



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - January 17, 2025

25th Annual Cowboy Christmas



On December 14, 2024, the MSU-Northern Rodeo Booster Club hosted the 25th Annual Cowboy Christmas Fundraiser in the Armory Gym. The event celebrated the accomplishments of the Northern rodeo team and their contributions to the community. During the evening, the team presented the Outstanding Advocate of the Year Award to Matt Wertheimer.

Guests enjoyed no-host cocktails, a three-course dinner, and an exciting auction. The event typically raises around \$100,000 in gross revenue, with proceeds dedicated to scholarships, travel expenses, improving practice facilities, and growing the number of rodeo athletes at MSU-Northern.

Students Named to MSU-Northern's Fall Semester Dean's List

The Montana State University-Northern's Fall semester Dean's List contains 325 students. To be included in the Dean's List, students must carry a minimum of 12 credits and earn a grade point average of 3.25 or better. Students that received an incomplete or "F" during this semester are not included on the honor roll listing.

[Read more...](#)

MSU-Northern Secures Grant for Advanced Stroke Life Support Training



MSU-Northern's College of Health Sciences has been awarded a \$17,800 grant from Accelerate Montana to provide free Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS®) training to 40-50 healthcare professionals across Montana, with a focus on rural communities along the Hi-Line. The training will also benefit MSU-Northern students and faculty, who can receive the certification at no cost.

[Read more...](#)

MSU-Northern Nursing Graduates Achieve High NCLEX-RN Pass Rates

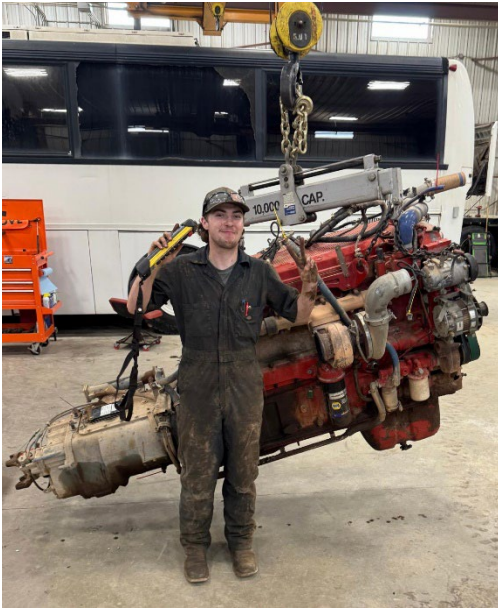


MSU-Northern's nursing program continues to excel, with graduates achieving an impressive 80% first-time NCLEX-RN pass rate in 2024 and a 100% ultimate pass rate. These results reflect the program's commitment to preparing students for success in their nursing careers.

The NCLEX-RN (National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses) is a standardized exam required for nursing licensure in the United States. Administered by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), the test assesses a candidate's readiness to provide safe and effective care as an entry-level nurse. Passing the NCLEX-RN is essential for graduates to begin their professional practice, making it a critical milestone in their nursing education.

Over the years, MSU-Northern's nursing program has consistently produced outstanding results. These achievements highlight the dedication of MSU-Northern's faculty, the rigor of its nursing program, and the hard work of its students. Graduates continue to make a positive impact in the healthcare industry, serving their communities with skill and compassion.

Student Spotlight: Rory Cozzens



Hailing from the small town of Fairview, Montana, Rory Cozzens has always felt a connection to MSU-Northern. It's where both of his parents once walked the halls, and their stories of the university planted a seed of curiosity in Rory from an early age. But his decision to attend Northern wasn't just about family legacy—it was about chasing a lifelong dream.

From as far back as he can remember, Rory wanted to be a mechanic. "I've always loved the idea of taking things apart and putting them back together, making them work better," Rory explains. With a clear goal in mind, he enrolled in Northern's Diesel

Technology program to gain the expertise needed to turn his passion into a career.

Rory's dedication to his craft extends far beyond the classroom. For the past three years, he's been working at Hurley's Oilfield Service in Fairview as a diesel mechanic. This past summer, his co-op experience there was particularly transformative.

"I got a lot of engine and transmission experience," Rory shares. "I worked on projects like installing new cams, replacing worn-out transmissions, and even swapping entire engines." But the summer wasn't just about tackling big tasks—it was about refining his approach to work.

"I learned to take my time on large projects and be more efficient," Rory explains. "I also picked up tips and tricks to make my work cleaner and more streamlined. It's amazing how much of what I've learned at Northern I was able to apply on the job, and even share with my coworkers."

For Rory, the hands-on experience from his co-op has enriched his time at Northern. "This semester, I'm in a Heat and AC class with (Associate Professor) Kevin Holzworth, and it's great to come in with some real-world experience," he says. "I worked on a lot of AC systems over the summer, but I didn't have all the knowledge to back it up. Now, I can take what I've seen in the field and connect it to what I'm learning in class. It makes the experience so much more valuable."

Every summer at Hurley's has only deepened Rory's love for mechanics. "I've fallen more in love with being a mechanic and learning new things," he says. With dreams of one day working in Oklahoma or Alaska, Rory is confident that

his combination of practical experience and education will pave the way for an exciting future.

After graduation, Rory plans to stay in Fairview for a while, saving money and gaining more experience. But he's keeping his options open. "Eventually, I want to go out on my own and see what life and different places have to offer," he says.

For Rory Cozzens, the road ahead is wide open, and he's ready to tackle whatever challenges come his way—one engine, one transmission, and one opportunity at a time.

Flags Lowered to Honor Former President Jimmy Carter



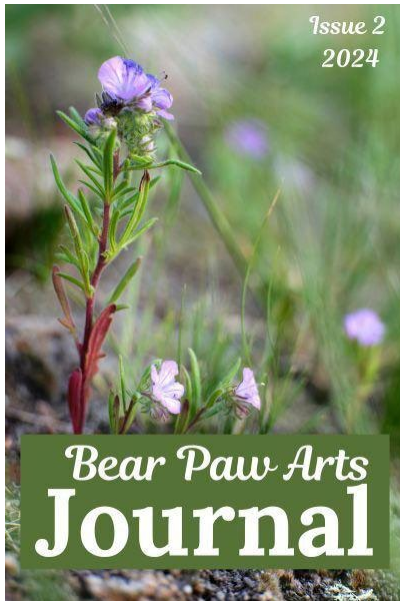
Governor Greg Gianforte has directed that all flags in Montana be flown at half-staff to honor the memory of former President Jimmy Carter. This order follows a proclamation issued by President Joe Biden. Flags will remain at half-staff for 30 days, as a mark of respect and tribute to the late president.

Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States, served from 1977 to 1981. Before his presidency, Carter was the Governor of Georgia and a U.S. Navy officer. Known for his dedication to human rights and diplomatic efforts, Carter brokered the historic Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel. After leaving office, he founded the Carter Center, a nonprofit organization

committed to advancing peace, health, and democracy worldwide. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002 for his efforts in humanitarian work.

The lowering of flags across the state is a solemn gesture to commemorate Carter's lifelong service and enduring legacy.

New Issue of Bear Paw Arts Journal Now Available



The latest issue of the Bear Paw Arts Journal has been published, showcasing the creative spirit and artistic talent of the MSU-Northern community and beyond. This edition features stunning photography by Jason Geer, which captures the beauty and essence of the Northern Montana landscape and its people. The journal also highlights the contributions of graduate student Gryphon Guyant, who served as an intern on this issue, assisting with editing, design, and publication.

The Bear Paw Arts Journal is a platform for celebrating the arts, literature, and photography that embodies the "extra-ordinary," as the landscape of the Hi-Line region does. Founded to nurture and share poetry, flash fiction, and micro memoir, the journal connects the rich

cultural heritage and artistic expression of Northern Montana to the larger world. Each issue includes submissions from a diverse range of contributors, offering a window into the lives, landscapes, and stories of the authors.

Readers are encouraged to explore the new issue and discover the unique perspectives and talents it offers.

[Click here to view the latest edition of the Bear Paw Arts Journal.](#)

Upcoming January Diversity Dates

Martin Luther King Jr. Day – January 20

Celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., this day encourages reflection on civil rights, social justice, and the ongoing fight for equality and unity in the U.S.

National Day of Racial Healing – January 21

Observed the day after Martin Luther King Jr. Day, this day promotes truth-telling, racial healing, and solidarity, inviting communities to come together in acknowledgment and understanding of racial histories and disparities.

Lunar New Year – January 29, 2025

The Lunar New Year marks the beginning of the lunar calendar and is celebrated across East and Southeast Asia. Families gather for festive meals, traditions, and cultural activities, welcoming the Year of the Snake with hopes of prosperity and good fortune.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No School Monday Jan. 20 - Martin Luther King Day

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., this day encourages reflection on civil rights, social justice, and the ongoing fight for equality and unity in the United States.

This national holiday is also celebrated as a Day of Service, inviting individuals to volunteer and improve their communities by participating in activities such as helping at a local non-profit. Service organizations and campus clubs are encouraged to share their missions, goals, and volunteer opportunities for community members to engage in. Together, let's honor Dr. King's legacy by making a difference in our communities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

4th Annual Community Involvement Fair – Jan. 21



MSUN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FAIR

Connect with volunteer & service opportunities!

Mark your calendars! The 4th Annual MSUN Community Involvement Fair will be held in the SUB Ballroom on Tuesday, January 21st, from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

This event is an excellent opportunity for student clubs and organizations to:

- Recruit new members
- Network with local non-profits and service organizations
- Explore partnerships for future community service projects

Get Involved:

If you are a student club advisor, encourage your club members to host a table at the fair. It's a chance to showcase your club's activities and connect with the wider community.

Online registration is open for:

- MSUN student clubs and organizations
- Local non-profits and service organizations

[Click here to register...](#)

Oral History of the Chippewa Cree – Jan. 23

Join us on Thursday, January 23, as Alvin Windyboy, a Chippewa Cree tribal historian, rancher, and former Tribal Leader, speaks to Dr. Grant Olson's Intro to Humanities class.

Alvin will share oral histories from his culture and provide valuable insights into the tradition and significance of oral storytelling within the Chippewa Cree community.

The event will take place at 10:00 AM in the Office of Diversity, Room 308, Cowan Hall. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from an esteemed cultural historian!



We Love Northern Ball – Jan. 25

Join us on Saturday, January 25, 2025, for an evening filled with fun, community, and support for a great cause. The We Love Northern Ball is a cherished tradition supporting student scholarships at MSU-Northern, and we'd love for you to be part of it.

This year's theme is “Boots and Pearls,” so feel free to dress up or dress down—whatever makes you comfortable. We just want you to come and enjoy yourself!

The evening begins with cocktails at 6:00 PM, followed by a delicious three-course dinner at 7:00 PM, and dancing at 8:30 PM. Throughout the night, you'll enjoy live music, thrilling raffles, and both silent and live auctions.

Tickets are \$100 per person, \$900 for a table of eight, and \$1,000 for VIP tables. Your participation helps us continue the tradition of supporting MSU-Northern students and their education.

Reserve your spot today and join us for a night to remember!

[Click here for Tickets...](#)



YOGA – Jan. 28 - May 6th

MSU-Northern is hosting a series of yoga classes for faculty and staff this semester. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings, from 5:15 pm to 6:00 pm, in Donaldson Hall and will begin on January 28th. They are free of charge and no prior yoga experience is necessary. (All are invited to join!) Please RSVP at beth.durodoye@msun.edu before classes begin if you can, but drop-ins are welcome as well.

NEXT WEEK

Monday, January 20

Holiday ~ Martin Luther King Day ~ No Classes, Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 21

Last day to Add *AND* to Drop classes without receiving a "W" grade
MSUN Community Involvement Fair - 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Thursday, January 23

Skylights Basketball @ Montana Tech - 5:00 PM
Lights Basketball @ Montana Tech - 7:00 PM

Friday, January 24

Lights Wrestling @ Missouri Valley Invitational - 11:00 AM

Saturday, January 25

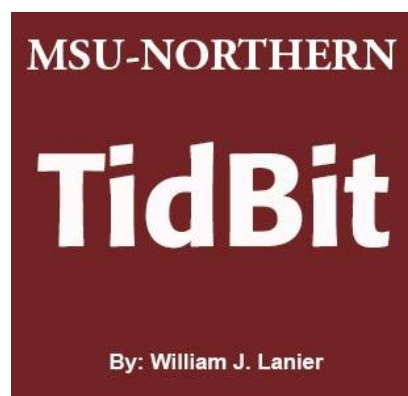
Lights Wrestling @ Missouri Valley Invitational - 10:00 AM
Skylights Basketball @ Montana Western - 2:00 PM
Lights Basketball @ Montana Western - 4:00 PM
We Love Northern Ball - 6:00 PM

Tuesday, January 28

YOGA – 5:15 – 6:00 PM

Thursday, January 30

Skylights Basketball @ Rocky Mountain College - 5:00 PM
Lights Basketball @ Rocky Mountain College - 7:00 PM



(#426) The Original “We Love NMC Ball”

With the 2025 “We Love Northern Ball” coming up next week (get your tickets now), I thought I would go back and check out the first one that was held 38 years ago. The very first “We Love NMC Ball” was held on Valentine’s Day in 1987. The ball was organized by the Soroptimist International of Havre with the help of various community organizations, campus organizations, faculty, staff and students. The January 21st, 1987 Havre Daily News stated that Sharon Caven was the chair of the “We Love NMC Ball”.

In a letter to the Editor in the January 23rd, 1987 Havre Daily News, Roger Barber and Mary Van Buskirk stated that the purpose of the ball was two-fold, one to show support for Northern Montana College in a “very visible way” and second to raise funds for student scholarships. See the article below. Lynda Patrick-Hayes was quoted in the February 13, 1987 issue of the Havre Daily News “...the tickets were priced at \$25.00 and that the 250 tickets were sold out.” Lynda was the Executive Vice-president of the Havre Chamber of Commerce.

In case you were wondering, the first “We Love NMC Ball” raised about \$6,000.00 dollars (per Lynda Patrick-Hayes in the February 18, 1987 Havre Daily News). In 2025 that \$6,000.00 would equate to about \$16,600.00! The 2024 “We Love Northern Ball” raised right around \$28,000.00!



Here is a picture from the 1987 Northerner of the campus club, Delta Alpha Theta (D.A.T.). Delta Alpha Theta members are shown gearing up to serve wine at the first “We Love NMC Ball” in 1987.

To all who have supported the “We Love Northern Ball” in previous years, thank you. You still have time to get tickets for this year’s Ball if you act quickly! Please contact the Northern Foundation at 406-265-3770.

Please continue to check back for more NNN TidBits! If you see anything that you would like me to highlight, please send it to me at wjlanier1963@yahoo.com

Letters to the Editor

Rally for NMC

Dear Editor:
Many of the service organizations in Havre are sponsoring a major fund-raiser and rally for Northern Montana College on Valentine's Day. The festivities include a prime rib dinner and an old-fashioned dance, with lots of extras planned to make the evening unique.
The purpose of the event is twofold:

1) Many people in the community felt that something needed to be done to show support for the college, and a celebration seemed to be the answer. Northern Montana College is a major employer and economic force along the Hi-Line, and its loss or diminishment would have enormous repercussions. Despite the recent decisions by the Board of Regents, which could have been much more sweeping, the college is not home free. The Legislature will

have to make some difficult choices in future weeks, and unless the community gets behind Northern Montana College, it could be hurt. Attendance at the “We Love NMC” Ball is a very visible way for everyone to show support for the institution.
2) Proceeds from the event will be used to set up scholarships at the college. The reality is that numbers count. The state funding formula is based on the number of students

enrolled at any institution. One way to insure enrollments is to have scholarship money available to bring students to the campus. Part of the ticket price will go to that fund; and if more tickets are sold, even more money can go to the scholarship fund. You will also have the opportunity to spend more money at the dinner and dance itself...by checking your coat, buying a corsage for your date, or craving a sumptuous dessert. Spending money

is another way to support the college.
The event is scheduled for Saturday, February 14, at 7 p.m. on the Northern Montana College campus. Tickets cost \$25 a person. If you already have plans for that weekend, don't shrug your shoulders and say sorry. You can still buy a ticket and then not attend. Your money will still go into the scholarship fund.
We urge you to buy your tickets right away, because the sponsoring

organizations need a head count soon for planning purposes. Just call the Havre Chamber of Commerce, 265-4383, for reservations. And if you don't like the idea, the Northern Montana College Foundation is always glad to take contributions any time and for any amount for scholarships.
Roger Barber
Mary Van Buskirk

Visit our website

Montana State University-Northern | 406-265-3700 | www.msun.edu

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