our reality? Isn't that something worth paying attention to? God, I want to pay attention to what matters — help me and help us all!

—
Pastor Megan Hoewisch
First Lutheran Church

was, couldn't get up, nor open my eyes or speak. Was I in a hospital? I heard Dad, Mom, then the Dr. said; "There's no hope. Tom will probably be dead in a few days." They left. I heard the door shut.

'Then I heard the door quietly open. I saw nothing, heard nothing, then felt a small hand touch my foot. A quiet voice said, 'You don't know me, I wanted you to know, before we moved away, that Daddy prays for you daily. 'Dear heavenly Father, I'm Julie, asking you, like Daddy does, to heal Tom. Daddy Quotes 3 John 2: "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, even as your soul prospers." You know what he needs. Thank You, Father God for answering. I love you, Lord, Thank You. Goodbye, Tom.'

I heard the door close, then felt warmth move from my head to my toes, opened my eyes, sat up, no clothes, rang the bell, a nurse came in, looked shocked; 'I need my clothes, I have to find that little girl!' She said, 'No one's been IN here since your parents left; how did you manage to sit UP, she asked; I told her 'I AM HEALED'

"That was twenty-five years ago, Beth; I've searched for 'Jewel'; I've never found her but I AM totally healed and I'm following God's plan."

Grace added: "I just wanted to share Beth's story! Our God is a wonderful God!"

Love, Mara.



A Healing Touch

You know, Lord, 'friend Grace', wanted to share what her friend 'Beth' told her; she'd come up to attend a wedding, stopped for gas, ready to leave, a guy shouted, 'Is that you, 'Beth'?' She looked back, the guy looked familiar; he said, 'I'm 'Thomas', remember me from school?' She laughed; 'So, what's up, Tom?'

"Have you a few minutes — I've a story to tell? She nodded, he continued: 'After High school, I'd finished 2nd year in college; then I fell down some steps; when I woke, I didn't know where I

were, couldn't get up, nor open my eyes or speak. Was I in a hospital? I heard Dad, Mom, then the Dr. said; "There's no hope. Tom will probably be dead in a few days." They left. I heard the door shut.

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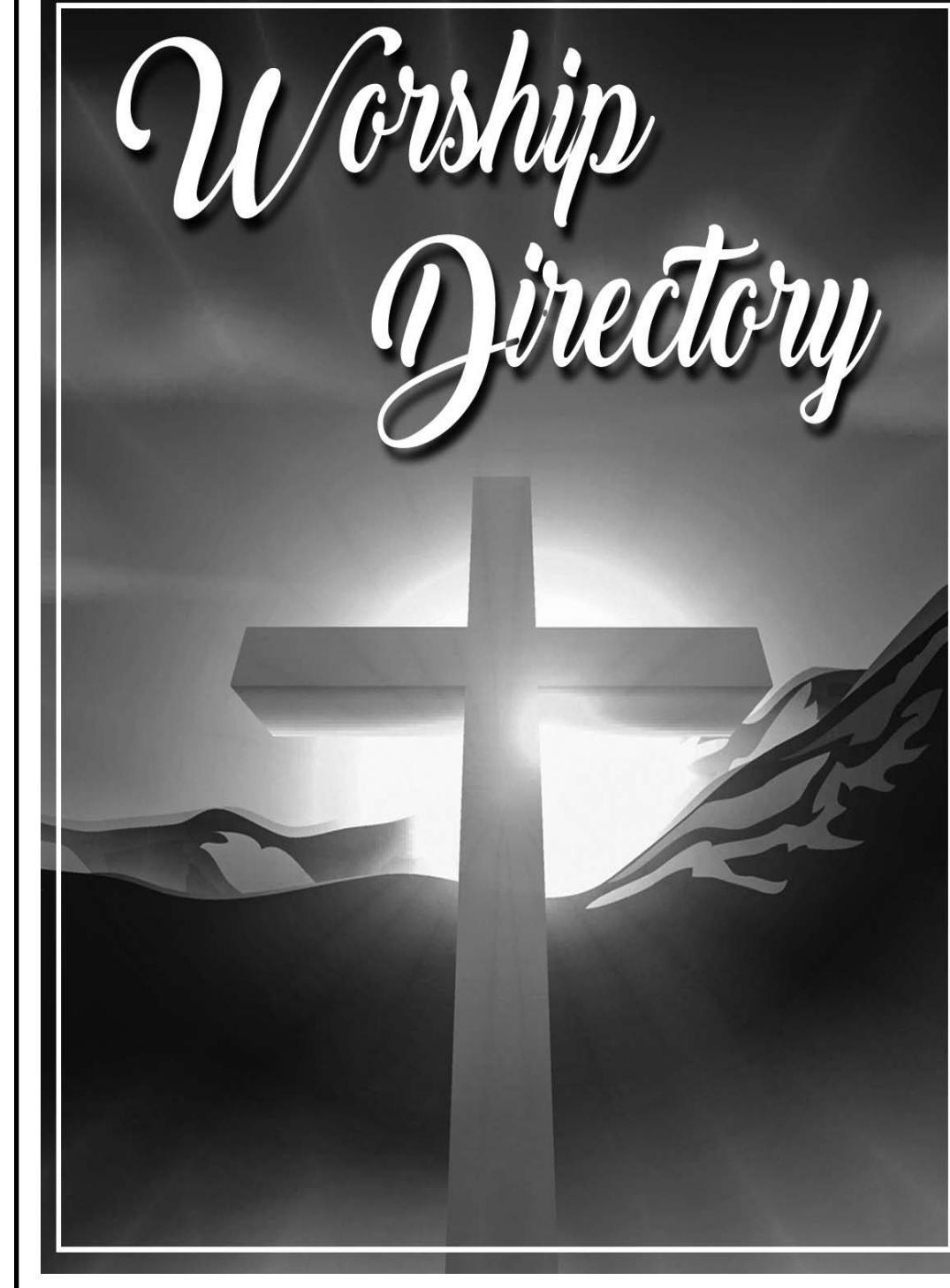
Grace added: "I just wanted to share Beth's story! Our God is a wonderful God!"

Love, Mara.

Help our readers connect with religious resources in your community

Make sure these readers know how you can help with a presence on our weekly church page.

Submit your columns or religion news to tleeds@havredailynews.com.



Due to changing circumstances, these schedules are subject to change. Please contact your church for updated information.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Havre Ward

1315 Washington Ave
Sunday Sacrament Meeting: 10:00 a.m.
Bishop Casey Pratt • 406-265-2811
Missionaries • 406-696-7364

St. Jude Catholic Church

624 Fourth St. • 265-4261
Father Daniel Wahlen
Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Church of Nazarene

"Come As You Are" Meeting at: 2229 5th Ave (HRDC Building)
406-262-7032
Morning Worship & Childrens Worship: Sunday • 12:00 p.m.
Pastor Joshua Woods

Living Water Church

(Assembly of God)
Corner of Laredo Rd. & Little Box Elder Rd.
SUNDAYS
11 a.m. **Worship**
11 a.m. **Kids Service**
936-212-1528 — Pastor Michael Vohs
395-5983 — Church

Van Orsdel United Methodist Church

410 5th Avenue — 265-4232
voauc@itstriangle.com
Sunday worship:

11:00 Worship and Sunday School

Nursery available for children

5 & under

Wednesday — Scripture Meditation, 10 a.m. Youth Group with meal following, 6 p.m. Bell Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Carl K. Ellis

Facebook: VanOrsdelUnitedMethodist Church

The Ark Church

325 Second St. • 265-1661
Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Saint Constantine and Helen Eastern Orthodox Church

1101 1st Ave No • Great Falls, MT
406-452-3670

There will be Reader Service at 10:30 A.M. on Sunday. All are welcome to attend and experience the first faith.

Christ Messiah Lutheran Parish

417 20th St. • 265-2334

Messiah Lutheran

Sunday Worship: 9:00 a.m.

Big Sandy Christ Lutheran

Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Pentecostal New Hope Apostolic Church

238 Sixth Ave. • 265-3358

Sunday Morning: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening: 6:00 p.m.

Mid Week Service: Wed. 7:00 p.m.

Havre Baptist Church

Pastor Morris Sherlin

405 6th Street • 390-5341

Sunday Service ~ 10am

Immanuel

3003 Old Post Road • 265-6783
www.havreimmanuel.org
Pastor Christopher Richards
Sunday School Service — 9:45am
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

1100 11th St.

Pastor: Terry Forke
Church Office 265-7337

Sunday:
11:00 am Divine Service
www.spaul-zion.com

Abundant Life Ministries A Four Square Church

625 4th Ave., 265-8044
Pastor: Jim Erickson

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship/
Children's Sunday School

Tue: 9:00 a.m. Ladies Prayer

Wed: 6:00 a.m. Mens Breakfast and
Bible Study

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Rocky Boy Indian Reservation

499 Mission Taylor Road

East of the High School

(ELCA) 395-4307

Worship Service Sun. at 11:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church (ELCA)

303 6th Avenue — 265-5881
www.flchavre.org

SUNDAY

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Fellowship

10:30 am Adult Ed

MONDAY

7:00 ACOA

7:00 am Bible Study @ Char's

1:30 Bible Study @ Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY

7:00 AA • 7:30 ALANON

SATURDAY

9-12 Lutheran World Relief

Work Group — 2nd/3rd Sat.

Seventh-day Adventist Church

Pastor Michael Hope

SPORTS

Running track and field in Cut Bank



Courtesy Logan Machtemes/Ponderosa Publications
Havre track and field competed at the Cut Bank Booster Invite with several Blue Ponies doing very well at the meet. Watch for more on the results from the meet and future competitions on www.havredailynews.com and upcoming editions of Havre Weekly Chronicle.

38th Annual Hi-Line Invitational Tournament scheduled for March 27-29 in Havre

Press release

The Montana State University-Northern men's and women's basketball programs will be hosting the 38th Annual Hi-Line Invitational Tournament March 27-29 at the Armory Gymnasium.

The H.I.T. features some of Montana's top high school talent

on all-star teams from each of the state's four classifications (AA, A, B, C).

Girls and boys action will take place throughout the weekend, culminating with consolation and title games on Saturday evening. A 3-point and slam dunk contest is also scheduled for Friday eve-

ning. A complete schedule follows:

Thursday, March 27
5:30 p.m., Class A vs. Class C
Girls
7 p.m., Class A vs. Class C Boys
Friday, March 28
8 a.m., Class C vs. Class B Girls

9:30 a.m., Class C vs. Class B
Boys

5 p.m., 3-Point Contest/Slam Dunk Contest

Boys
Noon, Consolation Girls Game

6 p.m., Class AA vs. Class C Girls
7:30 p.m., Class AA vs. Class C Boys
Boys
2 p.m., Class A vs. Class B Girls
3:30 p.m., Class A vs. Class B Boys

Boys
Saturday, March 29
9 a.m., Class B vs. Class AA
Girls

10:30 a.m., Class B vs. Class AA
Boys
3 p.m., Championship Girls Game
4:30 p.m., Championship Boys Game

Havre basketball players make Northeast All-Conference

Press release

Several Havre players were among the competitors chosen for the Class A Northeast Conference Basketball All Conference teams for 2024-2025.

Northeast Conference Girls Class A Basketball All Conference 2024-2025

All State

2.) Ariana Gary — Havre High School
3.) Amaya Jarvis — Havre High School

1st Team All Conference

2.) Ariana Gary — Havre High School
4.) Amaya Jarvis — Havre High School

2nd Team All Conference

2.) Ela Harber — Havre High School

5.) Tierra Parker — Havre High School
Honorable Mention

2.) Tahlyn Olson — Havre High School

Players selected from other teams:

All State

1.) Lexya Burnham — Fergus High School
4.) Jillian Kanduch — Custer County High School

1st Team All Conference

1.) Lexya Burnham — Fergus High School
3.) Alli Glasscock — Custer High School

5.) Jillian Kanduch — Custer County High School

2nd Team All Conference

1.) Savanna Anderson — Sidney High School
3.) Ave Norby — Sidney

High School
4.) Sari Murphy — Dawson County High School

Honorable Mention

1.) Kiya Foran — Fergus High School
3.) Sam Peila — Custer County High School
4.) Ava Robinson — Fergus High School

5.) Riley Roche — Fergus High School

Northeast Conference Boys Class A Basketball All Conference 2024-2025

3.) Tre Gary — Havre High School

1st Team All Conference

4.) Tre Gary — Havre High School

2nd Team All Conference
5.) Dax Ostwalt — Havre High School

Honorable Mention

1.) Brayden Ereaux — Havre High School
2.) Matt Huse — Havre High School

Players selected from other teams:

All State

1.) Kason Brown — Fergus High School
2.) Levi Eaton — Dawson High School

1st Team All Conference

1.) Carter Amsler — Dawson County High School

2.) Kason Brown — Fergus High School

3.) Levi Eaton — Dawson High School

5.) Ethan Rivas — Dawson

County High School

2nd Team All Conference

1.) Cy Eaton — Dawson County High School
2.) Rylan Gentry — Custer County High School

3.) Madden Norslien — Fergus High School
4.) Bridger Muri — Custer County High School

Honorable Mention

3.) Shann McPherson — Dawson County High School
4.) McKay Shobe — Fergus High School

5.) Kortt Smith — Custer County High School

Sports Calendar sponsored by

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119 Second Street • Havre, MT • 265-6795 • www.havredailynews.com

Neighborhood Watch

Work together with the Havre Police Department by practicing crime prevention techniques and reporting crime or suspicious activity.

Good neighbors can cut crime.

Havre WEEKLY CHRONICLE

"News You Can Use"

RECORD

= Obituaries

Noreen
Halvorson



Halvorson

Noreen Halvorson's memorial service will be held at Messiah Lutheran church in Havre April 5, 2025, at 1 p.m. A small reception will follow.

Lysbeth 'Lynn' Hughes Ophus

Lysbeth "Lynn" Hughes Ophus died of natural causes on March 19 at the South Hill Rockwood Retirement Community in Spokane, Washington.

A memorial service will take place at a later date.

Memorial donations can be made to the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church, PO Box 606, Havre, MT 59501 or the MSU-Northern Foundation (Lynn



Ophus

Ophus Endowed Scholarship), PO Box 1691 Havre, MT 59501.

She was born February 5, 1932, in Scobey, Montana. Her parents were Frank Jr. and Doris Hughes. She attended

Scobey schools and graduated from Scobey High School.

Lynn attended the University of Montana and graduated with a degree in education. She began her teaching career in Big Sandy where she met her future husband, Myron "Whitey" Ophus Sr. She taught for one year in Shelby then moved to Havre, where she began a career teaching at Northern Montana College (later Montana State University-Northern).

Throughout a 27-year career at Northern she taught primarily health and physical education classes. Her students affectionately referred to her as Mrs. O. She coached the women's basketball team for a year or two prior to it becoming an official sport. She was a recipient

of the coveted Golden N award, an award chosen by students.

On his 30th birthday (October 1) in 1957, Lynn married Whitey in Scobey. About 2 years later, their first son, Myron Jr., was born. Another two years passed, and they welcomed their second son, Byron.

Lynn was active in several community organizations including Eastern Star, American Cancer Society and especially the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church. She loved genealogy and spent a great deal of time documenting the Ophus family and its history.

Lynn retired from teaching full-time in 1988 and started spending winters in Phoenix, Arizona. Whitey passed away in 2000. After his passing, Lynn

bought a home in Yuma and spent winters there. Several years after Whitey's passing, Lynn and Sherm Ekness became friends. They enjoyed wintering in Arizona and traveling throughout the United States and the World. They rarely missed events if a grandchild was participating.

In 2020, Lynn moved to the Rockwood Retirement Community in Spokane, Washington, near her oldest son.

Lynn was preceded in death by her husband, her parents and brother Don.

She is survived by her brother JD Hughes of Whitefish, MT, children, Myron (Lori) of Spokane WA, Byron (Lisa) of Havre, and grandson, Brady of Charlotte, NC.

= For the Record

Havre Police Department

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2025

Officers responding to a 9:23 a.m. report from Fourth Street about a woman yelling at children issued a written or verbal warning.

Officers responding to a 3:05 p.m. report at the police station of an assault arrested David Lee Carman of Havre, 62, on a charge of assault with a weapon.

Officers investigated a 3:14 p.m. two-vehicle crash on the 10 Block of 13th Street.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025

Animal control received a report from Wilson Avenue and 10th Street West at 9:23 a.m. of a tan and white fluffy dog running around, but was unable to locate the animal.

Officers investigated a report of a car crash at 11:08 a.m. on the 10 Block of Third Avenue.

Officers investigated a report at 3:56 p.m. from Second Street of a person banging on doors and windows and breaking an outside window.

Animal control received a report at 4:14 p.m. from Fourth Street that someone had found a stray cat and took the animal to the shelter.

Officers making a motor vehicle stop at 4:28 p.m. on Fourth Avenue West arrested Lavanna Marveen Are of Great Falls, 47, on charges of driving with a suspended or revoked driver's license, first offense owner driving without insurance and a seat violation and on three Justice or City court misdemeanor warrants.

Officers investigated a report at 7:25 p.m. that a man was in the emergency room with a gunshot wound to the thigh.

Officers responding to a report of a hit-and-run crash on the 700 Block of First Street issued a summons to Glenda Topolosky of Havre, 74, on charges of failing to stop and identify self when striking unattended vehicle and failure to give notice of an accident.

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SOCIETY

= Senior Center News

Senior Center News

March 31 to April 4, 2025

Weekly Menu

Menu subject to change

Monday, March 31, 2025 — Chicken Alfredo, Roasted Veggies, Fruit, Dessert

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 — Cuban Sandwiches, Wisconsin Cheese Soup, Dessert

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 — Chili, Cornbread, Salad, Apple Crisp

Thursday, April 3, 2025 — Grilled Ham & Cheese, Bean & Ham Soup, Fruit, Dessert

Friday, April 4, 2025 — Clam Chowder, Caesar Salad, Fruit, Lemon Bars

TAX SEASON is Coming to an End: to let everyone know Tax Appointments will start winding down and end April 7th, 2025. The workers need a little time to close out all their cases. Or if they discover any problems, must have time to resolve all cases.

Brad Taylor: Music Tues. April 1st 2025, 11:00am-12:00pm.

Foot Clinic: (call 406-265-4776,) Tuesday, April 1st, 9:00am-3:00pm.

Bingo: Tuesday April 1st, 1:pm-3pm \$1.00 per card

Roger Fischer & Brad Taylor: music Wednesday April 2nd, 10:00am-12:00pm

TOPS: Wednesday April 2nd TOPS Weigh-in 8:00-9:00am Meeting 9:am-10:00am.

Coffee Club: Wednesday April 2, 10:00-11:30am.

Gene Allen: Music Thursday April 3rd, 10:00-12:00

Don't forget Game Day: on Thursday and Friday at the Center April 3rd & 4th, 2025

Also Pinochle: on Thursday and Friday at 12:30pm-3:00pm April 3rd & 4th. This group welcomes new players all levels and abilities.

Do you like to Color? Stop down to the Senior Center and pick up a picture to color for April.

Evans celebrates 85th birthday with five generations

Special to the Weekly Chronicle

Family recently gathered together to celebrate Dixie Evans' 85th birthday including all of her six children, many of her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her first great-great-granddaughter, Layleah.

A special thank you to all friends and family for making this celebration so special.



Courtesy photo

Trinity Brown, back from left, Chris Brown, Cathy Brown, Dixie Evans, front center, holding her great-great-granddaughter Layleah Marie



Courtesy photo

Dixie with her two daughters, Barb McLeod and Cathy Brown, along with her four sons, Mike, Bo, Dude and Billy Evans.

Seewald joins Havre's Stockman Bank as loan officer

Press release

JR Seewald has recently joined Stockman Bank in Havre as an Ag Loan Officer. His responsibilities include developing and servicing agricultural and commercial loans and assisting clients with their lending needs.

Seewald is a native Montanan, growing up on his



JR Seewald

MARCH 28 TO APRIL 3

COTTONWOOD Cinema 4

Movie Hotline # 265-4702

• NEW MOVIES - NO FREE PASSES

328 SECOND ST • HAVRE • BUSINESS OFFICE # 265-5467



DEATH OF A UNICORN - R
4:20 | 7:15 | 9:20 | Daily
1:10 | Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday



LAST SUPPER - PG-13
4:00 pm. only | Daily
1:00 | Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday



THE MONKEY - R
7:15 | 9:15 | Daily



SNOW WHITE - PG
4:15 | 7:00 | 9:15 | Daily
1:15 | Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday



A WORKING MAN - R
4:10 | 7:10 | Daily
9:20 | Friday and Saturday only
1:20 | Saturday, Sunday & Tuesday

skin, use insect repellents when outside. Use a fan when sitting outside. Protect your home use screens. Remove all breeding grounds. Drain puddles around your house. Get vaccinated before you travel. Talk to your Doctor.

Would You Like to be a Volunteer at The Senior Center? Right now we are looking for a volunteer to answer phones at the front desk. We are very thankful for the many volunteers who help us daily and also during our special Events. If you have a little extra time, we could sure use your help. We are finding ourselves a little short on volunteers now that we have opened our doors after closing due to the pandemic. If you would like to share your time and talents, please give us a call at 265-5464 to let us know. There are many different volunteer opportunities, maybe one just right for you, give us a call.

Transportation: is still being handled by the North Central Montana Transit. This change seems to be going very well. If you need a ride call 406-265-4762. They would appreciate a 24-hour notice for local rides and a 48-hour notice for Great Falls trips.

SCAMS: Scam Calls are still widespread. Text messages and emails are also becoming popular. Do not respond to any of them. Do not even open

them, just delete them. Medicare isn't issuing gold cards. Talk to someone in the community before you consider a reverse mortgage.

Commodities: If you are interested in receiving commodities, we still have a few select openings. You can sign up at the Senior Center, fill out an application and find out if your income falls within the guidelines. If you qualify, you can receive commodities once a month. You do have to come to Senior Center to pick them up.

Important phone numbers

Montana Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) RAINN National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673 Tumbleweed Runaway and Family Crisis Program: 259-2558 (local) 1-888-816-4702 (toll free)

Friendship Line by Institute on Aging — The Friendship Line is both a crisis intervention hotline and a warm-line for non-emergency emotional support calls. It is a 24-hour toll-free line and the only accredited crisis line in the country for people aged 60 years and older, and adults living with disabilities. Toll-Free Line: (800) 971-0016

For those seniors getting frustrated with staying home and needing someone to talk to you can call 1-877-688-3377 for Montana's Warm Line.

Support Our Local ECONOMY

HOME DELIVERY **Gift Cards** **CURBSIDE PICKUP**

CLOSED TEMPORARILY **Take Out** **We're Here for YOU**

Join Us For

PRIZE KARAOKE WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

BLACKLIGHT KARAOKE FRIDAY

KARAOKE SATURDAY

TIP IT BAR

1315 3rd Street North
Havre, Montana
406-265-4051

THE DUCK INN **LENTEN LUNCH BUFFET**

TUESDAY-SATURDAY 11AM-10PM
SUNDAY 10AM-9PM

Serving Fridays During Lent 11:00AM-1:00PM
Various seafoods entrees, pasta, and salad bar \$18.99

OFFERING DINE-IN, TAKE-OUT OR CURBSIDE TO-GO
CALL 265-1761 TO PLACE AN ORDER!

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MEDITERRANEAN BISTRO **OPEN FRIDAY & SATURDAY 5PM-9PM**

Prime Rib Friday and Saturday

Murphy's Pub

HAVRE, MT

Located in Boothill Plaza
1465 Hwy 2 NW Suite A
265-4700
Monday -Saturday 11am-9pm

STOP UP FOR OUR LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS

And enjoy a drink from the bar!

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413 Plainsman Rd, Chinook, MT ~ \$115,000

20 acres of stunning Montana land just minutes from Havre and Chinook! Enjoy breathtaking views of the Bear Paw Mountains and Milk River Valley, with a mix of flat terrain and rolling hills—ideal for building your dream home or retreat. Multiple potential building sites, easy access and incredible scenery make this a must-see. Don't miss out—schedule a visit today!

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OPEN HOUSE

1005 6th St. ~ \$295,000
Recently updated, open floor plan, 3 bed, 1.5 baths main floor, incredible view, finished bsmt.

1734 1st St. ~ \$360,000
Time to save money. Write off home work space. Why pay rent. This shop has a paint booth, an office space and bath.

921 7th Ave. ~ \$210,000
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, double garage.

Kim Cripps
Havre Hi-Line Realty
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We get your homework done!



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We can accept your payment in the following ways:

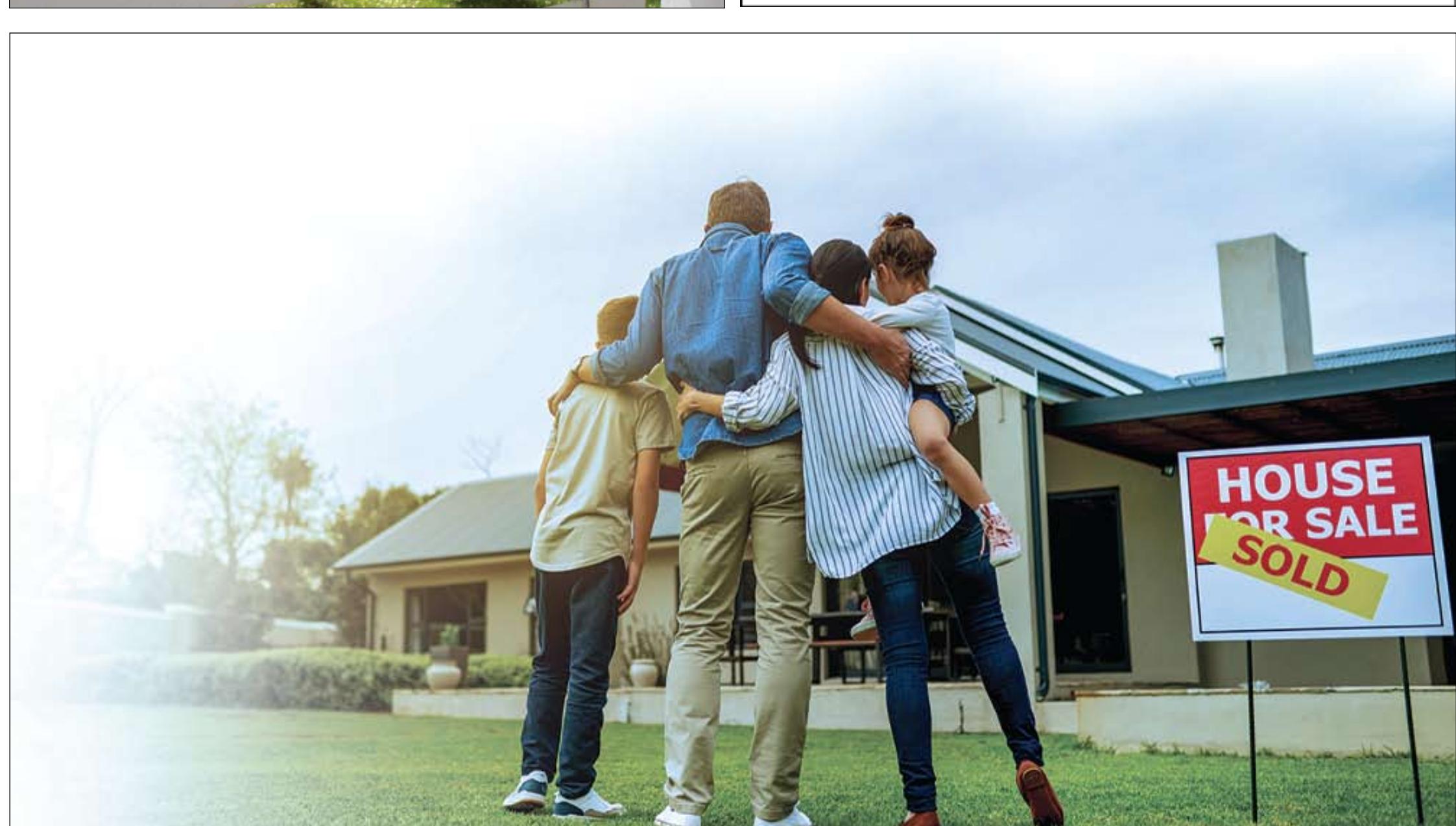
1 Place THROUGH OUR DROP OFF SLOT AT OUR OFFICE

2 Drop IN OUR BOX AT GARY & LEO'S FRESH FOODS

3 Mail TO OUR P.O. BOX 431 HAVRE, MT 59501

3 WAYS TO PAY

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You may pay by local check, cash, Mastercard or Visa. Check your ad the first day it runs to see that all the information is correct. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. Call us the first day the ad runs if you find an error and we will not charge you for the first day.

EMPLOYMENT

Full Time



Join the Northern Montana Health Care Team!

30 13th Street West, Havre, MT 59501

Cleaning Tech/Housekeeper - NMH Part Time \$600 Sign-On Bonus \$14.72 - \$16.54

Purchasing Assistant Full Time \$21.84 - \$25.44

Groundskeeper \$14.95 - \$17.07

Please visit our website at www.NMHcare.org to complete an online application and for additional employment opportunities or call 406-262-1402 for more information. Employee optional benefits are available: health, life, optical, dental, HSA/FLEX, 403b/pension savings plan, vacation/sick & holiday pay. Salary commensurate with education & experience.

Northern Montana Hospital is an Equal Opportunity Employer-Disability and Veteran



HILL COUNTY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Sheriff's Office

- Deputy Sheriff - FT • \$26.24/hour
- Detention Officer - PT & FT • \$22.36/hour
- Dispatcher - (2) PT & (1) FT • \$21.51/hour

Hill County Health Department

- 1 Breastfeeding Peer Counselor-PT • \$15.61/hr
- 1 Public Health Lead Prevention Specialist-PT • \$25.77/hr

All employment openings, applications and job descriptions are posted at Hill County Courthouse and listed on Hill County – Human Resources website as well as the Havre Job Service website.

Please reach out to personnel@hillcounty.us with any questions.

Hill County is an equal opportunity employer. Reasonable accommodations will be made.

Hill County Council on Aging

- Kitchen Aide/Cook - (2) PT, Havre & Rudyard sites • \$16.08/hr
- Home Delivered Meals Delivery Driver - PT, • \$16.08/hr

Weed & Mosquito

- Weed/Mosquito Coordinator - FT • \$25.52/hr

Hill County Attorney

- Deputy County Attorney - FT • \$85,000/yr

Cummins dealership in Cut Bank seeks certified diesel mechanic with strong work ethic. Ideal candidate will have own tools and a valid Montana driver's license. Both Cummins training and on-the-job training available, with a diverse knowledge base to draw from. Competitive wages, health and vision insurance. Please contact Ralph at (406) 873-5568, mail resume to PO Box 2030, Cut Bank, MT 59427 or email to christie@glaciermotors.com.

RENTALS

Apartments



OAKWOOD VILLAGE

1915 1st St. NE
Havre, MT

Two & Three Bdrms
Section 8 Multi-family Complex.
A/C, Heat, Water &
Garbage Included in Rent, EHO
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TTY 711

Houses

Just Opened
Deluxe Condo unit
2 bdrm, 3 bath
available to all!
Section 8 approved
Call 406-934-2027

Just Opened,

1 bdrm. home and 2 bdrm. duplex designed for lower income, but available for all. Call **406-945-2027**
1 bdrm located 4 blocks E. IGA.
2 bdrm 10 minutes from city cent

Housing Available
But you must not use your Landlord as a banker, rent must be paid on time.

NOTICES

Jennifer E. Forsyth
HI-LINE LAW, PLLC
P.O. Box 2650
Havre, MT 59501
Telephone: (406)265-1530
jennifer@hilinelaw.com
Attorneys for Personal Representative

MONTANA TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, HILL COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of
MARJORIE SPINLER
Deceased.

Probate No. DP-25-013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at PO Box 2650, Havre, Montana 59501, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

DATED this 10th day of March 2025.

/s/ Gregory Spinler
Personal Representative

Published in the Havre Weekly Chronicle

March 27, April 3, 2025

MNAXLP

NOTICES

Legals

Kristin L. Omvig
Benjamin J. Hammer
OMVIG HAMMER LAW, P.C.
4 Sunset Plaza, Suite 200
P.O. Box 1202
Kalispell, MT 59903
Telephone: (406) 885-2850
E-mail: kristin@ohlawmt.com
ben@ohlawmt.com
Attorneys for Personal Representative

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to obtain an Opencut Mining Permit (Pursuant to Section 82-4-432(14)(a)(x), MCA).

Riverside Contracting, Inc.
5571 Alloy South
Missoula, MT 59808
(406) 721-9267

Will be submitting an Application for a Dryland Opencut Mining Permit with the Opencut Mining Program of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The site is referred to as the Havre NW - Sand Borrow site. It is located on 9.0 acres in Sec 29, T35N, R13E, Hill County. Riverside Contracting, Inc. will be operating at this site for the removal of borrow materials, up to 90,000 cubic yards, for the upcoming Havre-NW project. The estimated date for operations to begin is April 2025 and reclamation to be initiated by December 2026. Access for the site is located on the west of Highway 232 about 4.5 miles via Roads 140N, 345N, 130N, and 325N. Copies of the application and location map may be obtained from the address above or by emailing sjhill@riversidecontracting.com.

Publish in The Havre Weekly Chronicle

March 27, April 3, 2025

MNAXLP

Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the Davey Elementary School Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. The Davey Elementary School Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year as provided to the district:

Estimated Change in Revenues*
Estimated Change in Mills*

Estimated Impact, Home of \$100,000

Estimated Impact, Home of \$200,000*

Transportation

\$0 increase/decrease
\$0 increase/decrease
\$0 increase/decrease
\$0 increase/decrease

Bus Depreciation

\$0.00 increase/decrease
\$0 increase/decrease
\$0 increase/decrease
\$0 increase/decrease

NOTICE OF SEALED BID SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Hill County Commissioners are accepting sealed bids for the sale of the following surplus vehicle:

• Make/Model: Hyundai Sonata

• Year: 2008

• VIN: 5NPE46C48H390671

• Mileage: 164,000

• Condition: Runs and drives smoothly. Clean title, no accidents. Regular maintenance and oil changes. New battery, windshield wipers.

The vehicle is available for inspection at the Hill County Courthouse at 315 4th Street, Havre, Montana during normal business hours.

BID SUBMISSION:

Sealed bids must be submitted to:

Board of Hill County Commissioners, 315 4th Street, Havre, Montana 59501. All bids must be received no later than 3:00 pm on April 3rd, 2025. Late bids will NOT be accepted.

BID REQUIREMENTS:

1. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Sealed Bid - Hyundai Sonata"

2. Include bidder's name, address, phone number, and bid amount.

3. The minimum bid is \$1,500.00.

4. The vehicle is sold as-is, where-is, with no warranties or guarantees.

5. Payment must be made in full within five (5) business days of bid acceptance.

BID OPENING:

Bids will be opened in a public meeting on April 3rd, 2025 at 3:00 pm in the Commissioner's office at the Hill County Courthouse. The highest responsible bidder will be immediately notified.

The Board of Hill County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities, or to accept any bid they deem to be in the best interest of Hill County.

For further information, contact Executive Administrative Assistant to the Commission, Tiffany Tanner at 406-265-5481 or by email at tanner@hillcounty.us.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Regular Session this 20th day of March 2025, at Havre, Montana.

/s/ Jake Strissel, Chair

Publish in The Havre Weekly Chronicle

March 20, 27, 2025

MNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to obtain an Opencut Mining Permit (Pursuant to Section 82-4-432(14)(a)(x), MCA).

Riverside Contracting, Inc.
5571 Alloy South
Missoula, MT 59808
(406) 721-9267

Will be submitting an Application for a Dryland Opencut Mining Permit with the Opencut Mining Program of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The site is referred to as the Havre NW Borrow site. It is located on 11.0 acres in Sec 10, T33N, R15E, Hill County. Riverside Contracting, Inc. will be operating at this site for the removal of borrow materials, up to 20,000 cubic yards, for the upcoming Havre-NW project. The estimated date for operations to begin is April 2025 and reclamation to be initiated by December 2026.

Access for the site is located on the west side of Highway 232 about 4 miles north of the intersection of Highways 232 and 233 at milepost 7.5. Copies of the application and location map may be obtained from the address above or by emailing sjhill@riversidecontracting.com.

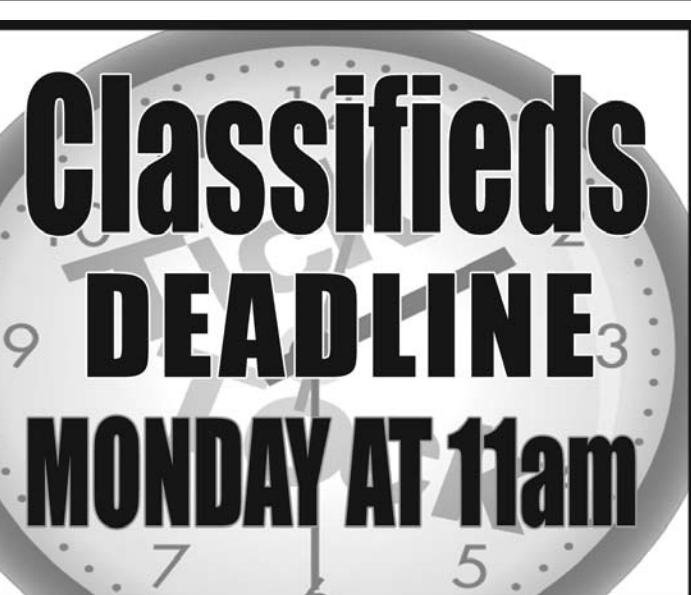
Publish in The Havre Weekly Chronicle

March 27, April 3, 2025

MNAXLP

PRACTICE DEMOCRACY. READ YOUR LEGAL NOTICES. THEY'RE CRUCIAL TO DEMOCRACY.

The reason publication of legal notices is required in newspapers is YOU, the citizen. In a Democracy, the government is required to inform you of the public business, because you and your neighbors are the basis for government. These notices provide essential information about all local government entities, including schools, cities, villages, and counties. A Democracy is a system of checks and balances. Your right to know and be informed is a check on government. Public notices shed light on the actions of all governmental bodies, but it's up to you, the citizen, to read them and obtain more information if necessary about the actions that impact you.



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You may pay by local check, cash, Mastercard or Visa. Check your ad the first day it runs to see that all the information is correct. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. Call us the first day the ad runs if you find an error and we will not charge you for the first day.

NOTICES

Legals

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on July 22, 2025, at 2:00pm on the front steps of the Hill County Courthouse located at 315 4th Street, Havre, MT 59501, the following described real property situated in Hill County, State of Montana:

THE EASTERLY 94 FEET OF THE NORTHERLY 15 FEET OF LOT 9, AND THE EASTERLY 94 FEET OF LOT 10, BLOCK 4, KEN-WRIGHT HILLS FIRST ADDITION TO HAVRE, HILL COUNTY, MONTANA.

More commonly known as 38 6th St, Havre, MT 59501.

Joshua Kirkaldie and Taruha Kirkaldie, as Grantors, conveyed said real property to First American Title Company of Montana, Inc., as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as designated nominee for Guild Mortgage Company, a California Corporation, Beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, by Deed of Trust on December 7, 2017, and filed for record in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder in Hill County, State of Montana, on December 7, 2017 as Instrument No. 605346, in Book 180, at Page 9, of Official Records.

The Deed of Trust was assigned for value as follows:

Assignee: Montana Board of Housing
Assignment Dated: December 6, 2022
Assignment Recorded: January 18, 2023
Assignment Recording Information: as
Instrument No. 622087,

All in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder for Hill County, Montana. Jason J. Henderson is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Hill County, State of Montana, on February 26, 2025 as Instrument No. 627610, in Book 185 MTG, at Page 590, of Official Records.

The Beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to the Grantor(s) failure to make monthly payments beginning February 1, 2024, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due on this obligation is the principal sum of \$106,525.17, interest in the sum of \$4,651.35, escrow advances of \$7,579.50, and other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$660.99 for a total amount owing of \$119,417.01, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or advanced.

The Beneficiary anticipates, and may disburse, such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Grantor. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's fees and attorney's fees, costs and expenses of the sale, and late charges, if any.

The Beneficiary has elected, and has directed, the Trustee to sell the above described property to satisfy the obligation.

The sale is a public sale and any person, including the Beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier's checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed, without any representation or warranty, including warranty of title, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale.

The Grantor, successor in interest to the Grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property, has the right, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, to pay to the Beneficiary, or the successor in interest to the Beneficiary, the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Deed of Trust with Successor Trustee's and attorney's fees. In the event that all defaults are cured, the foreclosure will be dismissed and the foreclosure sale will be canceled.

The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation for up to 15 days for any reason. In the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the Trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least 30 days.

If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Successor Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Dated this 28th day of February, 2025.
Jason J. Henderson, Substitute Trustee
2nd Avenue East, Dickinson, ND 58601
Telephone: 801-355-2886
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8AM-5PM (MST)
File No. MT22669

Publish in The Havre Weekly Chronicle

March 27, April 3, 10, 2025
MNAZLP

Notice of Close of Regular Voter Registration and Option for Late Registration for School District Elections Held May 6, 2025 in Hill County

Notice is hereby given that regular registration for elections to be held on May 6, 2025 will close at 5:00p.m. on Monday April 7th, 2025. To register to vote, or to update your name, address, or other voter information, submit a voter registration application to the county elections office.

***NOTICE:** If you miss this regular registration deadline, you may still register for and vote in the election by showing up at the county election office **before 8:00 PM** on Election Day. All active and inactive electors of Hill County are entitled to vote in their respective school district election.

The following school district elections are scheduled to hold a May 6, 2025 election; however, their elections may be cancelled if trustee positions are not contested and there are no other ballot issues to vote on:

Havre School District 16 & 16A, North Star School District 99M, Cottonwood School District 57, Davey Elementary School District 12, Gildford Colony School District 89, Chester-Joplin-Inverness School District 48-1J & 48-2J, Box Elder Schools 13G, and Rocky Boy School District 87.

If the district is conducting a Polling Place Election: Inactive electors may reactivate by appearing at the polling place in order to vote, by requesting an absentee ballot in any election, or by notifying the school districts election administrator in writing of the elector's current address in the county.

If the district is conducting a Mail Ballot Election: Ballots will be automatically mailed to active electors only. If you are a registered voter and do not receive a ballot, contact the school district election office to update your information as necessary and receive a ballot.

Late registration is only available through the county election office and not the school district.

The county election office is located at: Hill County Courthouse, Lexis Dockter, Hill County Election Administrator, 315 4th Street, Havre, MT 59501

Dated this the 11th of March, 2025
/s/ Lexis Dockter
Lexis Dockter, Hill County Election Administrator

Publish in The Havre Weekly Chronicle
March 20, 27, April 3, 2025
MNAZLP

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Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies

North Star School District 99M

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the North Star High School Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. The North Star High School Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year.

Fund Supported
Estimated Change in Revenues*
Estimated Change in Mills*
Estimated Impact, Home of \$100,000*

Estimated Impact, Home of \$200,000*

Bus Depreciation
\$3,321.22 increase

\$0.24 increase

\$0.32 increase

\$0.65 increase

Transportation
\$18,824.17 increase

\$0.36 increase

\$1.36 increase

\$3.67 increase

Tuition
\$10,000 increase

\$0.72 increase

\$0.97 increase

\$1.95 increase

Flexibility
\$0.00 increase/decrease

\$0.00 increase/decrease

\$0.00 increase/decrease

Building Reserve Permissive
\$445.84 decrease

\$0.03 decrease

\$0.04 decrease \$0.09 decrease

Total
\$31,699.55 increase

\$2.29 increase

\$3.09 increase

\$6.18 increase

*Impacts above are based on current certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year.

District expected use of its Building Reserve State Major Maintenance levies and associated funding are as follows. This year, the District expects to use those proceeds to partially fund capital improvements approved by the Board on March 1, 2025 as well as operation costs of school safety (Roof repairs, General Maintenance, safety needs). This District estimates this funding structure will generate approximately \$31,699.55 dollars during 2025-26, with a net cost increase to local taxpayers of \$100,000 home \$3.09 and impact on \$200,000 home \$6.18

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the North Star Elementary School Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. The North Star Elementary School Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year as provided to the district:

Fund Supported

Estimated Change in Revenues*

Estimated Change in Mills*

Estimated Impact, Home of \$100,000*

Estimated Impact, Home of \$200,000*

Bus Depreciation
\$1,084.35 increase

\$0.08 increase

\$0.11 increase

\$0.22 increase

Transportation
\$13,346.33 increase

\$1.01 increase

\$1.37 increase

\$2.74 increase

Tuition
\$6,269.85 increase

\$0.48 increase

\$0.64 increase

\$1.29 increase

Flexibility
\$0.00 increase/decrease

\$0.00 increase/decrease

\$0.00 increase/decrease

Building Reserve Permissive
\$1,112.20 decrease

\$0.08 decrease

\$0.11 decrease

\$0.23 decrease

Total
\$19,588.33 increase

\$2.32 increase

\$2.01 increase

\$4.02 increase

*Impacts above are based on current certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year.

District expected use of its Building Reserve State Major Maintenance levies and associated funding are as follows. This year, the District expects to use those proceeds to partially fund capital improvements approved by the Board on March 12, 2025 as well as operation costs of school safety (Kitchen remodel, stove, general maintenance, safety needs). This District estimates this funding structure will generate approximately \$19,588.33 dollars during 2025-26, with a net cost increase to local taxpayers of \$100,000 home \$2.01 and impact on \$200,000 home \$4.02

Sarah Russell
Business Manager/Clerk
North Star School District 99M

Published in The Havre Weekly Chronicle
March 27, 2025
MNAZLP

Bid Notice

Sealed bids on the Harlem School

Athletic Field Lighting Package

located at 610 1ave SE, Harlem

Montana.

Bids will be received by Marty

Dirden, Director of Technology and

Infrastructure, Harlem Public Schools.

Address is 610 1st Avenue SE, Har-

lem, Montana 59526.

Bids are to be taken to the Harlem

School District Administration Office

located at the same

address until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday,

April 1, 2025. Bids will be promptly

reviewed and bidders

contacted with the results.

The Athletic Field Lighting Electrical

Work is to be executed per the ac-

companied Plans and

Specifications. The General Scope

of Work will consist of Primary Power

Electrical

Distribution from the existing Utility

Pole to a new Pad Mounted Trans-

former as shown on the

drawings. The remaining Electrical

Distribution taken from the Secondary

Side of the

CLASSIFIEDS

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30% of income
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Based on 30% of Income

All utilities included.

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Phone 265-9441 M-F 8am - 5pm only.

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Montanans help shape national policy at NFU convention

Press release

Montana Farmers Union members helped shape the policy that guides National Farmers Union's work on behalf of family farmers and ranchers during the organization's 123rd Annual Convention held this March in Oklahoma City.

The 14 delegates from MFU worked with more than 450 other farmers, ranchers, and supporters to forge NFU's 2025 policy priorities, including three special orders: Fairness for Farmers, Family Farming and the Farm Bill, and Family Farming and Our Federal Government.

Delegates were: John Wicks, Ledger; Doug Crabtree, Havre; Rollie Schlepp, Conrad; Grayce Siderius, Kalispell; John Ferrat, Toston; Samantha



Ferrat, Toston; Tammy Copenhaver, Rudyard; Jeri Copenhaver, Havre; Carissa McNamara, Plains; Erik Somerfeld, Power; Mark Siderius, Kalispell; Walter

Schweitzer, Geyser; Sarah Degen, Sidney; and Sarah Ronan, Laurel.

The policy work provides focus and solidarity in uncertain times, MFU President Walter Schweitzer said.

"The best part of the NFU Convention is visiting with old friends from around the country — sharing the trials and tribulations of weather, markets, and politics," he added.

"This is a challenging moment for family farmers. Rising costs, corporate consolidation and uncertainty around federal programs — including the lack of a renewed farm bill — are creating real hardships," said NFU President Rob Larew. "Yet through it all, the state of Farmers Union remains strong.

Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

resilient, and prepared to turn the policies set at this convention into action for a stronger future in agriculture."

NFU also announced during Convention the launch of the Farmers Capital Fund, a \$25 million investment initiative dedicated to supporting early- and growth-stage companies

that accelerate agricultural productivity while advancing the economic success of family farmers and ranchers.

Schweitzer said the work doesn't stop after Convention, and the policy forged at Convention serves to guide NFU's efforts throughout the year. Like NFU, MFU works

day by day to strengthen family farms and ranches, with the organization offering educational programming for youths and adults, legislative work at the state and national level, and support for cooperatives.

Learn more about Montana Farmers Union online at <https://montanafarmersunion.com>.

MFU members recognized with national awards

Press release

Several Montana Farmers Union members were recognized with awards during National Farmers Union's 123rd Annual Convention held this March in Oklahoma City.

John Wicks, who owns and operates an organic grain and pulse farm near Ledger, was recognized with the Bruce Miller Award, which is presented to a member who demonstrates the mission and vision of NFU daily. Bruce Miller Award recipients display a true passion for family farming and rural America, while promoting the work of



Photo courtesy Montana Farmers Union

John Wicks, left, is pictured with National Farmers Union President Rob Larew, who presented Wicks with the Bruce Miller Award during NFU's annual convention held this March in Oklahoma City. Wicks received the award for displaying a true passion for family farming and rural America, while promoting the work of Farmers Union.

Farmers Union. The award is given to members who attract additional members, invite guests to get involved with the organization, and build public awareness of Farmers Union.

"Wicks' active support of

NFU is what the Bruce Miller Award is all about. John helped reinvoke the Liberty/Toole County locals, hosted farm days at his farm, and represented Montana on NFU's policy committee. We are lucky to have him on our team," MFU President Walter Schweitzer said.

Wicks is actively engaged at both the state and national

Farmers Union levels, serving on both MFU and NFU's policy committees, attending MFU's Legislative Drive-In and NFU's Fly-In, and serving as the president of the Liberty/Toole County Local.

"I'm incredibly proud of our

members who show up, have

meaningful conversations, and

stay engaged. Even on days

when I feel like I'm not bring-

ing enough to the table, their

dedication reminds me why it's

so important to stay active and

organized. Receiving the Bruce

Miller Award for my engage-

ment was deeply humbling —

especially knowing how many

others are equally, if not more,

deserving," Wicks said.

Wicks added he enjoys

being involved in policy work

and advocacy, including his

work on NFU's policy commit-

tee.

"Our committee had worked hard to refine policy updates and introduce five special orders of business, and we left our January meeting in D.C. feeling confident. However, by the time the convention came around, the political landscape had shifted dramatically with the new administration, forcing us to shift our focus. Instead of refining policy, we found ourselves advocating for entire agencies like the USDA — agencies that exist to serve and support farmers and ranchers. It was frustrating to face such setbacks, but it reinforced the importance of stay-



Photo courtesy Montana Farmers Union

John Wicks received the Bruce Miller Award during National Farmers Union's 123rd Annual Convention, while Teton, Liberty/Toole, Western and Flathead Farmers Union Locals received leadership awards for their work engaging members on behalf of Montana Farmers Union and National Farmers Union. Ron and Blayne Watts also were recognized for their efforts to recruit MFU members.

ing engaged in the political process," he said.

In addition to Wicks' award,

Teton, Liberty/Toole, Western

and Flathead Farmers Union Locals received leadership

awards for their work

engaging members on behalf of Montana Farmers Union and National Farmers Union's work on behalf of family farmers and ranchers online at <https://montanafarmersunion.com>

and <https://nfu.org>.

Register today for summer camps at Arrowpeak

Press release

Registration for Montana Farmers Union's affordable, educational summer camps at Arrowpeak is open.

The camps are part of MFU's commitment to education and youth and feature lessons about agriculture and cooperatives at MFU's Arrowpeak facility in the Highwood Mountains.

"Today's students do not know as much about agriculture as they did in the past. Camps help shape the future of farming by inspiring the next generation of agricultural leaders. MFU camps are important because they educate and inspire youth about farming, cooperatives, and food production," said Matthew Hauk, MFU's Education Director.

Campers have enjoyed summer programming at picturesque Arrowpeak for more than 60 years, with this year's camp theme as "Forge Your Own Trail."

Campers can expect fun, agriculturally based lessons on topics like gardening, farm to table, and cooperatives.

There are also fun activities that are brought in such as archery and making your own cattle brand, and other outdoor and craft activities are offered.

Camp dates are:

June 8-13: Senior/Teen 1

for ages 13-18

June 15-17: Mini Camp

for ages 7-9

June 29-July 3: Junior 1

for ages 8-12

July 13-17: Junior 2 for

ages 8-12

July 20-25: Teen 2 for

ages 11-14

Camp costs are kept low through grants from cooperatives such as CHS and Mountain View Coop. Additionally, several Montana Farmers Union Countywide Locals provide scholarships for campers living within their counties. Cost for all the camps except the Mini Camp is \$100 for Montana Farmers Union members or \$150 for non-members. Mini Camp cost is \$75 for MFU members or \$125 for non-members.

Register today at <https://montanafarmersunion.com/mfu-camp>.



We like to play harmless pranks...



Newspaper Fun!

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April Fool's Day Surprises

The first day of April is April Fool's Day. It is a time for lots of fun. People like to play harmless jokes and pranks. One favorite trick is to point out something that's not really there!

April Fool's Day used to be called All Fool's Day. It is thought to have started in France. A long time ago, March 21st was the date of the New Year. A little over a week of parties and fun followed. On the last day of the festivities, April 1st, formal visits were paid and gifts exchanged.

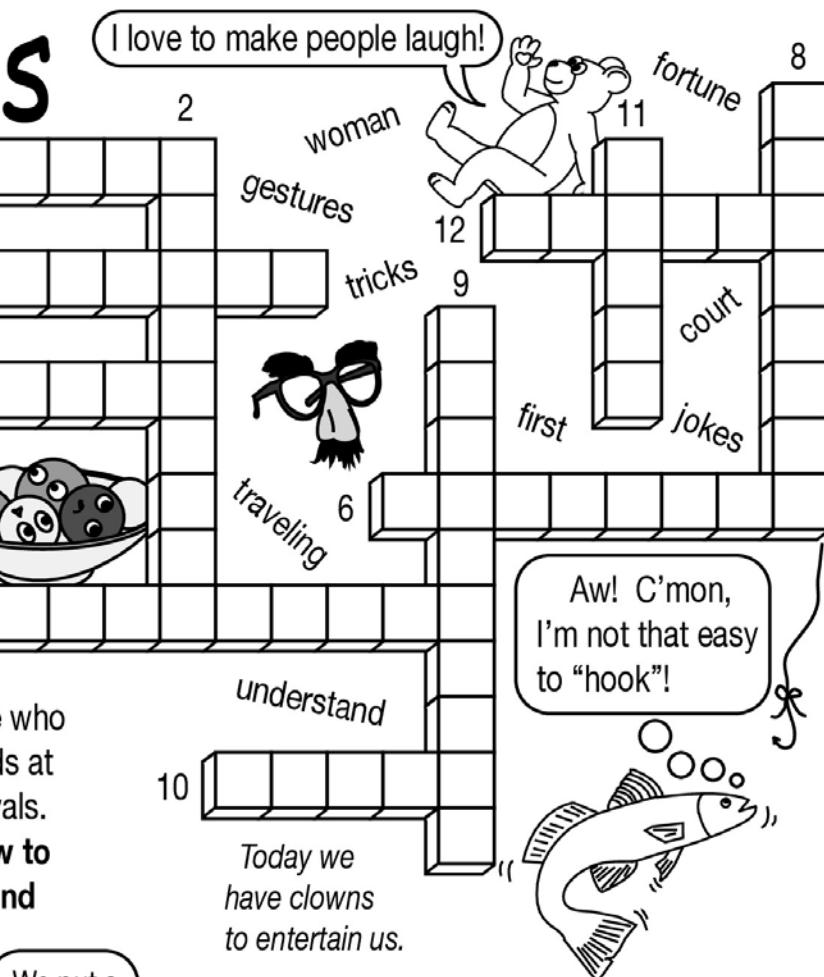
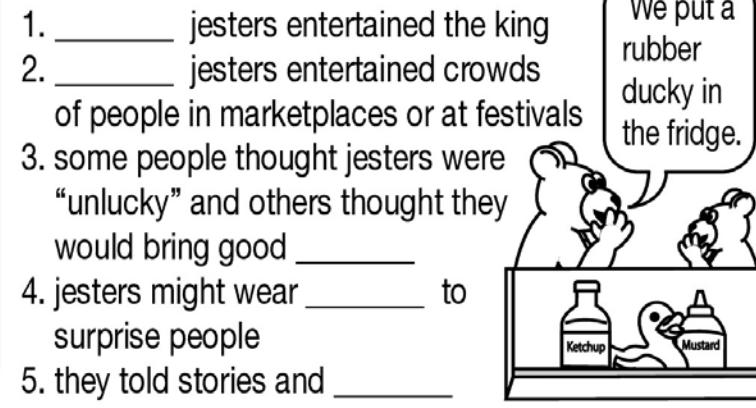
In the 16th century, the Gregorian calendar was introduced. March 21st was no longer New Year's Day and April 1st was no longer the right day to visit and give gifts. News traveled slowly in those early times, so many people continued to celebrate April 1st as the last big day of the holiday season. Many others did not like the change of date and refused to change their ways. People who clung to the old ways were called "April fools."

Today, on April 1st, you might hear someone call out, "Poisson d'Avril!" They have fooled someone and are calling them an "April fish." The person took the "bait" and was easily "caught." April Fool's Day is a day for tricks that hurt no one. It is a time for laughter.



Jesters were people who would entertain crowds at marketplaces or festivals. **Read the clues below to learn about jesters and to fill in the puzzle:**

1. _____ jesters entertained the king
2. _____ jesters entertained crowds of people in marketplaces or at festivals
3. some people thought jesters were "unlucky" and others thought they would bring good _____
4. jesters might wear _____ to surprise people
5. they told stories and _____

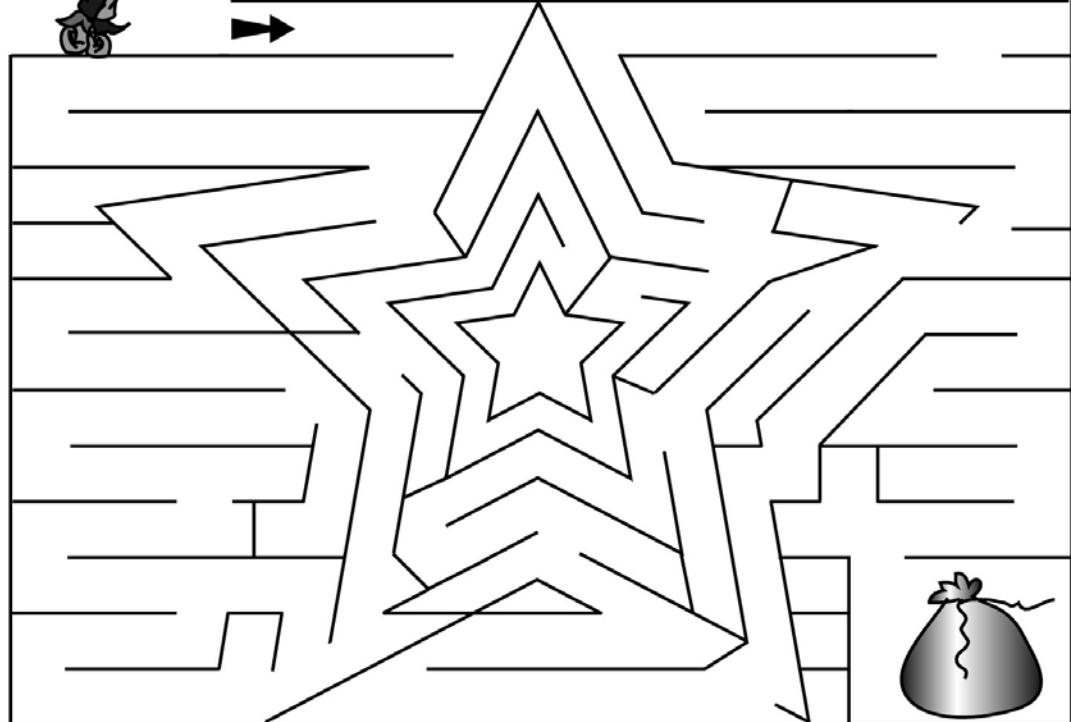


6. some jesters used _____ or props
7. sometimes they were allowed to _____ in ways that were not allowed for other people
8. dressed in many kinds of _____
9. sometimes they helped people or a king to _____ what was going on by telling stories
10. a man or a _____ could be a jester
11. the _____ day of April is April Fool's Day
12. it is a day to play fun, harmless _____



Jester's Bag of Tricks

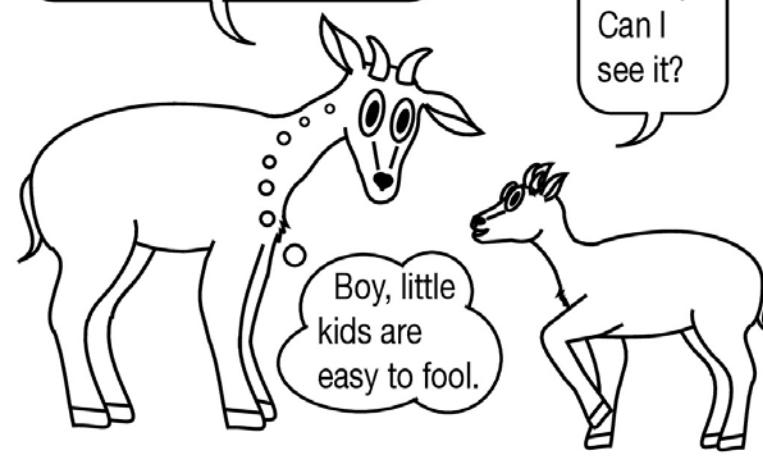
Help me find my bag of pranks. Then find and circle the words in the puzzle that describe jesters and some of the talents or skills they display.



- trickster
- clown
- magician
- jester
- fool
- joker
- prankster
- buffoon
- entertainer
- actor
- acrobat
- puppeteer
- juggler
- storyteller
- fire-eater
- contortionist
- tightrope walker
- animal trainer



Hey! A spaceship is landing on the school parking lot!



All in Good Fun!

April Fool's Day is a lighthearted celebration. Many countries around the world have special days of fun, with people playing good-natured jokes on one another. These surprise-filled days almost always occur when the season of spring is coming. Do you think that the sunnier, warmer weather puts people in a lighter mood? Below are some things we like to use to fool or kid our friends. **Can you match each item to its description?**

1. joke
2. riddle
3. hoax
4. wisecrack
5. pun

- A. a puzzling question or problem posed: the answer is hard to figure out
- B. a "fresh" or "smart" remark
- C. a false story told in such a way as to make people think it is real
- D. something done for fun; a jest
- E. clever use of a word to have more than one meaning

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Big Sandy Medical welcomes Amber Groves, PA

By JESSICA OPHUS

Big Sandy Medical Center is pleased to welcome Amber Groves, PA, to our full-time staff.

Amber lives full time in Wisconsin, but is no stranger to the area or to Big Sandy Medical Center. She worked for IHS for six years and helped out as a locum provider here during that time. She fell in love with the place and has continued to come and help out a few weeks per year, until 2025 when she decided to come on full time. In the recent past she has been working internal



Amber Groves

medicine in a large health system facility in Wisconsin. Due to the bureaucracy and limitations set forth on the time with her patients, she chose to make the transition to working in our independently owned facility instead. So she flies in for 12 days a month to see her patients in the clinic and cover call, allowing for a great work-life balance, not just for her, but the other providers at BSMC as well.

Amber has been a PA since 2005, earning her education from Lock Haven Pennsylvania (now Commonwealth

University). With her 7 years experience in Internal Medicine, 7 years in Endocrinology, and 6 years in rural health family medicine, she is a wealth of knowledge. Pair that with her desire to spend time listening to her patients and supporting them in the way they chose to navigate their health care and she is a perfect fit for Big Sandy Medical Center. Amber says, "Good patient care is not cookie-cutter medicine. I'm here to educate you and support you in whatever you decide." She is certainly excited to get away

from the larger health system and get back to connecting with patients and working as a team with them to reach their health goals.

Amber and her husband of 25 years have three adult children who are earning their own college degrees currently. Left at home she has a dog, two cats and a handful of chickens. She loves to garden, especially growing from seed. She also enjoys sewing and crafting. Many of her projects include making usable items from recycled materials. When given the opportunity she loves to

cook, priding herself on healthy, flavorful meals from scratch.

Amber is accepting new patients and is certainly not afraid of a challenge. She really enjoys chronic disease management, like diabetes care and endocrinology and is ready for even the most complex internal medicine and chronic disease management cases. And of course, she is willing and able to care for everyone from birth to end of life. When you're ready to book your appointment with her, call the clinic! 406-378-2189.

Do you eat a meal in 20 minutes or less? It might be time to slow down

By MARIA CHENG

AP Medical Writer

LONDON — You can have your cake and eat it too — just do it slowly.

Experts tend to focus on the kinds of foods you can eat to improve your health. But the speed at which you devour your dinner matters just as much. There are risks with eating too fast — think stuck food and the potential to overeat before your brain tells you to stop. (Inhaling your food also risks annoying your slower-paced dining companions or the person who took the time to cook your meal.)

Here are some tips from scientists on how to slow down and take a more mindful approach to consuming your diet.

How fast is too fast?

If you're the kind of person who can regularly polish off breakfast, lunch or dinner in less than 20-30 minutes, you are eating too fast.

"It takes about 20 minutes for the stomach to communicate to the brain via a whole host of hormonal signals that it's full," said Leslie Heinberg, at the Center for Behavioral Health at the Cleveland Clinic. "So when people eat rapidly, they can miss these signals and it's very easy to eat beyond the point of fullness."



AP Photo/Matthew Mead, File
Salmon poached in green salsa and topped with baked chips are displayed for a photo in Concord, N.H. Researchers say people should slow down when they eat their food.

Why is that a problem?

People who eat quickly are likely to swallow more air, Heinberg said, which could lead to bloating or indigestion. Not chewing your food properly can also compromise digestion, meaning you won't get all of the nutrients from your food. Unchewed pieces of food also could get stuck in your esophagus.

Some previous studies have suggested that people who eat quickly have the highest risk of obesity, while the slowest eaters were the least likely to be obese.

How can you slow down when eating?

For starters, turn off the TV and put down your phone.

"If you're eating while you watch TV, people tend to eat until there's a commercial or the show is over," Heinberg said, adding that people are less inclined to pay attention to the body's own signals that it's full. "When we do things while we're eating, we're eating less mindfully. And that often causes us to eat more."

She said that when people focus exclusively on eating, they tend to enjoy the meal

more and eat less.

Heinberg also acknowledged the pace at which you eat is often an ingrained habit, but said change is still possible. She suggested things like using your non-dominant hand to eat, trying utensils you might not ordinarily use like chopsticks or taking a deliberate break to drink water when your plate is partially empty.

If you have a busy life, it might be unavoidable to eat lunch at a work meeting or snack while running errands. But Sarah Berry, chief scientist at the British nutritional company ZOE, said when possible, "be mindful of what the food tastes and feels like."

"If we're not fully present, it's very easy to eat more quickly and not notice how much we've consumed," Berry said.

Chew your food, just like mom told you to

One of the simplest things to do is to increase the number of bites you take, said Helen McCarthy, a clinical psychologist with the British Psychological Society.

"If you chew each mouthful a little bit longer, that will slow down your eating," she said.

The kind of food you eat may also make a difference, pointing out that it's much easier to eat ultraprocessed or fast foods quicker, because they typically

have a softer texture.

"It's hard to eat vegetables and protein at the same rate as something that's highly processed and requires less chewing," McCarthy said.

Some of her patients also reported an unintentional side effect once they began eating more slowly, referencing one woman who often ate a tube of potato chips every evening. When McCarthy told her to slow down and eat every single chip

individually, her patient told her "it was like having a mouthful of claggy chemicals."

"She didn't find (the chips) enjoyable anymore," McCarthy said.

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