



Sidney Herald

SERVING RICHLAND COUNTY AND THE SURROUNDING AREA FOR OVER 100 YEARS

WEDNESDAY

OCT. 10, 2012
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Sidney, Montana
www.sidneyherald.com
75 CENTS



Bulletin Board

Blood drive

A blood drive is scheduled in Sidney Tuesday from noon to 6 p.m. at St. Matthew's Catholic Church multi-purpose center. Make an appointment by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS. Valid identification is required for all blood donations.

Kiwanis apple delivery

People who ordered apples or pears from the Sidney Kiwanis Club, can pick their fruit at the Johnson Hardware warehouse building from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday or 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. If you haven't made an order, there still might be some apples for sale.

Happy birthdays

The Sidney Herald wishes happy birthday this week to friends Kelsey Cochran, Dale Tanner Sabo, Lynette Hoon, J.C. Youngquist, Jodi Greig, Brent Wheeler, Marie Waller, Natasha Uran, Amanda Neuleib, Linda Kindopp, Tamie Herman, Brandon Kittleson, Rica Arndt Dombrowski, Julia Haase, Zach Vigoren, Lanette Beery, Nicky Mason, Connie Cayko, Sara Petersen, Jody Franson Christensen, Carla Barone Sapp, Bill Sobolik, Merlie Hurley, Caycee Anvik, Kelley Villarreal, Ryan Sipper, Nathaniel Bergerson, Shawna Loan, Cody Hayden and Brett Emmons.

DUI task force

Richland County Injury Prevention Team and DUI Task Force will have their quarterly meeting at noon Wednesday (today) at the Community Services Building room 201; feel free to bring a lunch. The meeting is open to the public, and the agenda will cover past action steps and future actions steps that will help bring awareness to the community in prevention of unintentional injuries, seatbelt and texting awareness along with prevention of DUI crashes and deaths related to them.

Newsmaker

Hobo stew

Lonsdale United Methodist Church will have its hobo stew dinner from 4-8 p.m. Saturday. The menu includes homemade hobo stew, homemade bread and homemade pies. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$6 for children ages 4-12 and \$25 for families. You receive \$1 off if you dress as a hobo.

Deaths

Betty J. Wilson, 58

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Traffic getting safer in Fairview

BY BILL VANDER WEELE
SIDNEY HERALD

Items to slow down the traffic through the town of Fairview are getting close to becoming a reality.

Traffic lights on the corner of Sixth and Ellery, near Cenex and Loaf 'n Jug, are up but not operational.

Work is being conducted for four-way flashing lights at the intersection of highways 200 and 201.

"Everything is pretty much in place," Ray Trumpower, Fairview Chamber of Commerce, said. "I think they just have some wiring and concrete work and then they will

turn it on."

Plans are also for a cross-walk and a flashing beacon on Ellery and Western – between the school gym's parking lot and Powder Keg.

Fairview's town leaders are pleased the projects are taking shape.

"On the survey, people wanted these things a lot for the kids," council member Dan Cayko said. "In the winter time, it will give a good crossing from the east side."

Fairview Superintendent of Schools Matt Schriver is very happy about the projects because the current system isn't safe for children walking to and from school.

"The biggest thing is it will slow people down," Schriver said. "We're just asking for trouble, if we don't do something. People have to get to where they need to go."

Schriver said it's a concern when students, especially elementary students, need to cross the street to near the Powder Keg. All the large trees located at the side of the street make it a challenge for strangers in the area to realize a school is nearby.

"You may not be aware that there's a school here," Schriver said.

Another positive move are the flashing lights at the



BILL VANDER WEELE | SIDNEY HERALD

The new traffic light in downtown Fairview.

intersection of highways 200 and 201 near Sharbono Park.

"There's a lot of activity from the west with all the trucks," Cayko said. "It's go-

ing to be a little different."

Council member Regan Taylor said he never expected to see traffic lights in his hometown.



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In concert

The Eden Atwood quartet ends a number during the performance at the Sidney Middle School auditorium through the Northeastern Arts Network. The group also entertained at Octoberfest at the MonDak Heritage Center Saturday night.

BY BILL VANDER WEELE
SIDNEY HERALD

Sidney Middle School Principal Kelly Johnson discussed the "You Can't Stop What You Don't Know," program with the local Parents Café group Wednesday.

Johnson heard the presentation when she attended a Montana behavioral initiative conference held in Bozeman. The presentation was made by police officer Jermaine Galloway, whose website is www.TallCopSaysStop.com.

Johnson says the program is focused on being pro-active. It tells educators and parents what to be on the look out for on students pertaining to alcohol and drug use. The principal says she's pleased Sidney Middle School has only one suspension so far this school year.

"Being positive and pro-active is a good approach," Johnson added.

Unique containers where students might hide drugs or alcohol include tampon containers, highlighters, belts, rings with zippers, necklaces, flashlights, keychains and pop cans.

There are clothing items such as hats, shorts and shoes that have stash pockets where people can hide materials.

Johnson noted that Sidney's school policy prevents students from wearing clothes that promote alcohol or drug use. "The majority of kids are good kids, they don't want to send any messages," she said.

Knowing what initials or designs stand for is important for officials. Some examples, according to www.TallCopSaysStop.com,

include:

- SRH – The message is seen on bumper stickers, store windows and on clothing. It means Supporting Radical Habits or Stoners Reeking Havoc.
- DGK – Dirty Ghetto Kids is a very popular clothing line among teens. Much of their clothes represent drug use.
- ICP – Stands for Insane Clown Posse, a very popular music group with a pro-drug message.
- onE – Stands for on "E" or ecstasy.
- 4:20 – Stands for a time to smoke marijuana.
- Cartoon figures – Such as Captain Crunch or the Cookie Monster can be portrayed in a pro-drug message.

editor@sidneyherald.com

City council sets date for impact fee meeting

BY LOUISA BARBER
SIDNEY HERALD

The public hearing on impact fees was postponed, but comments were taken anyway prior to a separate meeting with developers.

As would ultimately be discussed the following day, the Sidney City Council heard requests last week that developers whose projects are already under way, the financing already secured, should be exempt from paying fees for water and sewer. The current proposal is a \$6,000 impact fee per occupant.

"I would just like to say I do business the same way as you do," developer Chris Storm of Pheasant Run Subdivision told Mayor Bret Smelser, saying that to have the rule change mid-game means that "I don't frankly know where I'm going to get the money."

Smelser said the city must act as if the Montana Legislature neglects giving additional funds for oil and gas-impacted communities. If there isn't a revenue stream, what does the city do, he asked.

Realtor Nick Jones questioned why the city didn't conduct incremental water and sewer fees over the years when officials knew it needed money.

The city, Smelser said, has doubled what the rate was 10 years ago; residents, he said, have been asking him who's to pay for the expansion, when they're not the ones creating the impacts.

"Understand we've had this discussion before," he said. "We were doing quite well, and with that first wave of people that came in in the early 2000s we were ahead of the game on a lot of the sewer and water complaints. It wasn't until the second wave came in probably '08, '09 started, that we really started feeling the pinch."

Raising rates from a pro-

'Somewhere along the line we have to have a revenue stream.'

Bret Smelser
Sidney mayor

posed \$30 to \$50-60 isn't "fair to the residents that want to retire here," Smelser said. "Somewhere along the line we have to have a revenue stream."

The mayor noted if the city spends all of its budget, it would end with an estimated \$3.8 million at the end of the fiscal year in June. That's down from the \$5.3 million he inherited when he took office which was bumped to \$7.5 million. "So we've blown through almost \$4 million in cash trying to be fair to everybody, and it just is not working," he said.

The council will hold another meeting Wednesday (today) at 7 p.m. before discussing it at the next council meeting Monday.

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Program teaches adults to watch for drug, alcohol promotion symbols

BY BILL VANDER WEELE
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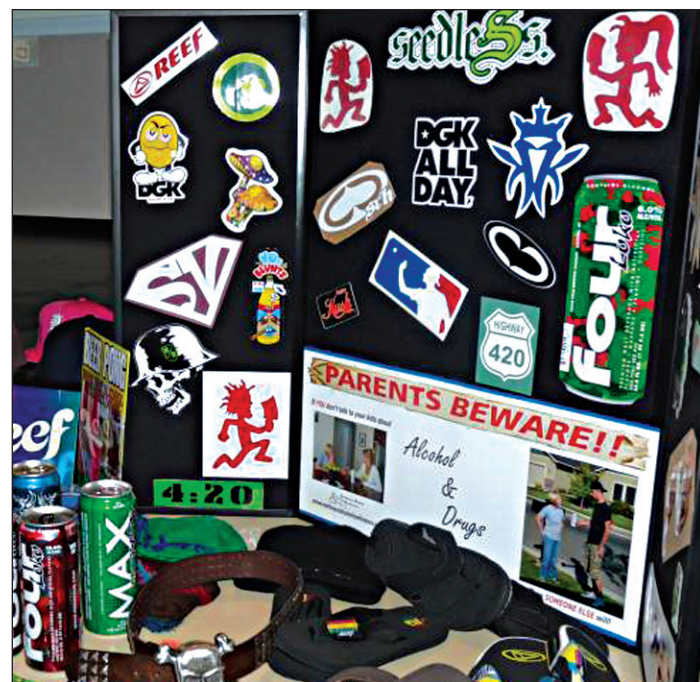
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SUBMITTED

Adults should be on the look out for these type of designs.

Call 433-2403 today to see how you can be listed.

Sidney Herald Web Directory
http://www.sidneyherald.com/web_directory

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