

Havre DAILY NEWS

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Fire destroys empty trailer in Fairview Terrace

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The Havre Fire Department was able to contain quickly a fire in a vacant trailer house in the Fairview Terrace Trailer Court Wednesday, although the trailer was destroyed.

The fire on the 1800 Block of Second Street was reported Wednesday at 2:19 p.m. and firefighters responded to the address at 2:21 p.m.

Two engines, one ambulance and a command vehicle along with 12 firefighters responded, Fire Chief Mel Paulson said.

"It was a pretty good showing," he added.

Paulson said the owner of the trailer was doing some work in preparation for moving it. While the owner was cutting or welding on the trailer, sparks ignited insulation, starting a fire that spread to the rest of the trailer. Although no one was injured, the fire caused extensive damage to the trailer.

The firefighters contained the fire to the vacant trailer except for a small grass fire that burned about 20 square feet.

The fire, which was contained within 15 minutes of response, started about five minutes before their arrival time, Paulson said.

He added that this is a best-case scenario for the situation, with no personal property damage, no injuries and the fire being contained within a timely manner.

"It was a really good response," Paulson said.



Havre Daily News/Ryan Welch
Havre firefighters fight a mobile home fire in Fairview Terrace Trailer Court on the 1800 Block of Second Street in Havre Wednesday.

First KidsMAT production opens tonight

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"Dinosaurs in Space (with a couple of puppies)" is the first production of this year's KidsMAT theater program series, set to run tonight in the Little Theatre on Montana State University-Northern's campus, one day before auditions for the Montana Actors' Theatre youth production.

The play was put together by local children, volunteers and the interns hired by MAT to run this year's summer children's programs. In the KidsMAT summer camps, the interns help the kids come up with the story, which the interns turn into a script, and produce the play.

"Dinosaurs in Space" has a one-night run tonight at 7.

Abigail Kucera, 12, a second-year participant of KidsMAT, said she is

very excited for this year's production.

Kucera said she is enjoying the program and is excited to play an astronaut in this year's play. She said it takes a lot of hard work to be an actor, having to memorize lines, speak clearly and loudly so the audience can hear, and practicing.

Kucera said actors have to take practice very seriously because that is how they improve, and she finds the hardest part of the life of an actor is memorizing the lines.

Kucera said her parents are excited to see her in this year's production and that it is "her time."

She is overall confident in her roll and in the production, she said, although she still has a few butterflies. She has enjoyed the past week in the program and has enjoyed rehearsing with the other kids participating in KidsMAT.

Kix Bender, 10, first-year participant in KidsMAT, said he is confident in his role — the "human galaxy." He said his favorite part is the funny lines in the play such as by the clumsy astronaut, performed by his friend Mason.

Bender said they are making their own costumes and building their own sets, and he is enjoying his time with the other kids. He added that he will be doing this again next year. He was in a performance in the past with his school and ever since then has been excited about acting, he said.

KidsMAT is run by three interns.

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Havre Daily News/Ryan Welch
Abigail Kucera, 12, reads a script Tuesday in the Little Theatre as she and other kids attending KidsMAT practice their lines for tonight's play.



Photo: Sounds on the Square



See more photos online at www.havredailynews.com
Havre Daily News/Ryan Welch
Christina Woodwick, 2, left, and Benjamin Bradshaw, 2, play on Woody Woodwick's bass Wednesday after he leaned over to let them during this summer's first Sounds on the Square event. The event, which had the band Blind Luck performing this week, is every Wednesday this summer on Town Square downtown starting at 6.

Groups praise Senate Farm Bill

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Montana's U.S. senators have come together on a Farm Bill — which one helped write — that is receiving praise from groups in Montana.

Sen. Steve Daines, R-Mont., said the bill he helped write in the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Farm Bill, which passed out of the committee Wednesday, will help Montana farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

"This proposal is good news for Montana farmers and ranchers," Daines said in a press release Wednesday. "As the Farm Bill moves forward, I will continue to fight for Montana agriculture and for responsible forest management that supports Montana jobs and contributes to healthier, safer forests."

The Farm Bill now in effect expires at the end of September.

Democratic Sen. Jon Tester, the Senate's only working farmer, also praised the bill, and demanded swift action from Congress to pass it and get it signed into law.

"Montana farmers and ranchers can take this Farm Bill to the bank," Tester, who farms land near Big Sandy homesteaded by his grandparents, said in a press release. "It works for Montana because it protects crop insurance, strengthens the safety net, encourages conservation, and meets the needs of family farmers and

ranchers." The Farm Bill will now head to the U.S. Senate floor, where, Daines said, he will offer additional amendments that address priorities important to Montanans, including reforms to fringe litigation threatening the timber industry and reforms to strengthen forest management.

Daines' release said some of the highlights of the bill include funding for agriculture research critical to Montana farmers and ranchers, crop insurance to help mitigate risks for the agriculture community, programs to support the Montana timber industry and provisions that will prioritize broadband for unserved communities.

Tester also highlighted some of the features of the bill he supports, saying, "Agriculture is Montana's number one industry. This legislation reflects the priorities and input I heard from producers during my Farm Bill listening sessions. Nobody knows the importance of the

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Daines



Tester

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Friday's weather
 72°
 51°
 Mostly sunny
 Complete forecast / A2