

Sidney Herald

FATHER Ned thanks community – 3A



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Bulletin Board

Color race

The Richland County Senior Coalition is gearing up for its second annual Color Race which will take place on Saturday.

To make things even more exciting, this year will feature the event's first "Party in the Park." The "Party" will run from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Peterson Park (next to the Shopko parking lot) with the Color Race at 10 a.m.

The "Party" is a family oriented afternoon that will help continue the fun of the Color Race while giving other area non-profits a chance to increase their presence in the community and raise funds for their organization.

There are already a number of non-profits signed up to participate with booths ranging from Bouncy Houses to Root Beer Float and Traveling Taco sales and there is still room for more!

There is no charge to sign up although each organization is asked to provide one or two volunteers to help with cleanup. Call Jodi at 406-433-3701 for more information.

Relay for Life

The Relay for Life has luminarias on sale for \$5 during the months of June and July. They are available at the Sidney Chamber and Stockman Bank.

PTSD program

The program "22 Boots" addressing PTSD in veterans is scheduled for Saturday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park in Sidney.

Church concert

Ebenezer Congregational Church will have a concert featuring Link Union June 30 at 7 p.m.

Youth theatre

The Footlights and Greasepaint Youth Theatre Retreat will present "The Baker Street Irregulars" at 6:30 p.m. July 11 at St. Matthew's. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for students and free for children ages 10 and under.

Storyteller/actress Mary Jane Bradbury is serving as guest instructor. She is sponsored by Stockman Bank of Sidney.

The Kids Corner is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sunrise Festival of the Arts July 11.



MIKE FRANCINGUES | SIDNEY HERALD

Ribbon Walk goes on despite threats of inclement weather

Father Ned Shinnick takes the Survivor Lap at Friday's Ribbon Walk, which had been delayed by a sudden wind and hail storm.

Burgers, Brews and Blues fosters MonDak music tradition

BY MICHAEL FRANCINGUES
SIDNEY HERALD

Crow Agency's The Jared Stewart Band brings rocking blues sound to stage to highlight summer event

The MonDak Heritage Center was electric Saturday night as the inaugural Burgers, Brews and Blues treated area residents to an indoor summer concert complete with all the barbecue fixin's.

"The beginning of summer is Sunday so we wanted to do something off of that, but we couldn't have a bonfire in town," said MonDak director Kim Simmonds. "So we evolved the idea into a brews and blues type thing."

The idea originated with Meadowlark owner Travis Peterson and MonDak board president Joe Bradley last year, Simmonds explained. They wanted to create an event that would bring some blues into the Heritage Center. They first discussed the idea with her last fall, and planning began in January, she said.

"We worked with them on creating this brand new event for the MonDak, and so far, everything is fantastic," Simmonds said.



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Lead singer and guitarist Jared Stewart kept the crowd entertained with rocking solos and in between songs with jokes, anecdotes and memories.

The Meadowlark was the main sponsor of the event, along with Reynolds, IGA and Wheat Montana. As the main sponsor, it provided a specialty beer for the event that Peterson and brewer Tim Schnars concocted on the fly.

"They wanted to do something special (for the event), but we didn't have enough time to do anything in the compression tank," Schnars said. "We said, 'Let's blend some beers together.' This

was a blend of Badland XPA and Black Steer's Tookus which is an oat malt stout, kind of creating a Cascadian dark black IPA."

Both Schnars and Peterson are members of the MonDak, Schnars said. They decided to help out with the event because they both want to help foster the burgeoning music scene in the area and help bring more acts to Sidney, he added.

Along with the beer, of course, were the burgers. A

burger buffet lined the wall where music fans could create their own sandwich, and included in the dinner were baked beans, pasta salad, cole slaw and watermelon. The only thing missing was a backyard!

Jared Stewart, lead singer and guitarist in The Jared Stewart Band, absolutely stunned the crowd with his guitar abilities, making the strings sing the blues for him, even when playing behind his head. Each time a song finished the crowd erupted with applause usually reserved for rock super stars. Not only did the band play a number of hits and original songs, but Stewart also kept the crowd going in between songs with comical stories and observations about his past and "res life."

"I actually found them on YouTube," Simmonds said. "We were looking for a band and we wanted them to be from Montana. I think I just looked up 'blues Montana' and listened to the first video. We said, 'We have to get these guys. They're amazing.' We were very lucky to snag them."

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Richland starts Little Free Library program

BY MICHAEL FRANCINGUES
SIDNEY HERALD

The Boys and Girls Club of Richland County celebrated the first Little Free Library in the county Monday morning outside of Central School in Sidney, where residents can stop by and grab a book for a quick read.

The Boys & Girls Club partnered with Sidney Public Schools and the Richland County Public Library to make the project happen.

Mary Hernandez, interim director, donated the kit to

'I think it's a great opportunity for us. We want to put books out in the hands of readers. This is an excellent way to do that.'

Kelly Reisig

Richland County Public Library

build the library, which was auctioned off in March. Larry and Tami Christensen, Tri-County Implement, purchased the kit, donating it back to the Boys and Girls club to be shared with the community.

"How it works is all the books are free," said Hernandez. "Anyone can leave a book with the idea that someone who is interested in reading it can take it and read it themselves or share it with their children."

"It's all because we want to encourage literacy, and many of us still like to touch books."

The take-a-book, leave-a-book Little Free Libraries are becoming a popular worldwide trend.

Readers can leave their favorite books to pass on to other readers, or stop by and find new books for them to read. The idea is each time you take a book you bring one to replace it.

"I think it's a great

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Field Days: Sawflies, Canadian thistle and drones...Oh my!

BY HUNTER SCHMITZ
SIDNEY HERALD

The 2015 Sidney Dryland Field Day was packed with a variety of subjects, ranging from talks about new software that aide in precision farming practices to presentations on research that is pertinent to the area's agri-business.

Nearly 50 participants attended the field day on Friday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Agricultural Research Services farm off of MT Highway 16. Area farmers were particularly interested in applying the research conducted on crop rotations and bailing software for their farm's use.

"I think with the crop rotations and with the improvements in technology, it could really benefit our farm," said Chester Hill, a local farmer.

Tatyana Rand and Stefan Jaronski began the talks by introducing their research on wheat stem sawflies, a common pest across the wheatfields of North America.

Rand has been conducting research on how moisture levels affect the larvae of sawflies and their predators, another type of wasp that feeds on other insects, with sawflies being their favorite meal. Rand measured moisture levels of sawfly-infested fields in Alaska, Arizona, Montana and Idaho and



HUNTER SCHMITZ | SIDNEY HERALD

A farmer watches a presentation at the Sidney Dryland Field Day Friday.

determined that too much moisture is beneficial to the pests.

Moisture is beneficial to sawflies because they spawn once during the growing sea-

son and the parasitic wasps that prey on sawflies spawn twice. If there is too much water in the sawfly habitat, then the second wave of predatory wasps will perish and the sawflies will flourish for as long as the weather permits.

Jaronski's research is focused on a fungus called Beauveria bassiana and its use as a natural insecticide for sawflies in wheat stems.

The fungus is endophytic, or inside specific wheat strains. The fungus was observed by Jaronski to be the main culprit for the pink infection that killed 100 percent of the sawfly popu-

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Deaths

Dorothy Schieffer, 92
Delmar Nesper

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Tour: Fine explains farm audits, McGinnis treats crowd to air show during Field Day

FROM PAGE 1A

lations in 47 fields in Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming and Montana. Jaronski tested the prevalence of the fungal spores and found an average of 645 spores per square inch, which meant that 100 percent of larvae became infected within five to six days.

Following the research by the two entomologists, the field-goers broke into two groups and loaded up on two flatbed trailers with benches for transporting the guests across the research farm.

The weather was beautiful and participants enjoyed the five minute tractor ride to the research plots. The first stop was a plot that had a controlled zone to research Canada thistle.

John Gaskin, research botanist at Sidney ARS, concluded the research talks on insects with his talk on how the predatory wasps released by the USDA in the 1970s are an ineffective killer of weevils.

A farmer can tell if they have a problem with weevils if they see galls, or shot holes in the plant.

"Really, there are not any more insects to attack this species...So the battle continues," said Gaskin.

Gaskin has also been researching a naturally-occurring rust called Puccinia punkdos, which has the potential to kill Canada thistle or possible deter weevils from making Canada thistle fields their temporary homes.

Upendra Sainju, Sidney ARS research soil scientist, presented charts on his ongoing research on greenhouse gas emissions from barley and pea crop rotations.

His research began in 2012 and will conclude later this year.

Brett Allen, research agronomist, talked about using cover crops to help maintain healthy nutrient



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A chem trail dissipates across the sky as a tractor transports spectators to a research site at the Sidney Dryland Field Day Friday.

levels in soil. Allen's cover crop for the Sidney farm was lentils, peas, buckwheat, German millet, safflower, purple top turnip, radish and winter canola.

Tim Fine, Montana State University extension agent, briefly spoke about the importance of auditing your farm and spoke of a new informational program for farmers who might be interested in auditing.

The last three subjects were presentations on precision farming technology.

Bryant Henningfeld, of Harvest Tec, showed the crowd a new software that could calculate relative feed value of hay by determining the moisture level of hay.

His company has developed software that can take 100 readings every three seconds. Harvest Tec had conducted readings on nearly

3800 bails.

"Moisture is a big concern, so we need to be able to manage it," Henningfeld told spectators.

A rain simulator and presentations on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles concluded the talks. The rain simulator was presented by Jamie Selting and Mark Henning, area conservationists for Richland and Custer counties. The rain simulator showed attendees the

importance of rotating your crops and using smart tilling practices to keep soil strong and ready to intake water during the summer downpours that are frequent to this area during late spring and early summer months.

Brian McGinnis, owner of Exdivio Solutions, Inc. in Sidney and UAV "hobby flyer" spoke about the vast improvements to UAV technology during the last three years.

He brought a 2013, 2014 and 2015 model of the same aircraft to show the advancement in camera and operating technology.

"In the beginning model, it could only last about eight minutes in the air. Now these latter models can do about 15 to 20 minutes and they have a boomerang mode of coming back to you if you turn off their transmitters," explained McGinnis.

The crowd was treated to an air show with one of the models hovering above the research farm as McGinnis answered curious questions from the crowd.

Roger Meyer, owner of Montana Land and Aerial Surveys in Lambert and licensed commercial operator of a UAV, spoke about the emerging field of the technology in the field of agriculture.

Meyer wooed the crowd with the capabilities of the software used by his Trimble UX5 aircraft to gather an array of information on surveying farmland.

The field day concluded with a lunch provided by the Richland County MSU extension office.

A second Dryland Field Day will be held in Froid Thursday from 1-5 p.m. with a free dinner provided. Field-goers will be able to hear about efforts of SIONICS industrial division and how they filtered fracking water to be used for further industrial uses in the oilfield.

Library: County library happy to help with book stock

FROM PAGE 1A

opportunity for us. We want to put books out in the hands of readers. This is an excellent way to do that," said Kelly Reisig, Richland County Public Library.

Although the Boys and Girls Club provided the books to fill the Little Free Library, the Public Library would be happy to help change things up, Reisig noted.

Elaine Stedman, CEO of the Boys and Girls Club, was equally as excited to get books out to the public.

"Anytime we can get a book in kids' hands and let them read, especially in the summer when we usually have brain drain, we want brain gain, and it's all about reading," she said.

Dave Steinbeisser, who built the library, said he had never heard of the tiny book sharing projects that dot the map in larger cities.

He traveled to Dickinson to see one before he began working on the one that now stands behind Central.

"I started reading up on it and it's a popular thing all over the country. They gave me the plans and I hacked

my way through it," he added with a laugh.

Although this is the first such location in the county, it will hopefully not be the last, said Michelle Seadeek, development director for Boys and Girls Club.

"We just got started, and it will hopefully be one of many," Seadeek said. "I think it's a great opportunity for kids to try out new books, who maybe can't always get somewhere to get those books or download them."

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Fatal crashes occur in Roosevelt County

BY MICHAEL FRANCINGUES
SIDNEY HERALD

Two fatal accidents in Roosevelt County this weekend left a 19-year-old and a 30-year-old dead, according to a prepared statement from Trooper Edward Hilbert.

The first accident occurred at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday on BIA Route 1 involving a single vehicle.

"A Ford F-150 pickup, was eastbound outside of Brockton, it went off the left side of the roadway, came back onto the roadway and slid sideways off the right side of the roadway and overturned numerous times," the statement said. "The passenger, a 19-year-old male from Culbertson, was ejected during the roll over and sustained mortal injuries. The 19-year-old driver, also from

Culbertson, suffered non-life threatening injuries and was taken to a local hospital. The cause of the crash and alcohol usage is still under investigation," Hilbert reported.

The second fatal crash occurred Sunday at 4:30 p.m. on Cedar Street and Wheatland Drive. A 2013 Ford F-150 was pulling a house deck to a location in Culbertson, the statement said.

The driver, a 40-year-old male from Elgin, Ariz. struck the curb, causing a 30-year-old male from Vail, Ariz., who was riding on the deck to be thrown off the deck onto the pavement, suffering mortal injuries. Alcohol use is still being investigated, according to the report.

The Roosevelt County Coroner's Office could not confirm identities of the victims to the Herald this morning.

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