

Havre

DAILY NEWS

Thursday, September 21, 2023

Harvest Festival returns to Chester Friday

Patrick Johnston
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The Hi-Line Harvest Festival, in its second year in Chester after being revived by local resident Peyton Cole, begins Friday with events, music, food and vendors around town through Saturday.

The Harvest Festival was an event sporadically held in Chester for many years, but has been brought back recently thanks to the efforts of Cole, in the hopes that it will become a yearly event.

See more in the Friday edition of the Havre Daily News.

At Chester City Park at 3 p.m. Friday Montana Farmers Union Kid's

■ See **Harvest Fest** Page A2

County commission says it has a lot of irons in the fire

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At a Hill County Officials meeting Wednesday Heather Sinclair was introduced as the new director of the Hill County Council on Aging, and, along with providing their reports, county department heads were reminded to maintain a respectful workplace.

Hill County Commissioners Jake Strissel and Sheri Williams said the matter of workplace respectfulness had been put on the agenda by Commissioner Mark Peterson, who was not at the meeting, and the former said he's not sure what Peterson specifically wanted to address.

Regardless, Strissel asked everyone to make sure people are being respectful of each other regardless of department and later said they should ensure proper communication and to communicate issues according to the chain of command.

He also related a request by Hill County Auditor Kathy Olson, who had not shown up to the meeting yet, that people with county credit cards make

their necessary purchases locally if possible.

He said he understands that things are often less expensive online than they are locally and that departments are trying to spend taxpayer's money as responsibly as possible, but they should be purchasing items from the county's tax base whenever possible.

Olson showed up later in the meeting and said she thinks doing that is important.

After that, officials provided updates on their departments' various activities.

Strissel said the commission has a lot of irons in the fire, as they are trying to make sure the RSID 29 and 30 lift station is properly upgraded and work on the Milk River Levy continues.

The levee, which was completed in 1957, was designed to prevent destructive flooding that often devastated the area.

Havre and North Havre flooded fairly regularly, sometimes severely, before the levee system was completed.

However, after inspections in 2014 and 2015, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said the levee did not meet their standards. Problems with the levee include structures being built too close or against the levee and trees growing on it.

If the levee isn't certified by the Corps, people determined to be in a floodplain will be required to buy flood insurance, a significant financial hit for many in the community.

At the meeting Strissel said the commission is continuing to work with Great West Engineering and the Army Corps to make sure the levy gets certified.

Strissel said he, with the help of the Montana Office of Public Instruction, and some local school officials have been helping fill the void by Hill County Superintendent of Schools Vicki Proctor, who has been ill and unable to perform many of her duties for the past five weeks.

Strissel said he never realized how much work the position is and he hopes for Proctor's speedy recovery.

Williams said they are also working

on upgrading the Hill County Courthouse heating-ventilation-air conditioning system, and she has been helping at the Council on Aging and attending Rocky Boy tribal council meetings, so there is a lot going on.

She also said the commission is hoping to get the county's new website up and running as soon as possible and announced that the commission would be out of the office next week to attend a convention.

As for other departments, Hill County Attorney Lacey Lincoln said her office is working through a significant backlog of cases, and they just seem to find more of them all the time, so they are extremely busy.

Lincoln said her office, along with a team of multidisciplinary partners is looking for a new location for their children's advocacy center as well.

She also said she will be in Missoula soon doing interviews for deputy county attorneys.

Hill County Clerk of District Court Kathie Vigliotti said her office, with

■ See **Commission** Page A2

Grazing on a cool, clear day



Havre Daily News/Christy Bambrugh

Two does and their fawns take advantage of sunny, cool weather to graze off of Second Street West. The high in Havre only hit 68 Wednesday and the low dropped to 38, and Tuesday saw 67 as a high, following warm days over the weekend and a high of 84 degrees Monday and highs in the 90s over the weekend. National Weather Service is forecasting highs mainly in the 60s the next few days with rain likely, which already started falling this morning.

Sugarbeet Festival on in Chinook Saturday

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The 2023 Sugarbeet Festival in Chinook will begin Saturday, a yearly festival that, this time around, will also be a celebration of the town's new slogan, "Small town, big community."

Laine Jorgensen, the event's press spokesperson, said the town felt it was time for a bit of a rebrand and she is hoping the festival raises enthusiasm for the community.

Jorgensen said they are trying to set as many events on main street as possible so people can see as much of the festival as possible in one place.

"We're looking forward to seeing more activity along main street this year in general," she said.

The event will kick off with a fun run at 10 a.m. at the Blaine County Library, as vendors around town open up with all kinds of items for sale.

At 11 a.m. the Sugarbeet Decorating Contest will begin, a mainstay event for the festival, and a car show will begin at Bear Paw Saloon at the same time. There will also be a tractor show starting at 11 a.m. with both shows wrapping up at 4:30 p.m.

Jorgensen said the tractor show got great attendance last year and they are hoping to see the same this year, especially with the return of the car show, which hasn't been at the festival for several years.

She also said Pippi the Clown will be at the festival to entertain children this year, another new addition

■ See **Festival** Page A2

A grandmother seeks justice for Native Americans after thousands of unsolved deaths, disappearances

MATTHEW BROWN
The Associated Press

HARDIN — Yolanda Fraser is back near a ragged chain-link fence, blinking through tears as she tidies up flowers and ribbons and a pinwheel twirls in the breeze at a makeshift roadside memorial in a small Montana town.

This is where the badly decomposed body of her granddaughter Kaysera Stops Pretty Places was found a few days after the 18-year-old went missing from a Native American reservation border town.

Four years later, there are still no answers about how the Native American teenager was killed. No named suspects. No arrests.

Fraser's grief is a common tale among Native Americans whose loved ones went missing, and she's turned her fight for justice into a leading role with other families working to highlight missing and slain Indigenous peoples' cases across the U.S. Despite some early success from a new U.S. govern-

ment program aimed at the problem, most cases remain unsolved and federal officials have closed more than 300 potential cases due to jurisdictional conflicts and other issues.

As she told her granddaughter's story, Fraser pushed past tears and began listing other names among the thousands of disappearances and violent deaths of Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

"My nephew Victor, my nephew Dane Fisher, my close relative Christy Rose Woodenthigh — and it just goes on and on," Fraser said. "It just became obvious that there's a pattern to all of it. There's a line between these Native lives and other lives. ... But our voice is getting louder. People are listening."

U.S. officials share frustration over the unsolved cases, which critics say reflects racial injustice, particularly when compared to the media frenzy that erupts when a white woman goes missing.

"The patchwork of jurisdictions makes it so hard to get started on these investigations. And when you lose time, your chances of solving these cases goes down," said Assistant Secretary of Interior Bryan Newland. "It's frustrating for everybody."

Federal law enforcement has jurisdiction over most Native American reservations, which often don't have their own police force yet experience people going missing at several times the rate of the rest of the nation. That's set against a backdrop of historical injustices that include massacres of Native Americans by U.S. troops, forced assimilation of Native children in abusive boarding schools and the removal of many tribes from their traditional lands.

Members of several victims' families joined Fraser recently to dedicate a billboard honoring victims along Interstate 90 just outside the town of

■ See **Justice** Page A2



AP Photo/Mike Clark

Yolanda Fraser, Kaysera Stops Pretty Places' grandmother, gets a hug Aug. 29 before a dedication ceremony for a billboard in support of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People movement along I-90 in Hardin.

Friday's Weather
Complete forecast / A2



**BLUE PONIES
LOOK TO STAY
UNDEFEATED
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DAILY 75¢

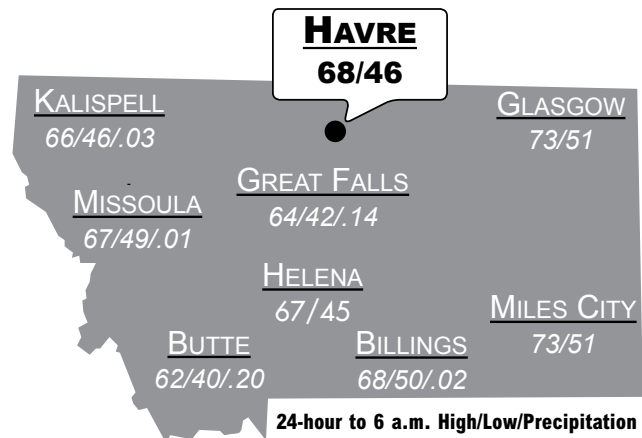


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Montana Weather through 6 a.m. today

Extended Forecast from <http://www.weather.com>

Weather Almanac for 9/20



Thur 9/21	Fri 9/22	Sat 9/23	Sun 9/24	Mon 9/25	Tues 9/26	Wed 9/27
60/48 Rain.	61/50 Rain.	65/44 Showers.	75/43 Partly cloudy.	79/48 Partly cloudy.	77/45 Partly cloudy.	71/43 Partly cloudy.

High/low: 68°/38°
Normal high/low: 71°/41°
Record high: 96° in 1922
Record low: 24° in 1995
State high: 78° in Broadus
State low: 39° in St. Mary, Simms
Precip in September: .31"
Normal monthly precip: .71"
Precip for year: 9.37"
Normal yearly precip: 9.83"
Sunset tonight: 7:19 p.m.
Sunrise Friday: 7:05 a.m.

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- We are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily to serve you.
- If you are a current business subscriber and are closed, please call the office at 265-6795

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- If your carrier missed you in delivery, please call your carrier first, if you cannot reach your carrier, please call our office.
- The printed edition will still go out Monday-Friday.

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 Classified Advertising deadline is 11 a.m. the day prior to run date.
 Parents wishing to participate in sports boosters are encouraged to submit their messages of support via email.
 Please write to addressdirector@havredailynews.com.

The Havre Daily News

Year 110, Issue 184
 Grand Teton News Inc.
 USPS 237-480

Monday through Friday.
 Back issues beyond 30 days are \$1 each.

Postmaster:

Please send address changes to Havre Daily News, P.O. Box 431, Havre, MT 59501-0431

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Subscription Rates:
 Carrier: \$156* per year
 Motor: \$180* per year
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No paper by 4:30 p.m.?
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Periodicals postage paid at Havre, MT 59501.
 Published daily except Saturday, Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.
 Our office hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

www.havredailynews.com

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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 Daily News. Published letters are the opinion of the writer and are not the opinion of the Havre Daily News.

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Commission: Berg: Flu, COVID-19 vaccinations available

Continued from page A1

the help of the Hill County Sheriff's Office, is trying to contact jurors, and she appreciated the sheriffs' help.

Hill County Justice of the Peace Audrey Barger said her office is swamped, and she has two relatively new employees who are in serious need of training, which they will receive next week, so she will need to do some work remotely.

Hill County Public Health Director Kim Berg, also the county's health officer, said they have this year's flu vaccine at the department and should be getting in the latest COVID-19 vaccination next week.

Berg said insurance should cover the new COVID-19 vaccine and the uninsured have access to state-provided vaccines, so there should be no cost.

She said the department got a new grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials that will allow them to partner with early childhood intervention to promote disease prevention and mitigation, especially for COVID-19, so they will be working with Early Head Start to do that soon.

Mosquito District Supervisor and Weed District Coordinator

Terry Turner said he is meeting with a state specialist soon to address phragmites, a reed that is an invasive species in the area. He also said their drone is being fixed after a malfunction caused it to crash last month.

He said they've been short-handed recently but he's had some great people helping fill the gaps.

Unfortunately, he said, the warm temperatures are keeping the mosquitoes around longer than ideal, and there are still some pockets of Hill County that are seeing unusually high numbers of them.

Montana State University

Hill County Extension Agent Colleen Pegar said there will be a board member training at the 4-H Chuckwagon Oct. 16 at 1 p.m. put on by the Local Government Center. This training, she said, would be great for anyone serving on a board, or interested in doing so.

Extension Agent Kati Purkett said she is working on getting a schedule set up for a youth awareness mental health program at Havre High School.

Purkett said she is also working on setting up 4-H end-of-year celebrations and preparing for the 4-H program's next year.

Harvest Fest: Activities for all ages into Saturday evening

Continued from page A1

Day Camp will start along with a release party for On the Hi-Line Vol. 1, a record of local music artists produced by Cole.

Also in the park at 3 p.m. will be a meeting of the Golden Triangle Montana Farmers Union.

At 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. at the Chester Joplin Inverness Practice Football Field there will be K-5 Flag Football.

Back in the park at 5 p.m. there will be a Meat Smoking and Steak Competition judging and a free Farm to Table Community Dinner sponsored by Montana Farmers Union.

At 5:30 p.m. there will be a Corn Hole Tournament sponsored by Northern Plains Insurance.

Later at 10 p.m. at the Grand Bar in Chester there will be karaoke.

The next day will also be packed with events, including a Chester Fire Department Community Breakfast at 8 a.m. in the park.

K-5 Flag Football will return to the CJI Practice Football Field at 9 and 10 a.m. Saturday morning as well.

At the Liberty County Library at 1 p.m. there will be

live painting with CJI Art Teacher Rebecca Manska. At 3 p.m. there will also be trike races for children.

Most other events at the festival will take place in the area around the intersection of First Avenue East and Adams Avenue in Downtown Chester.

At 1 p.m. there will be Bucket Truck Rides provided by NorthWestern Energy, a Flour Milling Educational Exhibit, and a children's area with arts, crafts and other activities will also open.

At 3 p.m. there will be an open microphone for anyone

looking to show off their musical talents, and at 4 p.m. there will be a tug of war, as well as a car smash hosted by Snyder's Dent Shop.

The CJI Football Team will also be holding a fundraising dinner at 4 p.m.

At 5 p.m. musical performances will begin with the Local Stranger followed by Jaden Decker at 6:30 p.m. both playing country-style music.

At 7:30 p.m. there will be a live auction, followed by more music acts, Luke Dowler & the Midnight Conversations at 8 p.m. and Jonathan Terrell at 10 p.m.

Festival: Contests, music and shows run through Saturday

Continued from page A1

she is excited about.

At 1 p.m. at Shores Floral there will be a Dog Costume Contest, followed by a Pie Eating Contest at 2 p.m. at

Chinook Pharmacy and B&B Buyers, an event Jorgensen said is quite the spectacle.

From noon to 4 p.m. the festival will also feature live

music and at 5 p.m. the parade through town will begin.

Throughout the day at First Bank of Montana there will be

a Scarecrow Contest, and the local Eagles Club will host games of bowling, with a \$2 charge for children and seniors, and \$3 for adults.

Justice: Lonebear: Problems stem from enforcement, jurisdiction issues

Continued from page A1

Hardin where Stops Pretty Places died. The billboard lists four dozen missing and slain people and other victims on the Northern Cheyenne and Crow reservations in southeastern Montana.

As the names were recited over a loudspeaker some relatives of victims cried as they leaned into one another.

"When we're divided we're not strong at all, but when we're together we're powerful," said Blossom Old Bull, whose son was killed in a car crash at 17 while being pursued by police who the family blames for his death.

With backing from nonprofit groups and her family, Fraser hopes to erect similar billboards near reservations across the U.S. She wants to highlight the names behind crime statistics and for local officials to be confronted with the victims within their community.

Stops Pretty Places died in Big Horn County, just outside the Crow Indian Reservation and about 55 miles from Muddy Creek, the Northern Cheyenne Reservation community where Fraser largely raised her. She'd been missing for several days when her body was found at the edge of a fenced-in yard next to a busy road, one door down from where she'd last been seen with some friends.

For years, the family's pleas for an outside investigation went unanswered. This spring they learned county authorities had finally agreed to federal assistance. Agents from the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Missing and Murdered Unit are now reexamining the case.

The unit was formed in 2021 by U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland amid rising criticism over the mishandling of crimes

involving Native Americans. Its agents have received 845 case referrals, primarily from victims' families, including 117 that were solved and 372 still under review or being investigated.

More than 350 were closed with no resolution, often because of jurisdictional issues that prevent federal agents from working off-reservation without an invitation from local authorities.

The Missing and Murdered Unit has only 15 agents, with plans to more than double that figure, officials said. Its caseload covers a small fraction of an estimated 4,200 unsolved cases nationwide among American Indians and Alaska Natives, with the victims ranging in age from toddlers to the elderly. Indigenous people account for 3.5% of missing persons in the U.S. — more than three times the percentage in the overall population, according to federal data.

Violent crimes reported against Native Americans more than tripled between 2010 and 2020, the Congressional Research Service reported in July, adding that improved reporting could have contributed to the increase.

"All these cases, they're really different but it all has to do with the same thing — the lack of law enforcement on reservations. the jurisdictional problems," said Melissa Lonebear, a member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council.

Adding to the challenges is the lack of reliable data on crime in Native communities. That's beginning to change. In New Mexico, the FBI has compiled a database of about 200 missing Native Americans. And a first-of-its-kind report released in Alaska last month listed 280 missing Alaska Natives and American Indians.

Requests for federal intervention have poured into the Missing and Murdered Unit in recent months as President Joe Biden's administration held a series of field hearings to solicit testimony about the crisis from tribal members, families of victims and survivors.

People travelled hundreds of miles including from Washington state and South Dakota to attend the hearing in Billings, Montana, where they erected oversized photos of victims at the back of a convention center ballroom. They told the commission of loved ones who had been shot in the back, killed in their own home or gone missing and never seen again.

Grace Bulltail, a member of the commission and one of Stops Pretty Places' aunts, said it's hard for many Native families to step forward.

"When we're speaking, we know that they don't care. We know they're just waiting for us to stop talking. They've heard it before," Bulltail said, adding this is why some families remain silent. "But when there is such an injustice and disregard for our lives, we have to speak out."

The hearing also acted as a networking event, providing families the opportunity to trade tips on pushing investigations

forward and bringing more attention to this crisis. Fraser traces the rise of her own advocacy to the brutal 2015 killing of Hannah Harris, whose partially clothed body was found on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation rodeo grounds near the town of Lane Deer days after she disappeared.

Tribal members said the search for Harris was botched by authorities, allowing her body to become so badly decomposed it prevented prosecutors from pursuing murder charges against one of the suspects in the case. Harris' birthday, May 5, was later designated by Congress as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls, which has since been expanded to include all missing and murdered Indigenous people.

When Stops Pretty Places died, Fraser reached out to Harris' mother — Fraser's cousin — for guidance. As the case dragged on, their extended family began organizing rallies, letter-writing campaigns and other actions to spur further investigations.

"We're not going to stop. They get tired of us sometimes, but that's OK," Fraser said. "We want to make noise."

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Community Calendar

Today

Friends of Music meeting, 7 p.m., Band Room, Havre High School. Everyone is welcome in support of music programs at Havre High and Middle schools. Contact havrefriendsofmusic@gmail.com.

Free pool playing, for members and college students, all day, Eagles Club, 202 1st St.

Chair Yoga, with Bonnie Williamson providing simple, gentle yoga, 10 - 11 a.m., North Central Senior Center. Event is free and open to seniors.

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

Block Party, 3:30 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library, with a time for building and playing board games. This is free and open to the public.

Friday, Sept. 22

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.

Saturday, Sept. 23

Woodstock 2023, a fundraiser for Friends of the Havre Animal Shelter, 2 p.m., Great Northern Fairgrounds, with live music, food, beverages and pets. Blind Luck Band will provide music along with the debut of "Good on Paper," and a silent auction and raffle.

Death by Chocolate, performing "The Like You Very Much Ship," for Montana Actors' Theatre's sponsorship drive and gala of friends, doors open 5:30 p.m., Central Gym, with food, a murder mystery, show auctions, dancing, raffles and more. Cruiseship attire — from tuxedos and ball gowns to Hawaiian shirts — recommended. Tickets \$50 each or \$90 for two, and other deals for tables, <https://mtactors.com>, Tickets link.

Musical and poetic celebration of nature, 3 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library, with light refreshments and internationally renowned virtuoso violinist Jack Glatzer performing works by Bach, Ysaye and Hovhannes and psychologist, educator and poet, Margaret Hereld reading her original poetry. This event is free and open to the everyone.

Sugarbeet Festival, all day, downtown Chinook, including vendors all day, fun run 10 a.m., sugarbeet decorating 11 a.m., car show 11 a.m., tractor show 11 a.m., live music noon, dog costume contest 1 p.m., pie eating contest, 2 p.m., Lady in the Glass look-alike contest 3 p.m., and parade 5 p.m.

Chinook Rod and Gun Club Meat Shoot Fundraiser, gates open noon, shoot starts 1 p.m., trap club, 4.5 miles south of Chinook on Clear Creek Road.

Sunday, Sept. 24

NAMI Walk, 1 p.m., 220 3rd Ave., for mental health awareness.

Havre Trails hike to Hole in the Wall and Mission Ridge, hike starts 10:30 a.m., Hays-Lodge Pole High School. This 4.8 mile Mission Canyon hike is in partnership with HLP School and the \$10 per person or \$15 per family cost will be donated to the school's archery program. RSVP required at <https://forms.gle/TCCrMkWStRsfJPvF6> or call Lindsey Bennett, 406-344-2991, for info.

Monday, Sept. 25

QPR Suicide Gatekeeper training, 3 - 5 p.m., SUB Conference Room at MSU-Northern. The training covers a variety of topics around suicide prevention, most specifically how to question, persuade and refer someone who may be suicidal. For info or registration, contact Amber Spring, amber.spring@msun.edu.

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

Tuesday, Sept. 26

Bullhook Blossoms meeting, 2 p.m., Hill County Courthouse

Timmons Room. New members are welcome.

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.

Stepping-On Workshop, a free, 7-week workshop teaching how to avoid trips and falls, improve mobility and recognize risks and poor practices that cause falls, 10 - 11 a.m., North Central Senior Center, 2 2nd St. W. Sign up at senior center, 406-265-6795.

BJ's Geetar Oakie Concert, with Brad Taylor playing pop and country mix, 10:30 a.m. - noon, North Central Senior Center. Event is free and open to the community.

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.

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.

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Montana Legislators Statewide Listening Tour, 6 p.m., Eagles Club, 202 1st St. Democratic legislators will be there to hear what the public thinks about the direction the state is going, concerns people have, and what people would like to see next session.

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.

Haus Fraus, playing German folk music celebrating the coming Oktoberfest and fall weather, 10:30 - noon, North Central Senior Center, 2 2nd St. W. This concert is free and open to the public.

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, 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library, with a craft to follow. This program is free and open to the public.

Thursday, Sept. 28

Free pool, for members and college students, all day, Eagles Club, 202 1st St.

Chair Yoga, with Bonnie Williamson providing simple, gentle yoga, 10 - 11 a.m., North Central Senior Center. Event is free and open to seniors.

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

Block Party, 3:30 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library, with a time for building and playing board games. This is free and open to the public.

Book Discussion Group, reading "Before and After" by Rosellen Brown, 6 p.m., Havre-Hill County Library. Books are available for checkout at the library. This event is free and open to everyone.

Friday, Sept. 29

Elks Bingo fundraiser, 6:30 p.m., Havre Elks Lodge Backroom, All proceeds benefit Elks Lodge #1201 veteran, youth and community giving programs.

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.

Saturday, Sept. 30

MSU-Northern Homecoming Celebration, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Cowan Courtyard MSU-N campus, with live music from Velvet Skyline, local food trucks, a mechanical bull, face painting and the Lights football game kickoff at 1p.m. This event is free and everyone is welcome — wearing maroon is encouraged.

Chinook Rod and Gun Club holding fundraisers

Shooting range improvements in the works

Release and Staff

Chinook Rod and Gun Club is holding two fall fundraisers, starting this Saturday, to help complete improvements at the club's trap shooting range and help build a new archery range.

Construction projects can begin once the club has the final paperwork for a Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks grant completed and signed, the club's release said. In the meantime, members are getting to work on their fundraising efforts as well

as sourcing and pricing the needed gravel, fencing supplies and other materials.

Saturday, Sept. 23, the Chinook Rod and Gun Club will be having a Meat Shoot Fundraiser and a barbecue at the trap range located 4.5 miles south of Chinook on Clear Creek Road. The shoot starts at 1 p.m. and the barbecue, which is open to everyone and includes a sausage dog, chips and a drink for \$5, starts at 4 p.m.

Rather than the club's regular turkey shoot, this year's shoot will award beef and pork to competitors thanks to donations of local beef and pork by Joe and Amanda Reed, Skoyen Ag, Nissen Angus, 3 Bar H Ranch and Shane Fox. New

shooters, youth shooters with a parent or guardian and the public are all welcome at the shoot. Cost is \$40 for five rounds of shooting, with additional rounds \$8 each.

For the last several months, club members have been working on plans for their new archery range along with the addition of overhead lighting at the trap range and some other smaller improvements. A large portion of the project will be funded by the FWP grant, and the remaining costs will be covered by the clubs fundraising efforts and donations, the release said.

The club's other fundraiser is a raffle for an ample Summer Fun Wagon Booze Basket donat-

ed by 406 Girl and Her Mower, "and when we say (it's) enormous we mean it," organizers said in the release. The wagon doesn't even hold all the donated items, the release added.

The prize includes well over \$600 in different alcohols, along with a Grizzly 20 cooler, Bluetooth speaker, two rod and reel combos, two insulated tumblers, two beach towels, two hats, plus snacks and a floaty rated for four-plus adults with built-in cup holders.

Raffle tickets can be purchased from Chinook Rod and Gun Club members

For more information, people can contact Eric Billmeyer, 406-654-7755, or Joe Kennedy, 406-879-9280.

FWP releases video on grizzly bears on the prairie

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

HELENA — If you've traveled east of the Rocky Mountains in Montana, it might not scream "Griz Country." But don't let this

prairie landscape fool you. There are grizzlies in this region and for the residents who live here they have some tools to avoid grizzly conflicts, one tool might be a little hairy. Special thanks to

the Becker family with Stick Leg Ranch.

People can watch a video on the topic at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pku_vsyRig.

As part of Bear Aware Month,

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is running a series of videos featuring bear aware content. For more details about Bear Aware Month, people can visit <https://fwp.mt.gov/bear-aware>.

Study on kitchen behavior underscores importance of Food Safety Education Month

Lack of handwashing continues to be a concern

Press release

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is releasing during Food Safety Education Month the results from the final year of a five-year study that observed how consumers prepared meals.

The study was produced by USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service as part of its efforts to highlight the importance of safe food handling practices.

"These studies are important for USDA to understand consumer behaviors in the kitchen and it is timely to be releasing the latest findings during Food Safety Education Month," said USDA Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Emilio Esteban. "The results allow us to shape food safety communications and help consumers safely prepare food."

The study observed food safety behaviors, including participants' thermometer use for ground pork sausage, handwashing, and cleaning and sanitizing of food preparation surfaces.

Handwashing

As seen in the previous four years of the study, thorough handwashing remains a concern. The most recent data shows that 87% of participants self-reported they washed their hands before starting to cook in the test kitchen. However, only 44% of participants were observed doing so before meal preparation. Additionally, handwashing was not attempted 83% of the time when it should have been done (e.g., touching raw sausage and unwashed cantaloupe, cracking eggs, contaminated equipment or surfaces). Throughout the study, 96% of handwashing attempts did not contain all necessary steps.

Thermometer use In the study, 50% of participants used a food thermometer to check the doneness of the sausage patties. However, 50% of those participants did not check all the patties with a food thermometer. It is important to check all pieces of food being cooked to ensure all have reached a safe internal temperature. Thickness and size of a food item can cause it to cook to different temperatures.

Cross-contamination

The study used a harmless tracer bacteria, which was injected into the pork sausage, to simulate the spread of food-borne illness-causing bacteria during meal preparation. Among the surfaces tested, the kitchen sink was most often contaminated, with 34% of participants contaminating the sink during meal preparation. The next highest was the cantaloupe, with 26% of participants introducing contamination when cutting the cantaloupe during meal preparation. Contamination on fruits and vegetables, and other ready-to-eat foods, is especially concerning because these foods are consumed raw, without a final step like cooking, which kill bacteria.

For more food safety information, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854), email MPHHotline@usda.gov or chat live at <https://ask.usda.gov> from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Access news releases and other information at USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service's website at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/newsroom>.

Follow FSIS on Twitter at twitter.com/usdafoodsafety or in Spanish at twitter.com/usdafoodsafety_es.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate-smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, people can visit <https://www.usda.gov>.

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BUSINESS

Faber Graduates from Graduate School of Banking at Colorado

Press release

Karene Faber the Havre Branch President/Vice President of Marketing of Independence Bank graduated from the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado (GSBC) on July 27, 2023. In addition to completing the GSBC required curriculum, Karene also completed the Committed to Lead Micro-Credential, a Bolder Banking Initiative, of supplementary coursework offered to second and third-year students.

Faber is an MSU-Northern graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Technology and a minor in Agriculture. Faber has been with Independence Bank since 2003, most recently holding the position of Vice President of Consumer Lending. Prior to working at Independence Bank, Faber worked with Benefis Healthcare and the Montana Department of Livestock.

"We are extremely proud of Karene's accomplishment. Graduate school is a challeng-



Faber

ing undertaking, requiring a 3-year commitment that provides opportunity for growth of the individual, and strengthens our Banks commitment to the communities we serve," said Bill Keller, CEO and President of Independence Bank. "Karene has had quite the summer. In

addition to graduating from Banking School, she also celebrated twenty years of service with Independence Bank. Karene is a Hi-Line kid whose passion and commitment to agriculture and banking has been of great benefit to our Bank, our customers, and our shareholders.

Karene is a graduate of Chinook High School. She is active in the MSU-Northern Rodeo Booster Club and spends her free time working on her family ranch near Cleveland, kayaking the area rivers and lakes, gardening in the warm months, and hanging with her dogs year-round.

Independence Bank is a locally owned community bank headquartered in Havre, Montana with branches in Malta, Glasgow, Poplar, Scooby, Conrad, Shelby, Great Falls, Wolf Point, and a Loan Production/Deposit Production Office (LPO/DPO) in Plentywood. For 50 years, we have specialized in Ag and

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Bear Paw Development has funds available for business growth

Press release

Bear Paw Development Corp. announced the organization has loan funds available to business owners and entrepreneurs in northern Montana interested in starting a new business or expanding an existing enterprise. The funding is from various sources at the state and federal level and is focused on helping small business owners with their capital needs.

"Small businesses are the backbone of active Main Streets and healthy communities in our region of northern Montana and Bear Paw Development has been helping finance business start-ups and expansions for more than 35 years," Bear Paw Executive Director Paul Tuss said. "Whether it's someone who has a great idea but has never been a business owner before, or someone who has been in business for years, Bear Paw has financing available to help with the capital needs that exist in our area."

Through partnerships with agencies at the state and federal level, including the Montana Department of Commerce, USDA



Rural Development and the Economic Development Administration, Bear Paw Development has secured funds that can be loaned to for-profit entities for a variety of purposes, with an emphasis on creating or retaining jobs and expanding the local tax base.

"Bear Paw Development has assisted in financing hundreds of small business ventures in northern Montana over more than three decades. We have a track record to be proud of, but we are very future-focused and want our region's entrepreneurial community to know that we will help them in any way we can to achieve success," Tuss said. "Reaching out to our Loan Department is an important first step to take to see how we can be useful in meeting the

financing needs of the business community."

Bear Paw Development is also home to northern Montana's regional Small Business Development Center, which helps craft business plans, provide business-specific training opportunities and finds solutions to the most difficult problems small businesses experience.

"The bottom line is we have both the technical assistance and the funding to take businesses to the next level of success, and these services are all located under one roof," Tuss said. "Our mission is to help northern Montana continue to be a wonderful place to build a business and invest. We are excited about the future and want to let folks know about the services we have to offer that can help them excel."

To reach Bear Paw Development's Loan Department or Small Business Development Center, call 406-265-9226 or email Trish Cichosz, Director of Loan Services, at tcichosz@bearpaw.org or Joe LaPlante, SBDC Director, at jlaplante@bearpaw.org.

Auto workers prepare to expand their strike

DAVID KOENIG AP Business Writer

General Motors and Stellantis announced fresh layoffs Wednesday that they blamed on damage from the United Auto Workers strike, and the labor standoff grew more tense just two days before the union was expected to call for new walkouts.

Stellantis provided a glimmer of hope for a breakthrough by giving the union a new contract proposal. However, a company spokeswoman said the offer primarily covered non-economic issues.

It was not clear whether the Stellantis offer would satisfy union President Shawn Fain, who vows to announce new strike targets Friday unless there is "serious progress" toward agreements with GM, Stellantis and Ford.

So far UAW workers are striking at just three factories, one for each company. It's a novel approach for the union, which in the past has focused negotiations on one company and limited a 2019 strike to GM. Fain says his approach will keep the companies guessing about UAW's next move.

"He is trying to distinguish himself from the old leadership of the UAW," said Harry Katz, a professor of collective bargaining at Cornell University. "He's different, he's tough, and he's trying to put pressure on the companies."

The three-plant strike has so far had limited impact on the automakers — probably by design, longtime industry observers say.

"The strategy is to incrementally apply pressure on the companies to encourage them to come to the table," said Marick Masters, a management professor at Wayne State University in Detroit. "He is negotiating with the three companies simultaneously with the expectation that the one that is most vulnerable and will give them the best deal will surface from that strategy."

However, if there is little sign of progress in the talks by Friday, Fain could take a more aggressive tack, "and they are going to strike where it hurts," said Daniel Ives, an analyst at Wedbush Securities. "For Ford, on the pickups — disrupting (production of) F-150s, and strategically striking

GM and Stellantis in a way that could substantially impair 30% to 40% of the industry's production."

Strikes that target production of popular models like the F-150 or the Dodge Ram would inflict a lot of pain on the carmakers, but the UAW could pack the same punch if it walks out of key engine and transmission plants.

Another clue of possible strike targets might be found in locations where UAW locals have announced they will hold rallies and practice picketing in the coming days. Those include a Ford plant in Louisville, Kentucky, a GM plant in Bedford, Indiana, and a GM truck plant in Arlington, Texas.

"If Friday comes and there is no major progress" at the bargaining table, "this will get a lot nastier," Ives said.

The layoffs that GM and Stellantis announced Wednesday will be in Kansas, Ohio and Indiana.

GM said that the UAW strike at its assembly plant near St. Louis caused it to idle a plant in Kansas with about 2,000 workers because "there is no work available" — the plant depends on parts stamped in the St. Louis-area facility.

GM said it does not expect to restart the Kansas plant until the strike ends, and it won't provide supplemental pay to the workers. The company said the layoffs demonstrated "that nobody wins in a strike."

Stellantis, which makes Jeep, Chrysler and Dodge vehicles, said it expects to lay off more than 300 workers in Ohio and Indiana because "storage constraints" caused by the UAW strike at its assembly plant in Toledo, Ohio.

Asked for comment, a UAW spokesman referred to a statement last weekend in which UAW President Shawn Fain said layoffs were unnecessary and an effort to pressure workers to settle for less in contract negotiations.

Also Wednesday, about 190 UAW members walked off the job at ZF, a Mercedes supplier in Alabama, over wages, a lower scale for new workers, and health care benefits. The workers are covered under a different contract than those that UAW is

negotiating with the three big automakers.

A ZF spokesman said the plant was continuing to run, and the company hopes to reach an agreement with the workers soon.

The layoffs and the Alabama walkout ratcheted up tension two days before Friday's UAW deadline for the carmakers to show progress in meeting the UAW's demands. The union and the car makers continue to talk, but an industry official said Wednesday that the two sides remain far apart.

The UAW is seeking pay raises of more than 30% over four years, a restoration of defined-benefit pensions for all workers, and a 32-hour work week for 40 hours of pay. The companies are offering around 20% on pay and are staunchly resisting some of the union's other demands.

Yolanda Downs, who works at a Stellantis assembly plant, wants an end to lower wage scales for new workers, another UAW priority.

"I want everyone to make a good living and a fair living," said Downs, who wore a red union shirt as she marched with about 200 other UAW members in front of Stellantis' U.S. headquarters outside Detroit. "If I'm working on one side of the line and I'm making \$30, and the person across from me is making \$15 an hour, how is that fair?"

There has been recent progress between one automaker and a labor union, but it happened in Canada.

Ford and Unifor, which represents Canadian auto workers, announced late Tuesday that they reached a tentative agreement on a new three-year contract just hours before a strike deadline.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed. If ratified, it would cover more than 5,000 workers and provide a model for similar deals at GM and Stellantis operations in Canada.

Associated Press writer Mike Householder contributed from Auburn Hills, Michigan.

This story has been corrected to show that the GM plant is in Bedford, Indiana, not Illinois.

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Inside the delicate art of maintaining America's aging nuclear weapons

TARA COPP
The Associated Press
 KANSAS CITY NATIONAL SECURITY CAMPUS, Mo. — In an ultra-sterile room at a secure factory in Kansas City, U.S. government technicians refurbish the nation's nuclear warheads. The job is exacting: Each warhead has thousands of springs, gears and copper contacts that must work in conjunction to set off a nuclear explosion.

Eight hundred miles away in New Mexico, workers in a steel-walled vault have an equally delicate task. Wearing radiation monitors, safety goggles and seven layers of gloves, they practice shaping new warhead plutonium cores — by hand.

And at nuclear weapons bases across the country, troops as young as 17 keep 50-year-old warheads working until replacements are ready. A hairline scratch on a warhead's polished black cone could send the bomb off course.

The Associated Press was granted rare access to key parts of the highly classified nuclear supply chain and got to watch technicians and engineers tackle the difficult job of maintaining an aging nuclear arsenal. Those workers are about to get a lot busier. The U.S. will spend more than \$750 billion over the next 10 years replacing almost every component of its nuclear defenses, including new stealth bombers, submarines and ground-based intercontinental ballistic missiles in the country's most ambitious nuclear weapons effort since the Manhattan Project.

It's been almost eight decades since a nuclear weapon has been fired in war. But military leaders warn that such peace may not last. They say the U.S. has entered an uneasy era of global threats that includes a nuclear weapons buildup by China and Russia's repeat threats to use a nuclear bomb in Ukraine. They say that America's aged weapons need to be replaced to ensure they work.

"What we want to do is preserve our way of life without fighting major wars," said Marvin Adams, director of weapons programs for the Department of Energy. "Nothing in our toolbox really works to deter aggressors unless we have that foundation of the nuclear deterrent."

By treaty the U.S. maintains 1,550 active nuclear warheads, and the government plans to modernize them all. At the same time, technicians, scientists and military missile crews must ensure the older weapons keep running until the new ones are installed.

The project is so ambitious that watchdogs warn that the government may not meet its goals. The program has also drawn criticism from non-proliferation advocates and experts who say the current arsenal, though timeworn, is sufficient to meet U.S. needs. Upgrading it will also be expensive, they say.

"They are going to have extreme difficulty meeting these deadlines," said Daryl Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control Association, a non-partisan group focused on nuclear and conventional weapons control. "And the costs are going to go up."

He cautioned that the sweeping upgrades could also have the undesired effect of pushing Russia and China to improve and expand their arsenals.

WHERE IT BEGINS

The core of every nuclear warhead is a hollow, globe-shaped plutonium pit made by engineers at the Energy Department's lab in Los Alamos, New Mexico, birth-



John Turner/U.S. Air Force via AP

In this image provided by the U.S. Air Force, Senior Airman Jacob Deas, 23, left, and Airman 1st Class Jonathan Marrs, 21, secure the titanium shroud at the top of a Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile Aug. 24 at the Bravo 9 silo at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana. After the shroud is secured, it is lifted off, revealing the black cone-shaped nuclear warhead inside.

place of the atom bomb. Many of the current pits in use come from the 1970s and 80s. That can be problematic, because there's a lot about plutonium's aging process that scientists still don't understand.

The key radioactive atom in the plutonium pit has a half life of 24,000 years, which is the amount of time it would take roughly half of the radioactive atoms present to decay. That would suggest the weapons should be viable for years to come. But the plutonium decay is still enough to cause concern that it could affect how a pit explodes.

President George H.W. Bush signed an order in the 1990s banning underground nuclear tests, and the U.S. has not detonated pits to update data on their degradation since. When the last tests were performed, they provided data on pits that were at most about two decades old. That generation of pits is now pushing past 50.

Bob Webster, deputy director of weapons at Los Alamos, said scientists have relied on computer models to determine how well such old pits might work, but "everything we're doing is extrapolating," he said.

That uncertainty has pushed the department to restart pit production. The U.S. no longer produces man-made plutonium. Instead, old plutonium is essentially refurbished into new pits.

This task takes place inside PF-4, a highly classified building at Los Alamos that's surrounded by layers of armed guards, heavy steel doors and radiation monitors. Inside, workers handle the plutonium inside steel glove boxes, which allow them to clean and process the plutonium without being exposed to deadly radiation.

In the final production steps, a lone employee in the vault takes the almost-completed pit into both of her gloved hands and shapes it into its final form.

"Things have to fit a certain way, and everything is by touch, by feel," said the Los Alamos employee, who the AP has agreed not to name because she is one of only a handful of people in the U.S., and the only female, who performs this sensitive task.

For about the last 10 years technicians have been practicing on "test" pits that aren't ready for the stockpile. The U.S. is planning to fully recycle its first weapon-ready pit next year — and quickly increase annual production to as many as 80 new pits.

The painstaking and hazardous work has led a government watchdog to express doubts about whether the U.S. government can meet that goal.

"The United States has not regularly manufactured plutonium pits since 1989," the Government Accountability Office noted in a January 2023 report, adding that the Energy

Department's National Nuclear Security Administration has provided "limited assurance that it would be able to produce sufficient numbers of pits."

Webster has been at Los Alamos since Ronald Reagan was president. He could have retired years ago, but has remained to shepherd the first new plutonium pits through to production. The lab is starting to feel a bit like it did in the 1980s, during the Cold War, he said. Los Alamos scientists are having intense discussions about weapon design — how much each can weigh, its explosive punch, how far it must travel.

"We need our nation to be back making pits," Webster said. "We just have to be able to do that."

THE WARHEAD AND THE WRISTWATCH

Completed pits are protected and detonated by an outer warhead layer that is built at the Energy Department's Kansas City National Security Campus. Inside that three-story windowless factory, workers restore and test those warhead parts, work that a government watchdog said required "a great deal of precision manufacturing to exacting specifications."

There are thousands of tiny parts inside each warhead, so steady hands are key. That's why technicians go through a skills assessment that includes disassembling and assembling a mechanical wristwatch.

"Everything is done under a microscope with tweezers," said Molly Hadfield, a spokeswoman for the Kansas City plant. "And it's pass (or) fail. Either the watch works or it doesn't work."

This factory would be busy even if an overhaul wasn't underway. All warheads have regular maintenance requirements. Their plastics age, and metal gears and wiring are weakened by the years and by exposure to radiation.

The factory is also working on warheads for the B-21 Raider, a futuristic stealth bomber, while also supporting the Sentinel, a new intercontinental ballistic missile and on warheads for a new class of submarines.

"There's a huge modernization effort going on," said Eric Wollmer, who manages the Kansas City complex for the Department of Energy through its federal contract with Honeywell. "If you're going to update the delivery systems, you would also then update the warheads in the missiles and the bombs that are with them."

To meet the demand for both maintenance and modernization, the facilities have gone on a hiring spree. The Kansas City plant has 6,700 employees, a 40% jump since 2018, with plans to add several hundred more. The Los Alamos lab has added

more than 4,000 employees in that same time frame.

OLD MISSILES, YOUNG TROOPS

The U.S. nuclear arsenal reveals its age each time troops fix a missile. That can occur as often as twice a week, but only if the equally old tools, or the truck carrying the tools, or the missile itself isn't also broken down, which is often.

That is why Airman 1st Class Jonathan Marrs was dragging a second 225-pound (102-kilogram) aluminum tow behind him toward a concrete silo in the midst of vast Montana farmland on a recent hot afternoon.

Marrs, 21, and other airmen used a tow and wrenches the size of human femurs to dislodge silo Bravo-9's 110-ton blast door. Underneath its cement and steel cover was a 70,000-pound nuclear missile; the missile's warhead tip needed to be lifted out and trucked to base for work.

Except the blast door wouldn't budge. The first 225-pound tow, or mule, as the troops call it, couldn't generate the power needed to pull back the door.

After attaching a second mule, Marrs and the other airmen succeeded in pulling the door free, releasing scores of mice.

The maintainers next unfastened the warhead from the missile and placed it in a specialized truck. It's then escorted by Air Force security forces back to a heavily guarded hangar at Montana's Malmstrom Air Force Base.

Marrs and the other young airmen — known as maintainers — are closely monitored as they handle nuclear weapons, U.S. Air Force officials said.

"If I under-inflate a basketball at the gym, no one will care," said Chief Master Sgt. Andrew Zahm, the maintenance group senior enlisted leader at F.E. Warren Air Force Base. "If I did something with one of these weapons, the president would know about it in 45 minutes."

The workload is already a challenge for these troops, and there aren't many easy ways to relieve it.

While the private-sector managed Los Alamos and Kansas City plants have hired personnel to meet the rising workload, the military has struggled to fill jobs and retain experienced technicians.

Instead, the military must do more with fewer maintainers, and for much less money than those troops could make as government contractors.

"Once you start showing a staff sergeant the \$80,000 they could make in the private sector, they are going to take it, Zahm said.

Zahm is a rarity. While many have retired or left for private industry, he's remained to keep serving the military's nuclear mission. With the U.S. so close to its first new weapon, he's driven by a desire to see it through. "In 21 years I've never seen a new thing," Zahm said. "I want to see the new stuff."

Copp reported from Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico; the Kansas City National Security Campus, Missouri; Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana and F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming.

The Associated Press receives support for nuclear security coverage from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and Outrider Foundation. The AP is solely responsible for all content. Del Wilber is the Washington investigations editor for the AP.

= Obituaries =

Aaron D. Alexander

Aaron D. Alexander, "Spirit," 62, passed away due to natural causes at Peace Hospice in Great Falls Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Wake services began at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 20, 2023, and will continue until his funeral service, which will be at 10:00 a.m. Friday, September 22, 2023, all at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church with Alvin Windy Boy officiating. Burial will follow in the Denny Family Cemetery.

= Lottery Roundup =

The winning numbers for the Wednesday, Sept. 20, drawings are:

Powerball:

16 27 59 62 63 23

Power Play X3

Lotto America:

2 16 27 32 46 3

All Star Bonus: X3

Montana Cash:

14 17 26 28 31

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Lotto America: \$2.25 million.

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= For the Record =

Havre Police Department

A 15-year-old and a 14-year-old were each issued a summons on a charge of underage tobacco possession or consumption after a caller at Havre High School reported the juvenile offenses at 9:22 a.m. and 9:40 a.m. respectively Wednesday.

A caller at a Fourth Avenue business reported Wednesday at 12:16 p.m. that a rock was thrown at their door.

Gordon James Bacon of Box

Elder, 44, was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge and on seven Justice or City court warrants after a man was reported laying on the ground at Second Street and Fourth Avenue at 4:23 p.m. Wednesday.

Hill County Sheriff's Officer

Deputies were asked Wednesday at 4:56 p.m. to provide assistance at Box Elder Schools.

A theft, forgery or fraud was reported at 10:19 p.m. Wednesday

at a Box Elder establishment.

Havre Fire Department

Emergency medical technicians responded to three calls Wednesday and one call early this morning.

Firefighters responded to a grass fire on U.S. Highway 2 West at 5:10 p.m. No one was made available to provide further details on the fire.

Havre Animal Shelter

This morning the animal

shelter held three cats and three 6-week-old kittens all of unknown gender, four female cats, two male cats and a 6-month-old kitten.

Also this morning the animal shelter held a male mixed-breed dog, a male border collie, five female mixed-breed dogs, a female German shepherd, five 19-week-old puppies and a male hound. Additionally, three 17-week-old puppies and a dog were being housed off-site.

HUNTING

Youth pheasant, waterfowl weekend starts Saturday

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

HELENA — Youth hunters can get a head start on pheasant and waterfowl hunting during the 2023 Youth Pheasant and Waterfowl Weekend, which is Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 23 and 24.

Licensed hunters, 15 and younger, will be able to hunt pheasants, ducks, mergansers, geese and coots statewide on these two days.

The two-day youth hunt is open to:

- legally licensed 12- to 15-year-olds who have completed hunter education and who are accompanied by a non-hunting adult at least 18 years of age,
- properly certified and legally licensed apprentice

hunters 10-15 years of age who are accompanied by a non-hunting adult "mentor" at least 21 years of age.

All regulations apply. Listings of the regulations are available online at <https://fwp.mt.gov/hunt/regulations>.

The Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area hours differ from the regulations for youth waterfowl weekend. They will be one-half hour before sunrise to noon.

Prior to the youth weekend, FWP will release pheasants, raised by Montana Correctional Enterprises, on state-owned lands with suitable pheasant habitat. The purpose of the pheasant release program is to give youth hunters an opportunity to experience hunting success, encouraging their future

participation.

The release sites are at the following wildlife management areas (WMA), fisheries conservation areas (FCA), fishing access sites (FAS) and Department of Natural Resources Conservation (DNRC) lands:

- Region 1: North Shore WMA, Foys Bend FCA
- Region 3: Canyon Ferry WMA, Lake Helena WMA
- Region 4: Freezout Lake WMA, Arod Lakes DNRC, Bullhead Ranch DNRC
- Region 5: Grant Marsh WMA, Yellowstone WMA, Clark's Fork of Yellowstone FAS, Selkirk FAS
- Region 6: Lost River WMA, Fresno Reservoir WMA, Rookery WMA, Dodson Dam WMA, Cree Crossing WMA,

Sleeping Buffalo WMA, Hinsdale WMA, Vandalia WMA

• Region 7: Isaac Homestead WMA, Amelia Island WMA

FWP is hosting several kick-off events that will give young hunters the opportunity to meet with mentors and FWP staff. Events already have occurred in Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7.

The remaining kick-off events are scheduled as follows in Region 4:

- Sept. 23, 8 a.m. to noon, Lau Shooting Preserve, registration required
 - Sept. 23, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area, Fairfield
- For more information about these events, including how to register, go to <https://fwp.mt.gov/youth-hunt>.

Protect the hunt — do it right

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is reminding hunters this year that they are crucial to people being able to hunt by respecting landowners and their property.

Although most hunters respect the land, property and wildlife they are hunting, a minority do not. Yet these few bad actors lead to frustration from private landowners and hunters looking to do things right.

This year remember: It's up to us. Respect access. Protect the hunt.

Every hunting season, there are reports of vandalizing of Block Management Area (BMA) boxes, hunters driving off road, illegal trespassing, hunters being shot over, littering and livestock being shot.

Below are just a few of the things that hunters and all outdoor enthusiasts should be aware of when enjoying our resources:

- Standing crop: Avoid hunting, walking or driving in fields that have not been harvested yet.
- Littering: Not only is littering careless and unsightly, it is against the law. This includes toilet paper, and the proper management of human waste.
- Leave gates as you find them: If a gate is closed, close it behind you. If it is obviously open (pulled all the way back to the fence), leave it open. If you are unsure, contact the landowner or public land agency.
- Know your target and beyond: Hunters must be sure of what they are shooting at (species, sex, etc.), and know what lies beyond their target (houses, outbuildings, livestock, vehicles and other hunters).
- Prevent fires: Be aware of fire danger at all times and use precautions, this includes not parking a warmed-up vehicle in tall, dry vegetation.
- Be weed free: Check clothes, dogs, ATVs and vehicles for weeds and weed seeds to help prevent the spread to other private and public lands.
- Avoid driving on muddy roads: Unless it is a well-grav-

eled road, walk.

• Avoid ridge driving and driving to overlooks: Not only is this a poor strategy while hunting, it is considered as driving off road if it is not already an established trail.

• Do not park on roads or in gateways: Move well off of roads to avoid folks moving farm equipment. Find a designated parking area or an approach that is clearly not being used for equipment.

• Driving off-road: While hunting on private property, a person may not drive off established roads or trails without landowner permission. Off-road travel on public land, including game retrieval, is prohibited unless designated as open. Consult appropriate land agency or land maps for specifics.

• Ask for permission to hunt: Montana law requires permission for all hunting on private land. Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the landowner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property.

• Completely fill out BMA slips: If a hunter doesn't correctly fill out a block management slip, they are hunting without permission.

• Know where you are located: Whether you are hunting public land, private land, or land enrolled in an access program such as block management, it is every hunter's responsibility to know where they are to avoid trespassing. Maps are always available, as are GPS chips and cellphone apps to aid in orientation.

• Accessing public lands: Access to public lands, on a private road, through private land requires permission of the private landowner, lessee or their agent.

• Camping: Camping is allowed on most public lands (see agency regulations), but permission is needed to camp on private property and BMAs.

• Know the rules: Consult BMA maps for specific rules on block management property, including driving on roads, parking areas, no shooting zones, walk-in only areas, camping, number of hunters allowed, game retrieval, etc. Rules for most land agencies

can be found on maps and/or on brochures. Go to the appropriate agency website or local office for information.

• Report violations: Report any hunting and fishing, trespassing, vandalism or other criminal activity you see to 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668).

The 1-800-TIP-MONT program is a toll-free number where one can report violations of fish, wildlife or park regulations. Callers can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000 for providing information that leads to a conviction. Also remember the fall is a very busy time for landowners. Along with late harvest, cattle and other livestock are being moved from their summer and/or fall pastures and are often brought near the home site for winter feeding and

care. Please use common sense and respect when around these activities.

FWP also offers a free online program called The Montana Hunter-Landowner Stewardship Project. This project is an information program for anyone interested in promoting responsible hunter behavior and good hunter-landowner relations in Montana. The program is delivered through an interactive website utilizing questions, videos and feedback as well as opportunities for you to test your knowledge on a variety of practical topics related to hunter-landowner relations and responsible hunter behavior.

People can go to <https://fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/hunterLandowner> to learn more and complete the program.

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SPORTS

Blue Ponies look to stay undefeated in conference play



Portrait of a Pony

The Havre High volleyball team will host conference foe Miles City this Friday. The Blue Ponies will be looking to improve to 4-0 on the season.

Kason Clark
Havre Daily News sports

The Havre High volleyball team is off to an undefeated start in the Northeast A this season and it will look to continue that this Friday when it hosts Miles City at Havre High Gymnasium. With a conference rival coming to town, HHS head coach Cassie Krueger hopes the Blue Ponies

use the match to continue improving as a team.

"This Friday we're going to be fine tuning a little bit of our offense," Krueger said. "And I want to see the girls come together and play as a united front."

Miles City will be a familiar opponent for the Ponies in the Northeast A this season. Earlier this season in a non-conference match at the tip-off tournament,

the Ponies beat Miles City in two sets (20-19, 20-15).

Though the Ponies have already defeated Miles City this season, Krueger knows a conference rival can always give them a battle if they are not prepared.

"They do have a good offense and they're a bigger team," Krueger said. "They're also very scrappy so we cannot underestimate them on any

side of their game."

The Ponies enter the weekend with a 5-1 record this season. Just this past weekend in a pair of conference matches, the Ponies defeated both Lewistown and Sidney. As the Ponies look to stay hot this Friday, Krueger hopes to carry over what they did well in those matches.

"Our serve-recvise was a lot better," Krueger said. "I hope

that we carry that over, and we're starting to get a little bolder with our offense and figuring out our blocks as well so I would love to carry that over."

Most importantly for the Ponies, they are already off to a 3-0 start in Northeast A competition this fall. As the Ponies look to finish at the top of the conference standings this season, a win against Miles City this Friday

would go a long way toward that goal.

"That would mean everything to us," Krueger said about a potential win over Miles City. "Our goal for conference is to be undefeated so a win would be on track for us."

The HHS volleyball team will play Miles City at HHS Gymnasium Friday night at 7 p.m.

Cats, Griz set for conference openers



Cat-Griz Football

Both the Bobcats and Grizzlies open Big Sky competition this weekend. Both teams will head on the road as the Bobcats face Weber State while Griz will head further south to play Northern Arizona.

George Ferguson
Havre Daily News
gfergusongriz@gmail.com

The non-conference season is over. And for the Montana State Bobcats and Montana Grizzlies, the real fun is about to begin.

After three games, both the Griz and Cats open league play this weekend with difficult road trips.

But instead of taking a look at Montana's game at Northern Arizona and MSU's road trip to Weber State, it's more important to look at the league as a whole and where I think both teams might finish.

The 2-1 Bobcats were picked to win the Big Sky this season, and, if Tommy Mellott is upright, I still think they will.

However, the Cats have a pair of road games that could easily derail that.

If you're sleeping on Idaho anymore, you're a fool. The Vandals are as for real as real gets, and they get MSU in the Kibbie Dome this season. Yes, Idaho might be the only team in the Big Sky that has not one, but two players more electrifying than Mellott. And so, the game between MSU and Idaho could decide the conference. However, the week before the Cats go to Moscow, they have to play Sacramento State. And the Hornets are no joke either, having knocked off Stanford.

So, it's pretty much those two road games that will decide MSU's fate. And while I think the Cats will win both, I don't necessarily think they

will, and that will probably mean, whichever team the Cats do lose to, will likely end up being the Big Sky champions, if not tying MSU at the very least.

But, while the Cats are still a big favorite to win the Big Sky, the picture is much more murky for the Griz, who are 3-0 but struggling mightily on offense.

Montana was picked to finish fourth in the league this season, but the Griz have a tough road schedule with games at Idaho and UC Davis back-to-back. A similar schedule stopped last year's Griz from contending for a Big Sky title, and unless the Griz can pull off upsets in Moscow, and at home against Sac. State, they probably won't be in the

Big Sky championship race anymore when the hated Bobcats come to town in November.

However, if the Griz and Cats could both find ways to win those huge road games, then it would set up what everyone wants to see, and that's a Cat-Griz showdown for all the marbles.

And now that Big Sky play is finally here, we'll soon find out just who will be the best in the Sky this season. My money is still on the Bobcats, but we'll all have to wait and find out.

The Bobcats visit Weber State in a Top 10 match Saturday at 6 p.m. The Griz play at NAU Saturday at 2 p.m. Both games will be televised locally and streamed on ESPN+.

We're Hiring!

The Havre Daily News is seeking a full-time **SPORTS EDITOR** to cover local sports in our area. Beats would be mainly area high school sports, some MSU-Northern sports and other sports such as hockey, baseball and rodeo. Hours would be mainly weekends and evenings. Writing experience preferred, but not required.

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Blaine County Library
- Scarecrow Contest at Inman's Park - All Day
First Bank of Montana
- Sugarbeet Decorating Contest - 11 AM
- Car Show - 11 AM- 4:30 PM
Bear Paw Saloon
- Tractor Show- 11 AM- 4:30 PM
- Dog Costume Contest- 1 PM
Shores Floral
- Pie Eating Contest - 2 PM
Chinook Pharmacy & B&B Buyers
- Lady in the Glass Look-alike Contest - 3 PM
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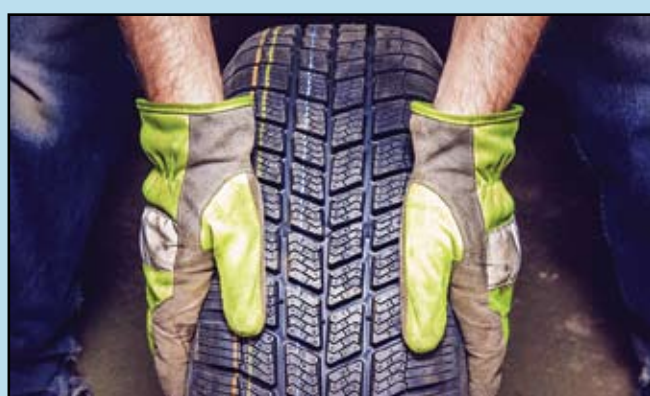
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BE PREPARED

Tips Before Buying New Tires

(METRO) — Though vehicles can't function without them, tires are something few drivers think about until something goes wrong. A roadside flat tire or a tire rotation recommendation from a mechanic during a routine oil change appointment may be the only time many drivers give much thought to their tires. That no doubt leads to some confusion about what to do when tires inevitably need to be replaced.



The automotive resource Kelley Blue Book notes that the life expectancy of most tires falls between 25,000 and 50,000 miles. That's a big gap, and car owners can check their vehicle manuals to see if their vehicle manufacturer recommends a more specific replacement interval. It's worth noting that mileage is not the only barometer drivers should use to determine if they need to buy new tires. The following tips can help drivers determine if now is the time to outfit their vehicle with new tires.

- Measure the tread. KBB notes that a tire assessment should always include measuring the amount of remaining tread. Drivers can do this on their own in various ways. One method involves looking at the tread wear bars, which are little bridges in the grooves between the ridges. If the bars are even with the tread pattern, then the tire has very little tread remaining and must be replaced. The penny or quarter test is a popular way to determine if tires must be replaced. Insert a penny or quarter into the center of the tread between two ridges with Lincoln's or Washington's head facing you. If you can see the very top of the head or the space above the head, the tire must be replaced. If only a little bit of hair is visible, then the tire is nearing its end. The tire has sufficient remaining tread if the some of the forehead is concealed.
- Check for other signs of wear and tear. Little remaining tread is not the only sign tires must be replaced. Tires with cracked sidewalls, discoloration and/or bulging need to be replaced.
- Confirm a larger issue isn't lurking. Uneven wear on tires is typically a byproduct of a larger issue. Though tires that have worn unevenly will need to be replaced, replacing them without correcting the larger issue will only lead to more uneven wear on the new tires. That's a costly mistake. KBB notes that poor wheel alignment or suspension issues are typically to blame for uneven wear. This issue can be fixed and should be addressed prior to purchasing a new set of tires.

Tires sometimes exhibit telltale signs that they need to be replaced. Before buying replacement tires, drivers can inspect their existing ones and ask their mechanic to confirm that a larger issue isn't affecting their performance.

How Drivers Can Reduce and Avoid Traffic



need be. Alternative routes can help drivers circumvent an accident that could derail their plans. Consider using a traffic app through your dashboard GPS system or smartphone. This way you can check for congested roads before leaving home and alter the route accordingly. Certain apps enable drivers who are on the road to send real-time information to other users about current traffic conditions.

(METRO) — Traffic is every driver's nemesis. Even when vehicles are moving along at a steady pace, a slowdown can occur seemingly out of nowhere. Traffic can turn an enjoyable trip into one overcome by frustration. In addition to those headaches, idling on roadways contributes to air pollution, negatively affecting the environment. But is there anything drivers can do about traffic? In fact, there is.

- Avoid rush hours
Certain times of the day see more vehicles on the road than others. This occurs when people are traveling to and from work and school. If possible, alter your schedule so you are not driving with the masses. The National Safety Council says morning rush hour tends to fall between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. and afternoon rush hour is between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. According to data from the traffic-watching firm Inrix, Los Angeles is second only to Washington, D.C. for traffic rates. Rush hour traffic in LA is 43 percent slower than it is during non-peak hours.
- Take alternative routes
Learn other ways to get around so that you know how to avoid traffic if

• Push for increased traffic safety measures
Oftentimes traffic is the result of an accident that was caused by distractions or speeding. According to the legal guide Avoo, there are more than six million car accidents each year in the United States. A report issued by the Canadian Transportation Safety Board says more than 300,000 car accidents happen every year in Canada. Advocating for safety measures, including a "road diet," may help. A road diet is narrowing of a road that makes drivers instinctively slow down. Roundabouts and speed humps also can cause drivers to slow down, as do speed enforcement cameras.

• Carpool or use public transportation
Establish a carpool or plan to use a train or bus to get around. This reduces the number of vehicles on the road, which is better for the environment. It also can be less expensive to take public transportation or split the ride with others, leading to less wear and tear on a vehicle and fewer fuel fill-ups. Plus, letting others drive on occasion frees you up to read, nap or catch up on social media.

Traffic is a concern across the country. Certain measures can help reduce traffic and others may make it easier for drivers to avoid it.

4 factors to consider to maintain winter safety

(METRO) — Many changes are to be expected as fall gives way to winter. Temperatures drop for much of the country, and depending on where one lives, snow, wind and ice are to be expected.

As beautiful as snow-covered landscapes can be, winter presents unique hazards, notably slippery roads and surfaces. Chilly temperatures also can put people at risk if they spend prolonged periods outdoors unprotected.

According to the insurance company Carsurance, more than 156,000 crashes occur annually due to icy roads. Roughly 17 percent of all vehicle crashes happen in winter conditions. Winter hazards are not exclusive to driving, however. That means winter safety involves a consideration of a host of factors.

1. Changing visibility
While slippery surfaces

es may contribute to some accidents, visibility can quickly change with winter weather. Blowing snow can contribute to whiteout conditions. In addition, fog can be hazardous to drivers, aviators and mariners and contributes to thousands of travel accidents every year, advises the National Weather Service. It's important to slow down, leave plenty of distance, use your low-beam headlights, and recognize when it may be safest to pull over, such as when visibility is significantly compromised.

2. Snow removal
Shoveling snow or using a snowblower are common wintertime activities. Yet strenuous levels of activity in cold temperatures could put people at risk of heart attack, particularly if they are not acclimated to physical activity. Always warm up prior to shoveling snow to prepare

the body for exercise. Go slowly and take frequent breaks. Avoid twisting and tossing snow over your shoulder, which can contribute to back injuries.

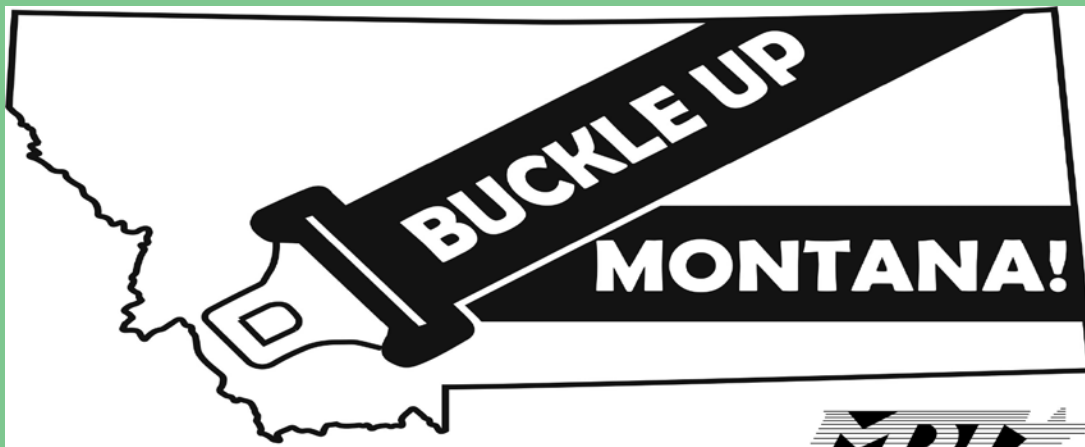
3. Carbon monoxide poisoning
Winter weather means turning up the heat or doing more indoor cooking. Carbon monoxide is produced through the burning of fuel in various forms, including stoves, engines, gas ranges, portable generators, and grills. The National Safety Council says carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that can go undetected as it builds up in enclosed spaces. Never warm up the car inside of a contained garage. Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors, and have furnaces, water heaters and other fuel-burning appliances checked and serviced by a qualified technician annually. Be sure that carbon monoxide alarms are on every floor of the home, and take it seriously if the alarm goes off.

4. Black ice
Black ice is a common winter foe. Black ice forms when temperatures rise above freezing during the day, melting any snow on the ground and causing surfaces to

become wet. If the temperature drops once more while the ground is wet, a thin, transparent sheet of ice can form. Black ice also may occur if moisture in the air condenses and forms dew or fog, and then the temperature drops below freezing, says the National Weather Service. Black ice gets its name because it looks black on asphalt roads. However, it also can form

on sidewalks and overpasses, or spots shaded by trees or other objects. Slowing down and exercising extreme caution are essential.

Winter is a beautiful season. But it can be just as hazardous as it is awe-inspiring. Taking steps to stay safe in unpredictable conditions is a necessity each winter.



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SENSE & SENSITIVITY

Have questions? Send them to: askharriette@harriettecole.com

HUSBAND DISCLOSES PARTNER'S SALARY TO FRIEND

DEAR HARRIETTE: The other day I was driving home with my husband when he got a call from a good friend of his. His friend was venting about being unhappy with the base salary at his new job. My husband then revealed that he should be happy with that salary, and how it is more than I am making now. Though I don't believe that my husband had malicious intent, I was angry that he disclosed my salary without my permission. I told him then and there that he had no right to offer that information to his friend, and his defense was that he would not care if I did the same to him. Am I overreacting? I'm still fairly upset that I didn't get an apology. -- Private Info

DEAR PRIVATE INFO: Don't wait for an apology. You could be waiting for a long time. What you can do is establish clear lines of demarcation for what you consider to be private about your life. Think about what else you don't want your husband to share. Because couples typically talk about everything in detail -- including a lot of intimacies that you would never want shared with others -- it makes sense that you might need to draw the line about certain things. Finances are likely at the top of the list, as are health issues, family challenges ... what else? Make a list and recommend that he do the same. This is something you may want to consider doing from time to time to ensure that you are on the same page.

Also, if you know that your spouse finds it difficult to keep certain information to himself,

you may choose to withhold sensitive details as an extra layer of protection. That may seem counterintuitive for a married couple, but you need to know your partner and manage information accordingly.

DEAR HARRIETTE: Since moving to a new city for work, I've had trouble meeting people. A former classmate who lives in the same area asked me out for dinner, and I went. It was clear to me that he was hoping for more than friendship, but I'm not romantically interested in him. Nevertheless, I'm considering spending more time with him to see if he'll invite me to join his circle of friends. That way I'll know people other than just him. Would you say this is a good approach, or could it end up backfiring? -- Need Friends

DEAR NEED FRIENDS: Yes, you should continue to spend time with this friend, but you must be honest with him. Tell him you like him as a friend, but nothing more. Ask him if he would consider inviting you to other events where you can meet people. Tell him candidly you have not met people in the area yet and want to expand your network. Find out if he is willing to include you in his circle. By being upfront about how you feel about him, hopefully he will understand and be willing to open up his circle and invite you in. But don't stop there. Pay attention to your co-workers and neighbors. Notice the people who interest you, and reach out to them to do something social. You have to put forth some effort to make inroads into meeting more people.

ASTROGRAPH

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Emotions are high, and someone will judge your actions. Think each step through and forge ahead with precision and attention to detail. Be yourself and do things your way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Don't be lazy; take the plunge and make things happen. Rub elbows with people who can help you push your objective forward. Spread a positive attitude and make a good impression.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- You'll find it challenging to divide your time between work and play. Neglecting someone close to you will trigger an unexpected response. A heart-to-heart talk may be called for.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- What you do will have a greater impact more than what you say. Dedicate time to tidying up loose ends and honoring your promises to avoid looking bad or sending the wrong message.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) --

A change at home will be worth the cost involved. Don't argue over trivialities when compromise will help keep the peace and give you more leeway regarding something that truly matters to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Refuse to let what others do bother you. Don't feel obligated to tag along or change your plans. Maintaining a positive attitude will help you make a valuable contact. Follow your heart.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Check your ego at the door and maintain your integrity. Be a good listener and observer, and recognize when someone makes false claims. Trust your instincts and resist temptation.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Don't be reluctant to use your skills, knowledge and experience to get your way. Fear is the enemy; believe and trust in your ability to make yourself heard. Nurture a meaningful relationship.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Don't make promises you can't keep or let temptation lead you astray. Use experience and intelligence as you decide your next move. Getting out with peers is recommended.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Observe rather than react. Emotions will surface and could put you in an awkward position. Limit what information you share, and stick close to home. Put yourself first.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Keep your emotions out of the workplace. Don't make promises you can't keep or let temptation lead you down a slippery slope. You've got plenty to offer if you use your skills creatively.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Be a good listener and offer people thoughtful suggestions, not cash. Adjust your living conditions to make your life easier. If you build a stronger connection with peers, doors will open.

Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in a 9x9 layout.

Puzzle & Previous Answer

SUDOKU

Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in a 9x9 layout.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Crow's cry
4 Curved structure
8 Maladies
12 Fire residue
13 "Go away!"
14 Small bottle
15 Flower necklace
16 Alone
17 Flow slowly
18 - Gras
20 Decorated
22 - Alamos
23 Manner
24 Blemish
25 Jokester
26 "No --, and or but's"
29 Thunderous sound
30 Prohibition
31 Fingerboard ridge
32 Love god
33 Biblical boat

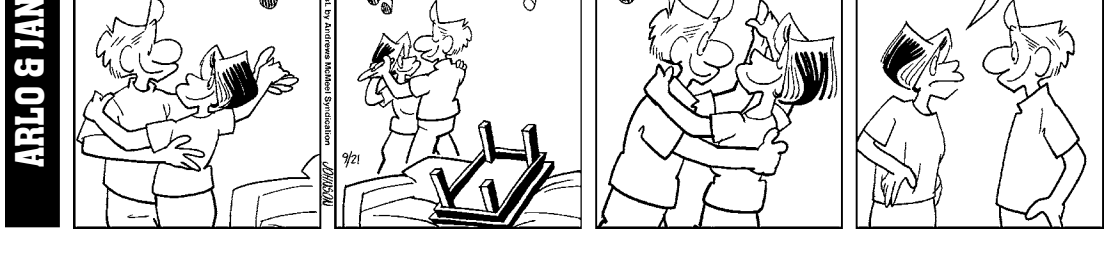
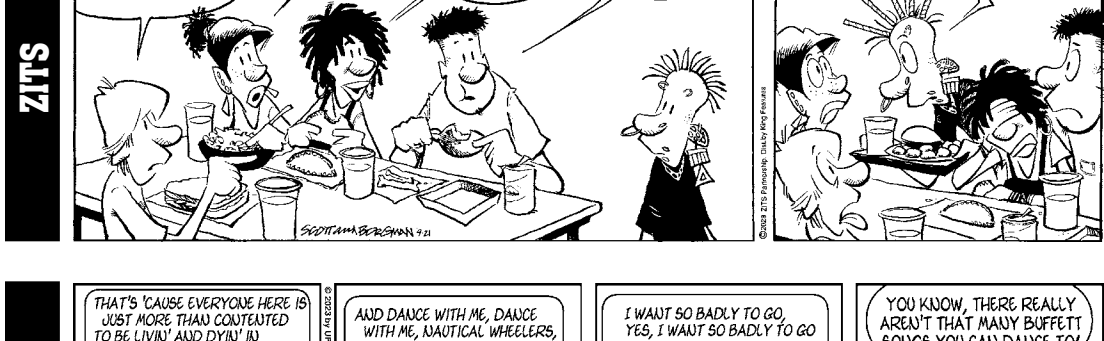
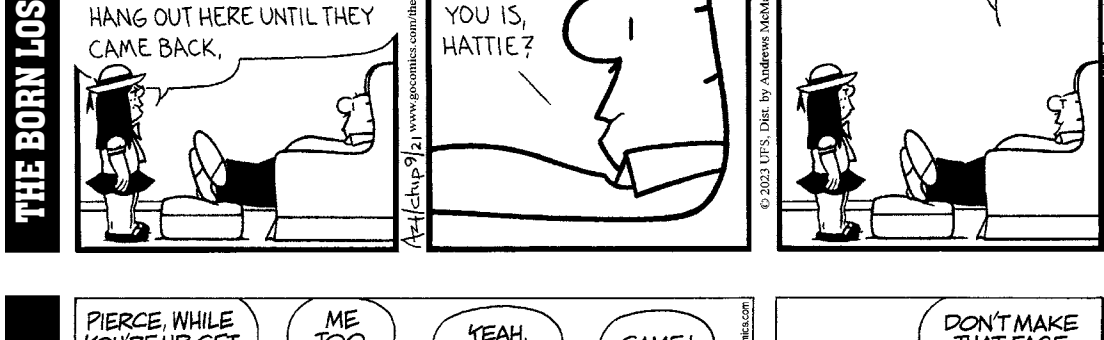
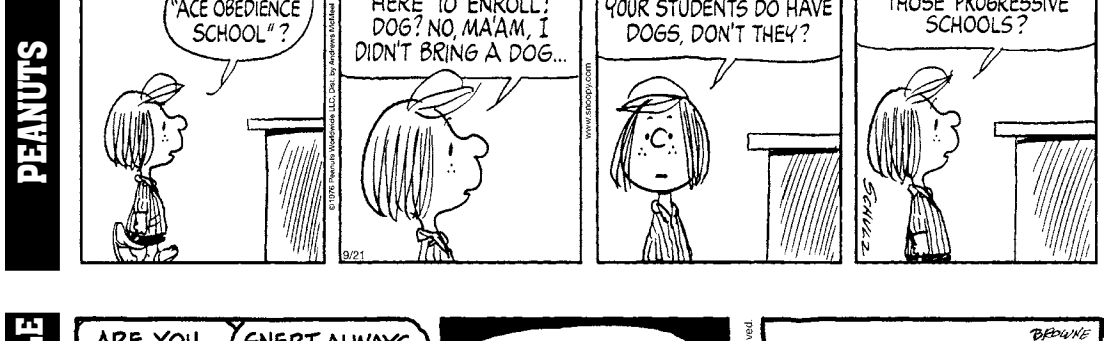
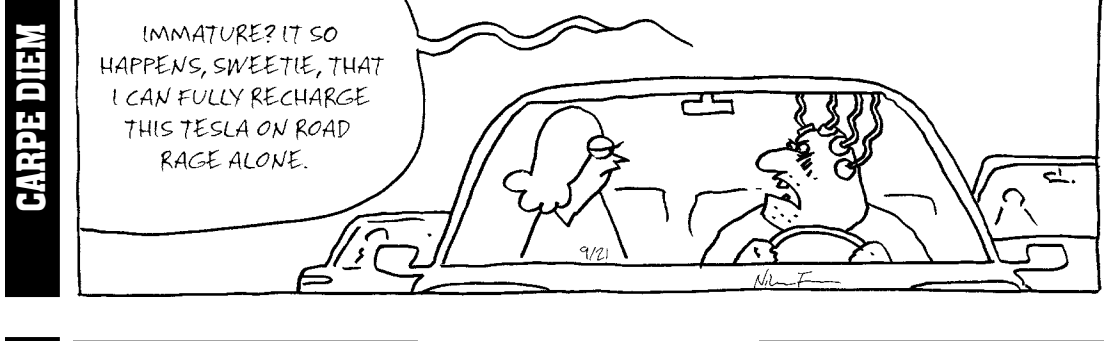
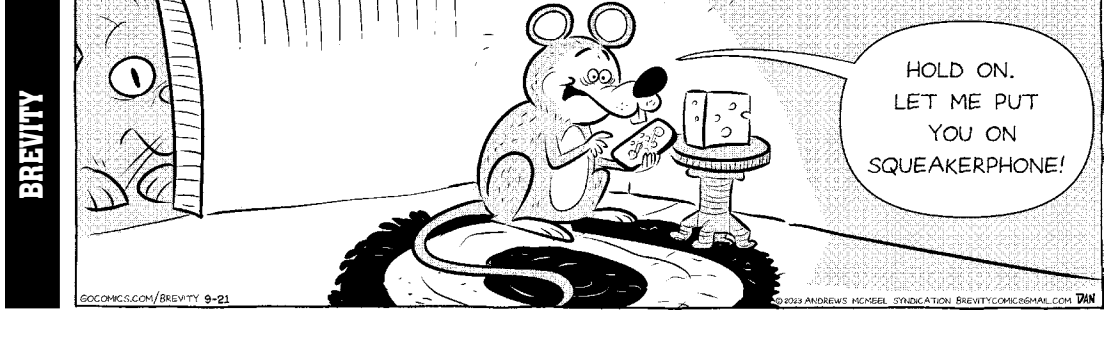
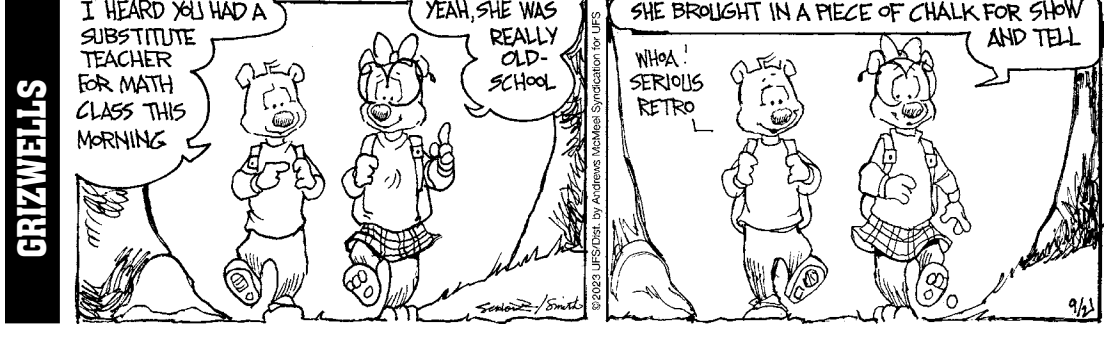
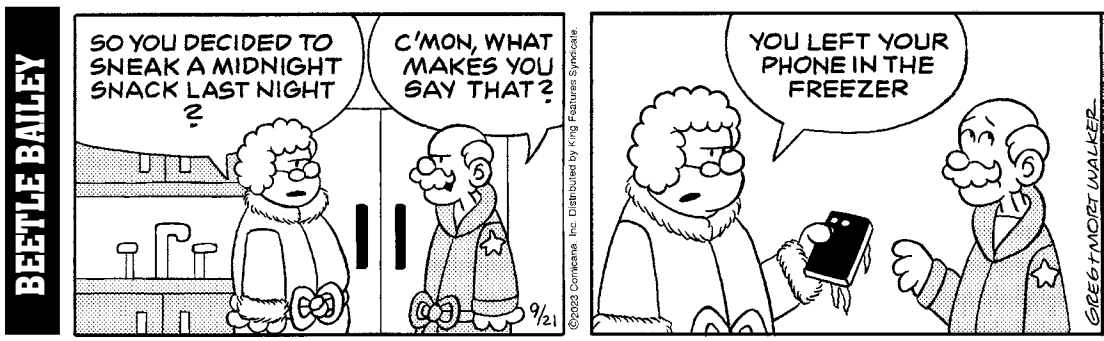
DOWN

- 1 Tranquil
2 On the ocean
3 Circular current
4 Aid
5 Greek letter
6 Bubbly beverage
7 Trick
8 "Ebony and --"
9 King of the jungle
10 Take it easy
11 Vehicle on runners
19 Condemns
21 Kind of flour
24 Achy
25 Leery
26 Imperfec
27 Party
28 Wall and Fleet (abbr.)
29 Panhandle
30 Cookout
31 Wells --
36 Unexploded bomb
37 Breakfast fare
38 "Heartbreak --"
40 Coarse file
41 Designer -- Tahari
42 Speck in the air
43 Molten rock
45 Singer -- Turner
46 Redact
49 Miles -- gallon

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with filled-in words.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-56 indicating starting points for clues.



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BID SECURITY - No Proposal shall be received unless accompanied by a Certified Check or satisfactory Bid Bond payable to the Island Mountain Development in an amount not less than 5% of the maximum Bid as a guarantee that, if the Proposal is accepted, the Bidder will execute and file the Contract, Performance/Payment Bonds and Insurance Certification, as required by the Contract Documents, within **15-days** after the Notice of Award.

PROPOSAL REJECTION - The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals, waive any informalities in Bidding or to accept the Bid or Bids which best serves the interests of the Island Mountain Development Group.

WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSAL - No Proposal shall be withdrawn for a period of **90-days** after the scheduled opening without the consent of the owner.

PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING & PROJECT WALK THROUGH - A Pre-Proposal Meeting and Project Walk Through will be held Wednesday September 13, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. local time at the Little River Trading Post. All bidders are encouraged to attend. Published in The Havre daily News September 11-October 6, 2023 MNAXLP

GARAGE SALES

Havre East

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Fri 5pm-8pm
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Havre West

Garage Sale
2584 Old Post Rd.
Fri. 10am-6pm
Sat. 8am-2pm
Exterior car care, treadmill, cds, cassettes tapes, Fisher stereo, snow fence, chain link fence, pack horse equipment, xmas lights, carpet squares, table/floor lamp, Serger sewing mach., upholstery fabric, patio furniture, accordion, copper boiler, wire pet yard, birdcage.

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FOR SALE

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2023 STATE OF MONTANA SURPLUS PROPERTY AUCTION - Helena, MT. Online bidding opens on Sept. 16 and ends on Sept. 30. Go to pateauktion.com or download the Pate Auction app to your mobile device for listing and details.

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NOTICES

Legals

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BROWN, PLLP
P.O. Box 7152
Havre, MT 59501
Telephone: (406) 265-6706
Attorneys for Personal Representative

STEPHEN R. BROWN, JR
BOSCH, KUHR, DUGDALE &
BROWN, PLLP
P.O. Box 7152
Havre, MT 59501
Telephone: (406) 265-6706
Attorneys for Co-Personal Representatives

Section 00 11 13.00
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Little River Trading Post (LRTF)
Hayes, MT
OWNER - Mission Support Services acting through its agreement, hereby gives notice that Proposals will be received for the following described project.

PROJECT - The work shall consist of construction of the addition and remodel of the existing Little River Trading post gas station/convenience store. Work will include foundations, wall structural, roof structure, interior framing, new finishes, upgraded/updated/new mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems.

This solicitation is subject to the Indian Preference procedures set forth in 24 CFR 1000.52; and, generally, the provisions of 2 CFR 200 Methods of Procurement; and the Fort Belknap Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO). The successful contractor must comply with all aspects TERO regarding compliance, certified payroll reporting and all other requirements, including payment of TERO fee in the amount of 4% of the Contract Award. This fee should be included in the contractor's Proposal amount. Contractors must obtain a business license and employee registration from the TERO Office by contacting Nancy Boushie at (406)353-8454 or nboushie@fibelknap.org.

Proposals will be received on the following Contract(s):

Contract No. M0629-06-22-00140
LITTLE RIVER TRADING POST

TIME - Proposals will be received until 2:00, local time, on **Tuesday October 6, 2023** via email. Email to Garrett MacKay, Grants Manager Controller at garrett.mackay@islandmt.com and Michelle Desjarlais at michelle.desjarlais@islandmt.com.

PROPOSALS - All Proposals shall be addressed to Island Mountain Development Group, Attn: Garrett MacKay. Proposals shall be submitted electronically to garrett.mackay@islandmt.com and rona.wing@islandmt.com. All Bidders shall propose in accordance with and upon the Proposal Forms included in the Contract Documents.

EXAMINATION OF PROJECT DOCUMENTS - The Project Documents are on file and will be issued through Mission Support Services. Contact Sara Bushie at sbushie@oescgroup.com or 920-884-3964.

MONTANA TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, HILL COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of PATRICIA BUSHONG, Deceased.

Probate No. DP-23-057

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 P.O. Box 7152, Havre, Montana, 59501, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

DATED 20th day of September, 2023.

/s/LYNDSEY BUSONG
Personal Representative.

Published in the Havre Daily News, September 21, 28, October 5, 2023 MNAXLP

MONTANA TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, HILL COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of ROGER T. GUBER, Deceased.

Probate No. DP-23-058

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Co-Personal Representatives 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 Co-Personal Representatives, return receipt requested, at P.O. Box 7152, Havre, Montana, 59501, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

DATED 20th day of September, 2023.

/s/TYSON GRUBER
Co-Personal Representative
/s/ SHERRI LARSON
Co-Personal Representative

Published in the Havre Daily News, September 21, 28, October 5, 2023 MNAXLP

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National Farm Safety & Health Week

September 17 - 23, 2023



Farm Safety Yields Real Results

Be Smart, Be Safe, and live another day.

(www.ngfa.org) Fall harvest time can be one of busiest time and most dangerous season of the year for the agriculture industry. The third week of September has been recognized as National Farm Safety and Health Week.

Whether you are an expert in farm equipment or not, just a few safety precautions to take while operating farm equipment. Machinery is one of the top causes of fatal ag injuries.

The National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) is dedicated to preventing illnesses, injuries, and deaths among farmers and ranchers, agricultural and horticultural workers, their families, and their employees.

10 Safety Tips to Remember About Farm Equipment and Their Uses

1. Read and comply with manual for each piece of equipment.
2. Follow and keep up with federal and state laws.
3. Also keep slow moving-emblem (SMV) clean, visible, and properly mounted.
4. Dress appropriately, avoid loose clothing.
5. Ensure you are well rested.
6. Avoid alcohol.
7. Maintain awareness - stay focused and be aware of what you are doing.
8. Adjust guards, shields, and access doors accordingly.
9. Keep children and animals away from working areas.
10. Farm equipment safety starts with you! Know how to properly use your equipment and keep your farm buildings safe.

Grain Bin Safety

Moving grain acts like "quicksand" and can bury and suffocate you in seconds! NEVER stand on moving/flowing grain. Always avoid entering a grain storage bin - if at all possible. If you have to enter, follow these rules:

TURN OFF and disconnect, lock out, or block-off all powered equipment, especially grain-moving equipment (like augers).

USE a body harness with an anchored lifeline or boatswain chair when entering from a level at or above stored grain, with 2 spotters.

TEST the bin's air to ensure there is enough oxygen and no toxic and/or flammable gas.

DO NOT walk on or "down" the grain to make it flow.

DO NOT enter onto or below bridged grain or when grain is built up on sides.

DO NOT enter without having rescue equipment and a rescue-trained observer stationed outside who is in constant contact with you.

CONFIRM from your employer's issued entry permit that all safety precautions are in place and it is safe to enter.

BULK MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING

Bulk grain is stored in a variety of ways once permanent storage space is full, including bunks, flat storage and emergency ground piles. The focus of this is on flat storage, since many of the practices within and around flat storage also can be applied directly to the aforementioned types of non-permanent storage.

The OSHA Grain Handling Stan-



dard [1910.272(h)] provides regulations for entry into flat storage structures:

1910.272 (h)(1): If an employee walks or stands on or in stored grain, where the depth poses a hazard of engulfment, the employee is required to be equipped with a lifeline or alternative means which, demonstrated by the employer, limits the employee from sinking further than waist-deep. [*Note to (h)(1): If the employer can demonstrate that there are no engulfment hazards (i.e. no reclaim present or natural angle of repose), the lifeline or alternative means may be disconnected or removed.]

1910.272 (h)(2) and (i): If an employee walks or stands on or in stored grain, where the depth poses a hazard of engulfment, all equipment that could pose a hazard to the employee (auger, conveyor, or other grain transportation systems) is to be deenergized, disconnected, locked-out and tagged, blocked off, or otherwise prevented from operating by other equally effective means.

1910.272(g)(1)(iv): States that "walking down grain" and/or other similar practices to assist the flow of grain is prohibited. According to 1910.272(g)(6), no employee is permitted to stand either underneath bridged grain or in any other location where accumulation of grain (cliffing) could fall and engulf an employee.

Hazards associated with Bulk Material Storage and Handling Procedures:

- Consider what equipment should be locked out, if any.
- Monitor the grain and ensure that it is not cliffed beyond the natural angle of repose, which could mean it is out of condition.
- Foot traffic from truckers, farmers or employees should be limited while mobile equipment is operating. Use of a safety work zone with a visual and physical barrier is a recommended precaution.
- During tarping procedures, special precautions should be taken as this process itself can create some additional hazards which should be discussed and planned for prior to the task.

SUGGESTED TASKS PRIOR TO AND DURING BIN ENTRY

Incidents potentially can occur when a worker stands next to or underneath bridged or cliffed grain inside of a grain bin. Therefore, as the fall harvest draws near, here are a few suggestions to prepare for a proper bin entry, if one is absolutely necessary, so as to prevent incidents such as entrapments from occurring.

If it is necessary to have employees enter a bin, silo or tank, commercial facilities are to follow the applicable practices, including the issuing of a bin entry permit, found in OSHA's grain handling facilities standard [29 CFR 1910.272(g)], which took effect in 1988, to help minimize the risk.

Once it has been determined that a certain task must be completed inside the bin, then the facility can begin the pre-task planning and permitting process.

Before the bin entry process, train employees and supervisors in the following roles and responsibilities: Entry Supervisor; Attendant; and Entrant.

Roles during bin entry process:

- Entry Supervisor:** Leads the process for the entire duration of the entry. Responsibilities include:
- Inspects the space to be entered; looks for bridged grain, grain beyond the natural angle of repose, hung up grain and anything else that may pose a physical threat to an entrant;
 - Ensures that the air monitor is calibrated and bump tested, and that the space is safe for human occupancy;
 - Leads the bin entry team through a lock out, tag out and verification process for all equipment that poses a risk of entanglement or engulfment to the entrant; and
 - Follows compliance criteria in the permit process and issues it to the approving authority.
- Attendant:** Stays in direct communication with the entrant and has access to additional assistance through the entire duration of the entry. Responsibilities include:
- Monitors the space and outside factors for any changes that could pose a hazard to the entrant and terminates the entry if unexpected hazards or abnormal conditions arise;
 - Controls entry into the space to authorized entrants only; and
 - Stays in direct communication

with the entrant, if possible within eye site.

Entrant:

Works inside the space and communicates with the attendant. Responsibilities include:

- Conducts the work needed inside the space;
- Communicates with the attendant as often as necessary;
- Wears appropriate harness and lifeline when entering bins containing grain or other commodities;
- Maintains control and use of air monitor and other tools; and
- Stays alert for changing conditions inside the space that could pose a hazard and immediately exits the space if necessary.

Remember: Entering any grain storage unit is a process that requires planning and preparation. Ensure that your bin entry program is up to date and all involved employees are trained properly to address potential hazards. Some of the key requirements are:

- Every effort should be taken to avoid entry, if possible
- Turn off and lock out all potentially hazardous energy sources.
- Never walk on or walk "down" grain to make it flow
- Never enter on or below bridged grain or hung up grain
- Test the bin's atmosphere before entry
- The attendant must remain by the entrance during the entry process
- Ensure that rescue equipment is serviceable and available
- Follow the permit and all other safety precautions



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