



**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
NORTHERN**

## Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - March 31, 2023

### TOPP Program Impacts Educators



Students, teachers, and administrators discuss the impact the Teachers of Promise Pathways (TOPP) is having in the lives of their students. MSU-Northern and Great Falls College MSU have been working together to encourage high school students to pursue education as a profession through the Teacher's of Promise Pathways (TOPP) program. This video was shown at the Grow Your Own Educators Celebration on Tuesday (Mar. 28).

## Students Pass Their EPA Refrigerant Certification



Students in the automotive and diesel programs are required to take the EPA Section 609 refrigerant certification exam as part of the Heating and Air Conditioning course. This certification exam is requirement by the EPA to handle and purchase various refrigerants found in motor vehicles. Students learn how to properly handle and service A/C systems once completing this certification. The beauty of this certification is that it is a life-time certificate so completers will never have to recertify in their life-time. We have been requiring this certification since the spring 2018 semester. Since 2018, we have certified roughly 280 students through the Mobile Air Conditioning Society (MACS) who are the proctors of this exam. In all, this has become a valuable assessment measure for the automotive program.

## MSU-Northern Celebrates Student Successes

On Tuesday, (Mar. 28) students, parents, counselors, and administrators who participated in the various Grow Your Own Educators programs came together in Great Falls to celebrate student achievements from the past year! There are two grant-funded programs in Montana designed to help encourage high school students to become teachers. MSU-Northern has the Teachers of Promise Pathway (TOPP); and Blackfeet Community College has Native Early

Educators in Training [NEET]). Many of the students who participated in the two programs were on hand to acknowledge the completion of their programs. Some students will be taking additional courses this summer and fall. Some of the Havre and Great Falls students have become student paraprofessionals at the elementary level in their respective districts.

## MSU-Northern Takes Part in Transfer Day



Several representatives from MSU-Northern traveled to Great Falls last week to participate in the Great Falls College-MSU's annual Transfer Day. This event allows students to interact with representatives from various colleges around the state and see what courses from GFC-MSU will transfer into the different schools and programs. Northern had representatives from our various colleges and programs at the Transfer Day event. The representatives included Dr. Beth Durodoye, Dr. Dave Kruger, Dr. Jamie Duke, Dr. Jack Bieger, Debbie Winegar and Jennifer Anderson.

## Montana Labor and Industry Partners with Northern

Mike Parcel, the Business Engagement Strategist with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, and Samantha Nimmick, from the Havre Job Service Workforce Center, were on campus last week to tour our campus facilities and talk about training opportunities for Montanans in electrical,

plumbing, and welding. The Workforce Services Division (WSD) is continually looking at workforce needs and seeking ways to train Montana's workforce to meet those needs. Northern's programs have been developed to get our students jobs and to fill those workforce needs. This is another way Northern is meeting the workforce needs of Montana.

## **MSU-Northern Presents at College in a Day**



MSU-Northern joined Great Falls College-MSU to talk about college opportunities with high school students. Dr. Jack Bieger highlighted the field of Criminal Justice in his presentation. Drs. Joey Todd and Amy Smith did a lock box activity related to teacher education. Dean Beth Durodoye, and Jennifer Anderson spoke with students about programs in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Education.

## **Northern Spotlight Features Author Charles Finn and Photographer Barbara Michelman**

In anticipation of the upcoming Havre Literary Night (Friday, April 14), the NNN would like to focus on those amazing individuals who will be featured at that event. Author Charles Finn and Photographer Barbara Michelman spent ten years creating the book called, *On a Benediction of Wind: Poems and Photographs from the American West*, that was the winner of the 2022 Montana Book Award.

"There was an energy that the two art forms traded in," Finn said, "and we took advantage of that, one leading to the other, back and forth, back and forth, like a call and response between her camera and my pen. Although we feel each poem or photograph can stand on its own, that when placed together they form a third, even more pleasing combination for reader and viewer alike."



Author Charles Finn is the former editor of the literary and fine arts magazine, *High Desert Journal*, and author of *Wild Delicate Seconds: 29 Wildlife Encounters*. His essays, poems, and nonfiction have been published in journals, magazines, newspapers, and anthologies across the West. He lives in Havre, Montana, with his wife, Joyce Mphande-Finn, and their cat Lutsa.

[Read more...](#)

## COTS Hosts Advisory Board Meetings



MSU-Northern's College of Technical Sciences is starting to host their various advisory board meetings for each of the major program areas. This past Wednesday (Mar. 29), the Civil Engineering Technology Board met to discuss the CET program. Yesterday (Mar. 30), the Automotive Technology Board also met to conduct a mid-term ASE review and discuss other initiatives impacting the Automotive degree programs. Other advisory board meetings include:

- Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 3:00-5:00 p.m. – Diesel Technology;
- Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 3:00-5:00 p.m. – Business Administration Technology;
- Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-4:00 p.m. – Agricultural Operations Technology
- Electrical Technology; (TBD)

- Industrial Technology (Design Drafting / Machining); (TBD)
- Plumbing Technology; (TBD)
- Welding Technology (TBD)

## ***SpongeBob the Musical* in its Final Weekend**



Charles & Joyce Finn along with Havre Public Schools, Montana Actor's Theatre, and MSU-Northern are pleased to present, *SpongeBob the Musical*. If you like SpongeBob SquarePants, then you will enjoy *SpongeBob the Musical*. The stakes are higher than ever in this dynamic stage musical, as SpongeBob and all of Bikini Bottom face the total annihilation of their undersea world. Chaos erupts. Lives hang in the balance, and just when all hope seems lost, a most unexpected hero rises up and takes center stage. The power of optimism really can save the world! This show will take place at Havre High and will feature HHS and MAT actors!

Remaining show dates are March 31 at 7:00 pm and April 1 shows are 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Tickets are available online or at the door, Adults \$12, College Students/Seniors/Military \$10, Grades 6-12 \$8, Children up to grade 5 \$5 This show is general admission. You will not be able to choose your seats when you purchase tickets. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time.

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Registration for Fall Semester 2023 Schedule:

- Apr 3: Sophomores (30-59 credits earned\*)
- Apr 5: Freshmen (0-29 credits earned\*)
- Apr 17: New Students

**The Copy Center in the library is closed today (Mar. 31)**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

# AWARDS DAY

Friday, March 31st @10am

SUB BALLROOM

### Annual Awards Day – Mar. 31 (Today)

Please join us today (March 31) at 10 am in the SUB Ballroom for a day of celebration at our annual Awards Day! At Awards Day, we will be presenting Student Scholarships, Student Excellence Awards and the Golden N Awards. We will be awarding scholarships to over 245 students and look forward to sharing the day with you. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

## **MSUN PRCA Extreme Bares & Broncs – Mar. 31 & Apr 1**

MSU-Northern is pleased to host the PRCA Extreme Bares and Broncs challenge. This is a Professional Cowboys Association sanctioned rodeo event that only hosts Saddle Bronc and Bareback riders competing for a \$10,000 purse. Come see some of the best Pro Rodeo Bareback and Saddle Bronc Riding in the country. They will have 20 Bareback riders and 30 Saddle Bronc riders per night. We will have the top 20 Bareback and Saddle Bronc riders in the World Standings in Havre, MT, on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, and Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. The event will be held inside the Bigger Better Barn on the Great Northern Fairgrounds and the doors open at 5:30 pm and the event starts at 6 pm. Tickets are on sale at Norman's Ranchwear and Western Trailer Sales. Ticket cost is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door, kids 10 and under are free.

Northern Lights Athletic & Scholarship Foundation's 18th Annual



# *Spring Fling*

**Friday, April 7, 2023 at 5:30pm**

**MSU-Northern Armory Gymnasium**

*Table for 8: \$800.00 All-inclusive table for 8: \$1,100.00 Individual Tickets: \$75.00*  
Call 406-945-0249 to reserve your table today!

## **Spring Fling – Apr 7**

Join the Northern Lights Athletic Scholarship Foundation (NLASF) for the 18th annual Spring Fling dinner and auctions. This exciting evening will be held on Friday, April 7, at 5:30 PM in Armory Gymnasium. After an amazing dinner, the NLASF presents awards of excellence to the student athletes of Montana State University-Northern. The evening is filled with games and fun and is a wonderful way to support the Student-Athletes that are on-hand to help throughout the evening. Tickets are \$75/individual tickets or \$800/\$1100 for tables of eight. For tickets contact: (406) 945-0249.



## Founders Awards Dinner – Apr. 14

Join the Northern Alumni Foundation on April 14 in the SUB Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. for an excellent prime rib dinner and to officially present Kurt Johnson and Pam Veis with their Founders Excellence Awards. Tickets are \$35 per person, RSVPs are required to attend, so please call (406) 265-3711 to reserve your seat, or email [alumni@msun.edu](mailto:alumni@msun.edu).

## Havre Literary Night – April 14

Montana State University-Northern and Montana Actors' Theatre are pleased to present the Havre Literary Night on Friday April 14, at 7:00 pm, in the MSUN Little Theatre. It will be a night of fiction, poetry, & photography featuring three local and award-winning authors:

- Charles Finn – 2022 Montana Book Award Winner
- Gwen Hart – X.J. Kennedy Poetry Award Winner
- Roger Hart – McGlenn fiction contest Winner and Photographer
- Barbara Michelman – 2022 Montana Book Award Winner

This event is free and open to people of all ages. Refreshments will be available.

[Click here to download flyer...](#)

## WOMEN IN STEM - April 18

APRIL 18, 2023 12:05-12:55PM STUDENT UNION BUILDING (SUB)  
Teresa Brockie, PhD, RN, FAAN, is an Indigenous nurse scientist and educator whose research focuses on achieving health equity through community-based prevention and intervention of suicide, trauma, and adverse childhood experiences among vulnerable populations. She is an Assistant Professor at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing with a joint appointment in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Center for Indigenous Health.. Sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Little River Institute at MSU-Northern.

## Havre Dinner Theatre – Apr 21-22

Montana Actors Theatre is pleased to present, *Almost Austen or Basically Bronte: A Farce in Two Acts*. Jane Austen has writer's block. Just as she's fallen into a slump, her study is invaded by the Bronte sisters. They're all ghosts, forced to roam the world until one is deemed the greatest writer. They try to outdo each other in writing an original short story. The audience chooses the winner. The grand prize? Paradise! The resulting tales are strewn with off-color jokes, nausea-inducing puns, & the occasional appearance of an unexpected fruit. Let the best woman win!

All Dinner Theatre tickets are \$35 for one or \$65 for two. Reserved tables of 8 for \$300. Add 8 tickets to your cart and we will automatically reserve a table for you! Price includes dinner and the performance. Havre Eagles Club – April 21, 22 at 6:00 p.m.

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

## NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

### Friday, March 31

- Annual Awards Day - SUB Ballroom – 10-12
- MSUN PRCA Extreme Bares & Broncs – Bigger Better Barn – 6:00 PM

### Saturday, April 1

- MSUN PRCA Extreme Bares & Broncs – Bigger Better Barn – 6:00 PM

### Monday, April 03

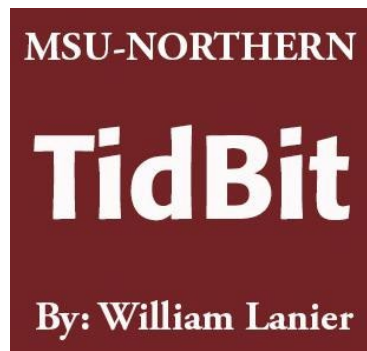
- Registration for Fall Semester 2023 - Sophomores

### Wednesday, April 05

- Registration for Fall Semester 2023 - Freshmen
- Athletics Banquet - 6:00 PM

### Friday, April 07

- Spring Deferred Payment Schedule: 100% Due
- University Day (no classes, offices OPEN)
- Spring Fling – Armory Gym - 5:30 PM



### (#390) Alumni Milestones and Accomplishments

This week's NNN TidBit is going to highlight various milestones and accomplishments of a few Northern Alumni.

Bruce Thompson (class of 1985) is the Georgia State Labor Commissioner. This is an elected position that Bruce started in January of this year. Prior to this position, Bruce was a member of the Georgia Senate for the 14th District in Georgia for nearly 10 years.

In January, Marcella Springer Holden (class of 1986), celebrated 33 years with Triangle Communications. Marcella also from Big Sandy is the Billing Manager for Triangle Communications.

Sam Knodel (class of 1986) is celebrating his 31st year as co-owner (with brother Jeff) of the world renowned Eugene's Pizza in Glasgow, Montana.

This past wrestling season several Northern Alumni lead their High School Wrestling teams to State placings

- Jessie Schaeffer, Columbia Falls, Montana – Class A State Champions
- Mitch Overlie, Elko, Nevada – Class 3A State Champions (2nd year in a row)
- Mark Lane, Sheridan, Wyoming – State Champions
- Ted Hill, Laurel, Montana – Class A third place

Two additional Northern Alumni had outstanding basketball seasons  
Dustin Kraske, Havre, Montana – Class A Girls Basketball State Champions (5<sup>th</sup> in the past 6 years and 6<sup>th</sup> state title overall). Also named Class A Girls Basketball Coach of the Year.

David Costin, Malta, Montana – Class B Boys Basketball State Runner-up and Class B Boys Basketball Coach of the Year

At this last weekend's Montana Open Wrestling Tournament in Billings, four Northern Alumni and Northern Light wrestlers completed in the Open Class. Three of the them (Matt Weber, Brandon Weber, and Chris Nile) were on the team, "Northern Has-Beens," and Cameron Neiss was with the Ronan Wrestling Club. Here are their results:

- Matt Weber 160 pounds – 1st place
- Cameron Neiss 160 pounds – 2nd place
- Brandon Weber 170 pounds – 1st place
- Chris Nile 185 pounds – 1st place

If you or you know of a fellow Northern Alumni that should be featured, please send me an e-mail at [wjlanier1963@yahoo.com](mailto:wjlanier1963@yahoo.com)



Big Sandy High School and Northern Alumni Marcella Springer Holden and  
Bruce Thompson

Visit our website

Montana State University-Northern | 406-265-3700 | [www.msun.edu](http://www.msun.edu)

STAY CONNECTED



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