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Guns and Hoses streak is over, Page B1



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LEWIS AND CLARK FESTIVAL



American Legion representatives Joe Gauthier, left, and Dusty Bailey lead the 2022 Lewis and Clark Festival parade down Main Street on Saturday with an escort from the Cut Bank Police Department. Photo by Scot Heisel

Tribe breaks ground on new arbor

By John McGill
Glacier Reporter

The sun shone brightly on those gathered at the North American Indian Days campground on Thursday, July 28, near a circular area leveled and cleared by the heavy equipment parked there. Nowhere was the dance arbor used at the last Indian Days to be seen, and the construction site was fenced away from the rest of the campground.

Instead, an easel bore an architect's drawing of what is planned to be completed in time for, hopefully, the resumption of Indian Days next year.

The entire 2022-24 Blackfeet Tribal Council was present, along with Ed Kennedy and members of the construction crew who are building the new arbor.

Blackfeet Preservation Officer John Murray acted as emcee and spoke about Indian Days having begun in 1952, hatched as a way to attract business to Browning by the mostly white business establishment of the day. He also described more traditional gatherings in the same location where a center pole would be erected, with upright supports and reach poles supplied by clans living in areas surrounding the Reservation. He said different arbors were built in the 1970s, all aimed specifically at the summer powwow.

While all previous arbors had a more or less "temporary" air to them, the new facility is aimed at greater permanency as well as being useful for a variety of purposes at any time of the year.

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Sun and fun all around

2022 festival sees mostly great weather, enthusiastic attendance

By Scot Heisel
Cut Bank Pioneer Press

Clear skies and temperatures in the 80s and 90s set the stage for a lively 43rd annual Lewis and Clark Festival in Cut Bank last weekend. A few brief rain showers swept through the area from time to time, but many attendees welcomed a break from the heat.

Festivities kicked off Thursday night with the annual Guns and Hoses softball game between law enforcement officers and fire services staff at the Sports Complex. The boys in blue won the game handily to snap a losing streak of about five years, according to Cut Bank Police Chief Michael Schultz (see page B1 for more on the game). It was a tough loss for the Hoses, but they earned some redemption Saturday when the Cut Bank Fire Department took first place in this year's chili cook off.

A gaggle of parents, youngsters and pooches marched down Main Street on Friday morning during the Doll and Pet parade. As participants gathered at Stockman Bank prior to



Lyman Tailfeathers tosses a horseshoe during Friday's singles tournament. Photo by Scot Heisel



This youngster caught a ride in a Radio Flyer during the Doll and Pet Parade on Friday morning. Photo by Scot Heisel



Anthony Gladue's goldfish crosses the finish line during the adult races Saturday night at City Park. Photo by Scot Heisel

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Fair draws big crowds

By Jennifer Van Heel
Shelby Promoter

By just about every measure, the 81st 4-County Marias Fair held July 20-24 in Shelby was a resounding success.

This year featured about twice as many vendors as last year's event, and overall attendance was up as well, according to fair manager Anna Hintz.

"Everyone did very well," said Hintz said. "We had almost double the number of vendors and over 500 vouchers were used in the Kid Free Zone. Each kid only had to sign the sheet once; it was very popular this year."

One big difference, and a main contributor to the Kid Free Zone being highly popular this year, was the addition of the water bounce house. With the hot temperatures of summer arriving in time for fair, many took advantage of this free opportunity to cool off.

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The cornhole tournament Saturday afternoon at City Park drew a competitive field of participants. Photo by Scot Heisel