



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - December 6, 2024

Christmas Tree Lighting Starts Holiday Season



On Tuesday, (Dec. 3), Northern kicked off the holiday season with its annual Christmas Tree lighting event in the main entryway of Cowan Hall. Rebecca Farr, Director of HR, won the opportunity to flip the special switch and turn on the Christmas tree lights. Refreshments and cookies were served. We'd like to extend a special thank you to the Admissions department for decorating the tree.

Bingo Night Delivered Big Prizes



ASMSUN Activities and Events sponsored the 2nd Annual Student BINGO night on Wednesday December 4th in the SUB Ballroom. There were over 180 students in attendance who battled in the game of chance – 13 rounds with almost \$5000 in prizes. There were 4 tiers of prizes, and the winners were as follows:

Tier 1 –

- \$100 MSUN Books & Beans Gift Card – Harlee Burns
- \$100 Chamber Gift Certificate – Hunter Velk
- \$100 Chamber Gift Certificate – Crawford Terry
- \$100 Walmart Gift Card – Cael White

Tier 2 –

- Apple AirPods – (2-way tie) Katelynn Forner & Jesus Raygoza
- 4K UHD LED Smart TV – Mason Kinsella
- Customized shoes painted by AP Createz – Jordan Ketcham

Tier 3 –

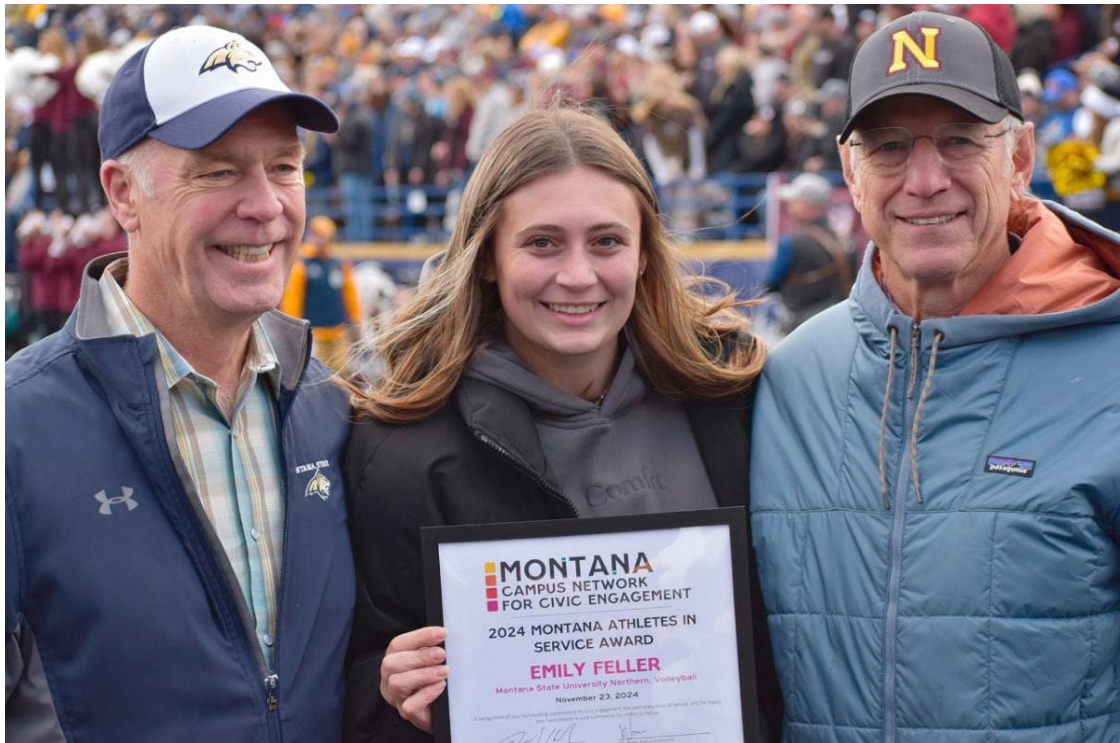
- Apple iPad w/ case and keyboard – Carter Marquardt
- Apartment/Residence Hall Room package – (3-way tie & the students split the package) Microwave/Air Fryer- Donte Otsaka, Refrigerator – Joram Randolph, & Keurig – Mathew Stawinski
- Portable Heater/AC Unit – Mckenzie Long

Tier 4 -

- XBOX 1 Series X w/ extra controller – Andrew Kipp
- PlayStation 5 Disc Console Slim – Payton Kinvin

And the grand prize, an Apple MacBook Air Laptop was won by Dalton Koosman.

Emily Feller Received Montana Athletes in Service Award for Northern



MSU-Northern Chancellor Greg Kegel and Montana Governor Greg Gianforte presented The Montana Athletes in Service Award (MAIS) to Emily Feller during the half-time of the Brawl of the Wild football game between the University of Montana and Montana State University. The award is presented every year by the Montana Campus Network for Civic engagement. It honors one college athlete from each of the Montana schools who has made significant contributions to their communities through volunteer service.

Emily Feller has been deeply involved in community service throughout her time as a student-athlete at MSU-Northern. She has contributed to several local initiatives, including participating in the Adopt-a-Highway cleanup program and organizing the Halloween Trunk or Treat event for youth in Havre through her involvement in the Association of Student Athletes. Additionally, Emily has volunteered at TekNoXpo, an event that showcases technical programs on campus to over 400 high school students each year. She has also dedicated time on Fridays at 5th Avenue Christian Church, where she assisted with projects and engaged with kids in the mornings, taking advantage of Havre's four-day school week.

Karaoke and Game Night Highlights Community Center's Offerings



As the final project for Barb Zuck's Business Management class, students Aiden Perkins and Becky Melcher organized a karaoke and game night at the campus Community Center. The event aimed to raise awareness for the center and its programs while providing a fun way for students to relax before finals week. Attendees enjoyed singing their favorite Christmas tunes, participating in games, and indulging in snacks and drinks. The event attracted a large turnout, creating a joyful and festive atmosphere that allowed the community to unwind and celebrate the holiday spirit together. Aiden and Becky want to extend a thank you to Barb Zuck for the hands-on opportunity to learn how to plan, promote, and run an event.

Chi Alpha Helps Children Around the World



One of the highlights of the school year for the MSU-Northern Chi Alpha club is the packing of shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Members pack a shoebox full of toys that are sent to underprivileged children in countries around the world. These boxes are gathered at the Community Alliance church in Havre and transported to the Montana processing center in Billings, where they are gathered and sent to more than 100 countries. Last year, Samaritan's Purse, the organization behind Operation Christmas Child, distributed 11.3 million boxes. For many children, these gifts may be the only Christmas presents they receive.

Winter Chair Helps Keep Campus Safe



How can a single chair help to keep students, staff and faculty safe? A chair that was recently placed by the doors on the East entrance of Cowan Hall is designed to provide a place for people to sit and more easily don their rubber shoe spikes, winter traction devices, or snow pants. So, if you're looking for a place to sit and gear up for the cold, check out this newly placed chair!

Alumni Spotlight – Wylie Novak

Wylie Novak always had an inkling that he wanted to pursue law, but his journey to becoming an attorney was anything but ordinary. Born in Helena and raised in Cut Bank, Montana, Wylie's path began with a football scholarship at Montana State University-Northern in 2017. Drawn by the tight-knit community and the opportunities the small campus offered, Wylie found Northern to be the ideal place to explore his passions and discover his purpose.



Initially unsure of his academic direction, Wylie's decision to major in Criminal Justice came after a pivotal conversation with Northern faculty. Encouraged to explore the program, he found a supportive environment that allowed him to build a foundational understanding of the legal system. "I liked Dr. Bieger's program," Wylie recalls. "It gave me a base-level understanding of criminal justice and, more importantly, taught me how to write effectively—a skill that has been invaluable in law school and now in my career."

Beyond the classroom, Wylie honed his writing skills as a tutor for three years. Starting at the Little River Institute and later moving to Student Support Services, he guided fellow students in criminal justice and writing assignments. "Helping random kids I didn't know taught me valuable people skills," he says, a quality that he finds critical in his work as an attorney.

[Read more...](#)

Students Enjoy Live Action Clue Game



A live action game of Clue was recently hosted by the MSU-Northern Chi Alpha and D&D clubs. Students received maps and backstories of the characters as they went on their quest to various locations around campus, gathering clues and determining who, where, and with what weapon the fictional crime was committed.

Characters were played by staff and faculty: Taryn Wallon as Mrs. Peacock, Aaron Riffin as Professor Plum, Casey Donovan as Rev. Green, Carmen Lunak as Mrs. White, Valerie Guyant as Miss Scarlet, and Spike Magelssen as Colonel Mustard. Students Joe Fleming and Elliot Paz emerged as the ultimate winners, selecting a John Wick movie marathon basket as their prize, alongside a \$50 Havre Chamber of Commerce gift certificate.

The event was a big success, with roughly 25 students participating in the fictitious murder mystery. After the main event, additional names were drawn for bonus prizes. Three participants won board games paired with \$25 Havre Chamber of Commerce gift certificates: Jason Rice, Laurissa Herbert, and Luke Kinna.

This event was a collaborative effort between Chi Alpha and the D&D Club, with Chi Alpha taking the lead on planning and setup. Looking ahead, both groups are excited to partner again next semester for a Live Action Chess

game. Based on this year's success, they hope to make Live Action Clue an annual tradition!

MAT's Production of *The Sound of Music* Opens Tonight



Montana Actors Theatre is pleased to present Rodgers & Hammerstein most beloved musical. Featuring a host of cherished songs, including "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "My Favorite Things," "Do-Re-Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" and the title number, *The Sound of Music* won the hearts of audiences worldwide, earning five Tony Awards and five Oscars. The inspirational story, based on the memoir of Maria Augusta Trapp, follows an ebullient postulate who serves as governess to the seven children of the imperious Captain von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of Nazism take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire von Trapp family must make a moral decision. Seating is limited so get your tickets early.

[Click here for tickets](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Click here to download the Final Exam Schedule](#)

Library Extended Hours for December 2nd-8th

Monday-Thursday 8:00 AM-10:00 PM

Friday 8:00 AM-6:00 PM

Saturday 12:00 PM-5:00 PM

Sunday 12:00 PM-5:00 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

D&D One-Shot Adventure at the Library – Dec. 8

Calling all adventurers! The University D&D Club invites you to dive into a thrilling Dungeons & Dragons One-Shot at the Vande Bogart Library on Dec. 8 from 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM. This event is perfect for both seasoned heroes and newcomers eager to embark on their first quest. Step into a world of magic, mystery, and monsters as you join fellow players for an epic, self-contained adventure. Characters, dice, and everything else you need will be provided—just bring your imagination and a sense of adventure! No experience necessary—our Dungeon Masters will guide you every step of the way. Whether you're looking to save a village, uncover ancient secrets, or face down a fearsome dragon, there's a quest waiting for you. Don't miss out on the chance to become the hero you were always meant to be. Grab your friends or come solo and make new ones. Let the adventure begin!

Second Annual Casino Night – Feb. 26

The MSUN Student Engagement Committee (SEC) is again partnering with ASMSUN Activities and Events to host the 2nd Annual Casino Night next semester, Wednesday February 26th in the SUB Ballroom. A popular event last year for both students and the faculty, staff and alumni volunteers, ASMSUN plans to award another \$5000 in prizes. Current students will be given chips to play their luck at various games. At the end of the night, they can "cash out" their chips for tickets that they can place into various buckets for prize drawings. The more tickets they win, the higher their chances for winning the prize! If you are interested in volunteering at the event, contact the SEC Co-Chairs, Amber.Spring@msun.edu or Taryn.Wallon@msun.edu

NEXT WEEK

Friday, December 6

- Lights Wrestling @ Argos Duals
- Lights Basketball vs University of Jamestown - 7:00 PM
- MAT Presents: The Sound of Music - 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 7

- Lights Wrestling @ Battle of the Rockies
- Skylights Basketball vs Saint Mary's - 1:00 PM
- Holiday Harp Music with Barbara Zuck - 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- MAT Matinee: The Sound of Music - 2:00 PM
- Lights Basketball vs Saint Mary's - 7:00 PM
- MAT Presents: The Sound of Music - 7:30 PM

Sunday, December 8

- D&D One-Shot Adventure at the Library - 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Monday, December 9

- Fall Semester Finals Week - All Day

Tuesday, December 10

- Fall Semester Finals Week - All Day

Wednesday, December 11

- Fall Semester Finals Week - All Day

Thursday, December 12

- Fall Semester Finals Week - All Day

Friday, December 13

- MAT Presents: The Sound of Music - 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 14, 2024

- MAT Matinee: The Sound of Music - 2:00 PM
 - MAT Presents: The Sound of Music - 7:30 PM
 - Cowboy Christmas – Armory Gym – 5 PM
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MSU-NORTHERN

TidBit

By: William J. Lanier

(#425) Alumni Spotlight – Kari McKay

Two weeks ago, Northern Alumnus, Kari McKay was named the Montana Assistant Principal of the Year for the 2024-25 school year. Kari has worked in the Browning school district for 25 years, the last 10 years as an Assistant Principal.

In a Facebook post Kari stated “I’ve worked for the schools since 1999 and have had so many wonderful, amazing students throughout the 25 years who’ve boosted me up into the person/educator I am today. This is my 10th year as an AP and I love my job, I love all of my school kids and the staff that I have the privilege to work with! I knew about the nomination but never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be adding this achievement to my resume. There are 400ish school districts in Montana and 527 principals and assistant principals (according to OPI); I felt there was no way I could win...”

Kari also stated “I love Browning, I’m proud of who I am and where I come from!

Congratulations Kari, You make Northern proud!

This is the last NNN tidbit for 2024! I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Please be safe and see you in 2025!



If you have an idea for the NNN TidBit, send me an e-mail at wjlanier1963@yahoo.com

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

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MSU-Northern | 300 13th Street West | Havre, MT 59501 US