



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - January 31, 2025

We Love Northern Ball Returns to the SUB Ballroom



The We Love Northern Ball was held on Saturday, January 25, 2025, bringing together 180 guests for an intimate evening of fun and community. Returning to the SUB Ballroom, the cherished event raised support for MSU-Northern student scholarships.

This year's theme, "Boots and Pearls," encouraged attendees to dress up or down, creating a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Guests enjoyed dancing

to live music from the local band Plowed Under, making it a memorable night for all involved.

“Thanks to the generosity of donors and the participation of all those involved, the MSU Foundation successfully met its fundraising goal for scholarships. The Foundation extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this year's event. Your support makes a meaningful difference in the lives of MSU-Northern students,” said Melanie Skoyen, Managing Director of the Northern Alumni Foundation.

Annual Community Involvement Fair

Last week, on Jan 21st, MSU-Northern students had the opportunity to attend the 4th Annual MSUN Community Involvement Fair, which was held in the SUB Ballroom.

This event is an excellent opportunity for student clubs and organizations to recruit new members, network with local non-profits and service organizations, and explore partnerships for future community service projects.

Amanda Hagerty Receives Civic Engagement Scholarship

The Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement (MCNCE) announced Amanda Hagerty as one of eight students to receive the 2024-25 George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship. This scholarship recognizes outstanding college students across Montana who demonstrate exemplary civic leadership and a commitment to fostering positive change in their communities.

The George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship was established to honor former University of Montana President Dennison's legacy and commitment to student leadership. Each recipient receives a \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarship is awarded annually to students across Montana who exhibit outstanding contributions to civic life and community while maintaining their studies.



MSU-Northern Hosts Havre Chamber Annual Meeting



The Havre Chamber of Commerce held their annual meeting last Wednesday (Jan 22), in the MSU-Northern’s SUB Ballroom. This year Shane Etwiler with Northwestern Energy was their keynote speaker.

“Going into 2025 we’ve refocused our energy into events and tasks that align the most with the Chamber’s purpose. We are looking for new ways to become more efficient and have better participation and bring our community together to have successful interactions with businesses,” said Havre Chamber President Courtney Helmers.

The Chamber also announced that Havre added around 15 new businesses as members during the 2024 calendar year, and that they’ve sold over \$400,000 in gift certificates, also called “Chamber Bucks”.

Gain Experience & Earn Credit with a Co-op Internship!

A Co-op Internship lets you work in your field, earn credits toward your degree, and get paid! Some majors require it, while others offer it as an option—check with your advisor to see what applies to you.

Why Do a Co-op?

- Earn college credit & a paycheck
- Explore careers in your field
- Build your resume & job skills
- Increase job opportunities after graduation
- Gain real-world experience

How to Get Started

Find your own job or get help from the Career Center! The registration process is quick and done electronically through an online platform called Handshake. Stop by Cowan Hall 213 and talk to Jen Henderson or Josh Gomez to learn more!

[Click here to log into Handshake...](#)

Oral History of the Chippewa Cree

On Thursday, (Jan. 23), Alvin Windyboy, a Chippewa Cree tribal historian, rancher, and former Tribal Leader, spoke to Dr. Grant Olson's Intro to Humanities class. Alvin shared oral histories from his culture and provided valuable insights into the tradition and significance of oral storytelling within the Chippewa Cree community.

Alumni Spotlight: Leanne Hanson

Sometimes, a single campus visit can shape the course of a career. For Leanne Hanson, touring Northern's nursing facilities as a prospective student proved to be just such a moment. The hands-on learning environment and personal attention she experienced that day would ultimately guide her path to becoming a healthcare leader in Montana.

"I was impressed by how hands-on the staff was with the students in their learning," Hanson recalls. "The smaller class sizes allowed me to learn in an environment similar to what I was familiar with." This supportive atmosphere would become the foundation of her nursing education at Northern.

Hanson's academic journey progressed steadily, earning her Associate of Science in Nursing in 2017, followed by a Bachelor of Science in Nursing with a minor in psychology in 2018. Throughout her time at Northern, she found herself surrounded by mentors who went above and beyond to ensure student success.

Among these mentors, two names stand out particularly in Hanson's memory: Valerie Hickman and Belinda Potter from the Northern library. "They were incredibly encouraging and provided valuable support, both academically and personally," she shared. "They helped me transition back into school and were



great resources for anything school-related and beyond. I truly couldn't have done it without them!"

Today, Hanson serves as the Emergency Room and Trauma Coordinator at Fort Belknap, approaching her eighth year as a Registered Nurse. Her commitment to advancing healthcare in Montana continues to grow – she has earned her SANE certification and is now just one year away from completing her Nurse Practitioner Doctorate in Psychiatric Mental Health through MSU-Bozeman.

When asked what she would tell prospective students about Northern, Hanson's enthusiasm is evident. "Tour the campus—you'll feel at home and realize that while Northern may be a small school in a small community, its facilities and resources offer so much more than most people realize!" she says. "The technology and advancements available are on par with those at larger campuses, all while maintaining that small-town, close-knit atmosphere."

Hanson's journey from Northern student to healthcare leader exemplifies the power of combining advanced education with personal attention. Her success demonstrates how Northern's unique learning environment prepares graduates to make meaningful contributions to healthcare in Montana's communities, one patient at a time.

Faculty Spotlight: Duke, MSU-Northern's Therapy Dog



At the College of Health Sciences, one faculty member stands out—not for his research, but for his wagging tail and boundless affection. Meet **Duke**, the beloved therapy dog of MSU-Northern’s Nursing Department, who has been providing unconditional support to students since August 2021.

Duke’s role is to help nursing students manage the stress that comes with their rigorous training. With his calming presence, he reminds students that even in the most demanding moments, they are not alone. Whether it’s a comforting nuzzle during office hours or a friendly wag as students navigate their coursework, Duke makes a difference every day.



MSU-Northern Faculty and Staff Yoga Series Kicks Off

MSU-Northern has officially launched its semester-long yoga series for faculty and staff! The free classes, held every Tuesday evening from 5:15 pm to 6:00 pm in Donaldson Hall, began this week on January 28th, and will continue through May 6th.

No prior yoga experience is needed, and it's not too late to join. As a bonus, participants who attend the entire series will receive a branded MSU-Northern yoga mat. This class is a great way to de-stress and connect—don't miss out!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Black History Month Film Series - Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25

Throughout February the MSU-Northern Vande Bogart Library is celebrating Black History through cinema. Attend film screenings on Tuesday each week at 3PM near the Northern Brew coffee shop on the library’s main level. Drop by

and stay as little or as long as you like! To watch on your own, all films can be found on Kanopy through the library's A-Z databases.

- Feb. 4 - *Outta the Muck*
- Feb. 11 - *Mary Lou Williams: The Lady Who Swings the Band*
- Feb. 18 - *Uppity: The Willy T. Ribbs Story*
- Feb. 25 - *The Black Emperor of Broadway*

HILL COUNTRY REVUE TOO – Feb. 7, 8, 14,15

Get ready for a knee-slappin', heartwarming, and downright hilarious variety show celebrating local events, hometown heroes, and the quirks that make our community special! Hill Country Revue is written and performed by the very actors who bring it to life, ensuring a fresh, homegrown experience every time.

Our second annual Revue blends new comedy skits, unique musical performances, and updated stories from and about the folks who make the Hi-line tick. From local radio shows to small-town legends to Hi-line "history," we showcase it all with a mix of down-to-earth humor, toe-tappin' tunes, and heartfelt moments. Shows start at 7:30pm

[For Tickets...](#)

Spring 2025 Career Fair – Feb. 19

The Career Center reminds students and alumni to attend the Spring 2025 Career Fair on Thursday, February 19. Stop by the Gym between 9 am - 12 noon to network with potential employers, learn about job opportunities and share your resume. Forty-eight companies have registered to attend. Many of these companies have traveled a long way to be here in Havre and they are eager to visit with students. Attendees are encouraged to take the time to stop by each table.

2nd Annual Casino Night – Feb 27

SUB, doors open @ 6:30 pm, tables open 7-9 pm (Texas Hold 'em, Roulette, Black Jack, Poker, etc.) Live music by Velvet Skyline from 8-10pm in the Lights Lounge w/ Vegas themed mocktail bar & snacks! ASMSUN has sponsored \$5000 in prizes. Must be a CURRENT MSUN student & show ID.

NEXT WEEK

Friday, January 31

- Scholarship Applications Due
- Havre HS Hockey vs Helena Big Horns – Havre Ice Dome 8:00 PM
- Open Skate, Havre Ice Dome, 6:45-7:45pm (FREE w/ current MSUN student ID)

Saturday, February 1

- Ski Free @ Bear Paw Ski Bowl (w/ current MSUN student ID)
- Spring Deferred Payment Schedule: 25% Due
- Lights Wrestling @ Tyler Plummer Classic
- First Lutheran Church Annual Swedish Meatball & Norwegian Lutefisk Dinner, 303 6th Ave. 12-5pm, Adults \$25, Under 14 \$8
- Skylights Basketball vs University of Providence - 2:00 PM
- Lights Basketball vs University of Providence - 4:00 PM
- Havre HS Hockey vs Helena Big Horns – Havre Ice Dome 8:00 PM

Tuesday, February 2

- IOC, SUB Fireside Room, 6:30pm
- CAR MAINTENANCE w/ RA Dalton, MacKenzie Hall, 7pm

Wednesday, February 5

- No Bake Cookies - w/ RA Caedon, MacKenzie Hall, 6pm
- Board Game Night - MSUN Vande Bogart Library, 6pm

Friday, February 7

- HILL COUNTRY REVUE, TOO Variety Show, MSUN Theatre - 7:30pm

Saturday, February 8

- BB vs MONTANA TECH, Armory Gym, LIGHTS@12pm, SKYLIGHTS@2pm
- LIGHTS WRESTLING vs EMBRY-RIDDLE, Armory Gym, 7pm
- HILL COUNTRY REVUE, TOO Variety Show, MSUN Theatre - 7:30pm

Sunday, February 9

- SUPER BOWL PARTY, Morgan Hall, 11am
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MSU-NORTHERN

TidBit

By: William J. Lanier

(#427) Montana Boy Scouts of America thanks MSU-Northern

On January 18th, MSU-Northern hosted the 2025 Hi-Line District 13th Annual BSA Merit Badge College. This is where Scouts BSA youth take classes and earn/work on a variety of merit badges. For the sixth consecutive year, this event has been on the MSU-Northern campus. More than 50 scouts and 20 leaders from Great Falls, Gildford, Big Sandy, Chester and Havre attended this year's merit badge college. The Hi-Line District Merit Badge College is currently the longest continuous running Merit Badge College in the state of Montana. Other merit badge colleges held in Montana are held at MSU-Great Falls, MSU-Billings, Carroll College and University of Montana. Over the past six years, approximately 390 Scouts, Leaders and Parents from around Montana have attended the Merit Badge College on the Northern campus.



I would like to thank the following for having taught and/or assisted with this year's Merit Badge College; Jason Tanner (Welding), Dean Steven Don (Farm Maintenance), Dr. Jack Bieger (Crime Prevention & Law), Dr. Gary Succaw (Chemistry), Jeremy Siemens (Space Exploration), Trish Vigil (Communication), Paul Nugent (Fingerprinting) and Jody Corner (Safety). We also had a special guest visit from Vice Chancellor Dr. Jennifer Brown who welcomed everyone to MSU-Northern.

I also would like to thank the following: Tammy Boles (Student Activities), Eva Stokes (Facility Services), Dan Ulmen (Facility Services), the MSU-Northern Facility Services Custodians, Sue Solomon, Jim Potter and Dan Hair. Without all these people this event would not have been nearly as successful. Also, a special thank you to Northern Alumni, Mike Carney for teaching the Scoutmaster Training session and Northern Alumni Jennifer Thompson (Graphic Design by JT) who designed the patch that was given to all those who attended and assisted with the event.

The scouts, volunteers, parents and leaders look forward to continuing and expanding this partnership with Northern in the future. Again, thank you MSU-Northern!

Visit our website

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

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