Montana’s SkillsUSA held their 41st annual State Leadership & Skills Conference on the MSU-Northern campus this week (April 16-18). MSU-Northern has hosted the event since 1972. SkillsUSA is a nationally based club for high school and college students that offers competitive opportunities in order for students to learn the skills they need for their specific area of interest in the workforce. Northern welcomed the annual gathering again this year, utilizing much of the campus' space for the many presentations and competitions that were offered.

Dedicated SkillsUSA students from 38 chapters around the state gathered to participate in the various competitions this week. This year's theme for the conference was: "SkillsUSA: Champions at Work." SkillsUSA is a well-participated club in Montana- with about 365 students coming to compete, 300 judges, 55 advisors, 32 contest chairpersons, and 3 headquarters staff. The category that had the most participants this year was the team event called- SkillsUSA Quiz Bowl with 168 participants. Other types of competition include: various drafting opportunities, diesel technology, carpentry, cabinet making, 3-D visual animation, and many others. The winners of each category have an opportunity to compete in the national gathering in Kansas City, Missouri in June. Along with the national competition option students can receive medals of bronze, silver, or gold (according to their achievement status), scholarships, donated prizes, and personal glory.

**MSU-Northern Winners were:**

**Automotive Service Technology Post-Secondary**
Third Place: Heather Schreiner - MSU Northern  
First Place: Dan Yother - MSU Northern

**Diesel Equipment Technology Post-Secondary**
Third Place: Keith Ordahl - MSU Northern  
First Place: Tyler Christensen - MSU Northern
Chancellor James Limbaugh presented and explained MSU-Northern's new vision statement to community leaders at a reception this past Tuesday.

For the past 3 months the campus has been involved in crafting a vision statement, in tandem with the mission statement, will serve as a foundation for institutional growth and for establishment of MSU-N's specific niche within Montana higher education. Open forums, a library display, and on-line comments, provided significant insight into what the MSU-Northern family and Havre community perceived to be the best future path for MSU-N.

Eleven different vision statement versions were offered for consideration through on-line voting. After 68 employees posted their choices (28.2% of an available 241 voters), 19 votes (30% of the votes tendered) were cast in favor of the following statement. The closest vote otherwise was at 13 votes (for limiting our growth to diesel, education, and nursing).

As a result, here is the vision statement for Montana State University-Northern.

Montana State University-Northern will be known for its supportive, student-centered environment in which a unique mix of academic programs are responsive to local, regional, and state workforce needs, offered in an atmosphere that promotes student success.
On Thursday, MSU-Northern held the dedication of the Circle of Honor (by the flags in front of Cowan Hall). The dedication ceremony was meant to honor our donors by dedicating the circle and unveiling the beginnings of a donor wall. This is a new tradition for Northern, but it truly honored those who helped us arrive where we are today and who will help us continue growth in the future.

Here are the names included in the brick of the Circle of Honor:
Robert & Katherine Christeck
President Merwin
Tom & Gail Reynolds
Nault Families
Roger Barber & Mary VanBuskirk
President Erickson
Dave & Judy Greenwood
Donna Moon Cole
William Byars
President Leach
Ruth Gagel
Dorothea Miltz Hauge
Robert & Helen Kiesling
President Crowley
Bob & Darlene Bricker
Lester Hauge
Karen Laroe
President Brockmann
Vern & Sig Sedlacek
George & Violet Hale
Chancellor Daehling
President Vande Bogart
Clark & Sally Grimm
Kuhr Kids
Singer/Songwriter James Hersch was on campus this week teaching his audiences the value of community outreach. During his time in Havre he visited Highland Park School, Lincoln McKinley School, HRDC Early Head Start, the Northern Montana Hospital Care Center, the Boy's & Girl's Club, St. Jude's School, the Senior Center and the Eagles Manor. He also spent some time in Fred Smiley and Katherine William's classes.

Northern's First Inauguration Held Today
Today will mark MSU-Northern's first Chancellor Inauguration. The ceremony is open to all faculty, staff, students, and community members. This inauguration will help Northern achieve three very important goals. First, they will be able to properly honor and acknowledge their new chancellor. Second, they will be able to celebrate and reflect on their rich heritage. And third, the inauguration will allow the new chancellor to inspire the faculty, staff and community as he shares his vision for the future of MSU-Northern. Attendees are encouraged to come early so they can enjoy a 20-minute slideshow celebrating Northern's past. The formal ceremony begins at 3 p.m. in the Armory Gymnasium. The inauguration can be viewed live, on-line at www.livestream.com/msunlights.
Twenty-six people showed up last Saturday to help clean Fifth Avenue. Northern has adopted Fifth Avenue to keep clean.

Since 1932, Northern has set aside a day for general campus clean-up and campus improvement.
This year's Campus Improvement Day was April the 19th. Some of the projects tackled this year included planting flowers, raking, and general cleanup. Our Campus Improvement Day happened right before 2012's official Earth Day, which is Sunday the 22nd, so take pride, not only in Northern, but outstretch a helping hand and try to keep our world and clean and lovely place.

New Phone Books Available
There are new phone books available in the Business Services Office. You can bring your old phone books to the Business Service Office for Triangle Communication-sponsored recycling.

Faculty Call Prospective Students
This past Wednesday and Thursday MSU-Northern faculty assisted the Admissions Office in calling prospective students. The faculty came in at night on their own time to make these calls. This dedication means a lot to prospective students and really demonstrates the personal connection between our faculty and students that we are so proud of at MSU-Northern. We would like to thank Barb Zuck, Spike Magelssen, Lanny Wilke, Jamie Underwood, and Fred Smiley for assisting with these recruiting efforts!

We will be continuing these phone calls this coming Monday and Tuesday in the Admissions Office, there are still plenty of open phone lines if any additional faculty would like to sign up for a time slot (6:30-8:30 p.m.) please contact Lexy in Admissions, ext. 3536.

Student Art Show

On Monday the grand opening of this year's Student Art Show occurred. Pieces of artwork in a range of media are available for viewing in the art gallery on the second floor of the Student Union Building. The show features drawings, paintings, ceramics, multi-media, and digital pieces created by the talented students of MSU-Northern. The artwork is available for viewing until April 27.
Dr. Limbaugh and his wife Trish were at the mall Saturday to participate in the Cooks for Books fundraiser.

This week we want to acknowledge all of the hard work Steven Don and Lorren Scholtfeldt did on running this year's SkillsUSA event. An event of this magnitude represents many long hours of dedicated work.

Steven and Lorren, you make Northern Proud.

11th Annual Tucker Montgomery Folf Tournament
The 11th Annual Tucker Montgomery Folf Tournament will be held on April 25 at 3p.m. on the campus of MSU-Northern. Registration forms are available on line at http://www.msun.edu/stuaffairs/stuactivities/docs/2012Spring/FolfTournamentRegForm.pdf or at the SUB Information Desk. The tournament includes singles, doubles and team divisions. Registration forms are due at the SUB Information Desk by April 24 at 5p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of each division and a free BBQ will follow on the SUB East Lawn.

Tucker Montgomery was a former MSU-Northern student from 1999-2001. During his time at Northern, Tucker belonged to the Alternative Outdoor Sports club that was instrumental in the planning and implementation of the MSU-Northern Folf Course.
Scotland Road is a play about a woman in nineteenth century clothing who is found floating on an iceberg in the middle of the North Atlantic. When rescued, she says only one word: Titanic. The woman, Winifred, is taken to an isolated spot on the coast of Maine where an expert on the sinking of the liner, a mysterious man named John, has arranged to interrogate her for six days. His goal: to crack her story, get her to confess she's a fake and reveal her true identity; his one clue: her enigmatic references to an unknown place called "Scotland Road."

MAT will be presenting their rendition of Scotland Road in the MSU-N Theater in Cowan Hall. The regular season play dates, times, and admission costs are as follows: April 19-21 and 26-28. The doors and backstage lounge open at 7:30 p.m., with the play beginning at 8 p.m. each night. The cost is $15 for adults, $10 for students and seniors, and FREE for MSU-N students with current I.D.

Information Session
MSU-Northern will be conducting an "Information Session" concerning the new on-line Masters of Science in Education, Instruction and Learning program, which is a state-wide program delivered online with four weekend residencies over a six semester time frame. The 36-hour program is designed to improve the instructional process and support student learning. This is an exciting opportunity for teachers and others engaged in the instructional process to acquire their graduate degree. The "Information Session" will be held on Monday, April the 30th from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the Glasgow High School Library. For further information, call the graduate programs office at 1-800-662-6132 Ext. 3738 or Dr. Smeby at Ext. 3517.

Chancellor's Corner
By: Dr. James Limbaugh
Chancellor, MSU-Northern
I'm pleased to use this week's NNN to recognize the contribution made this week by a member of our faculty to the celebration of MSU-Northern's long and distinguished history.

In today's Inauguration ceremony, you will see presented, for the first time in public, our new mace. A mace is a ceremonial object, carried into academic ceremonies by the Faculty Marshal, who is usually the university's most-senior faculty. Maces, which have their origin in the Middle Ages as an instrument of war, have now come to symbolize pageantry, ceremony, tradition, and continuity.

This mace will have special meaning long after today's ceremony has concluded. It has been crafted by hand by Mr. Jay Reed in the College of Technical Sciences. As you can see from the pictures, the beauty of the mace lies in the graceful lines of the cherry wood, the hand-carved medallion, and the matching stand.

Jay's contribution is yet another indication of what we are capable of as a university. When you see Jay, please thank him for sharing his talents to create an object that will be significant to the university and to future students, faculty, and staff for years to come.

**Branding 101**
By Jim Potter

**How will the town's new brand help MSU-Northern and the community?**

The Havre Chamber of Commerce hired Wendt Integrated Communications to help guide them through the branding process. After a great deal of discussion they provided a very western style word-mark for the word Havre. Havre's new slogan is "A Place to Belong". The slogan is broad enough to appeal to people who are looking to visit Havre and to the people who are looking for a community to move to and raise a family. I am very excited about the slogan because it projects a friendly place where people can feel welcome. In terms of our recruiting efforts, it embodies what
every student wants... They want to go to a college where they can belong. I think it is one of the best town slogans I have ever heard, and I think Northern will be able to effectively leverage it in our recruiting and marketing efforts. Way to go Havre Chamber! You have a come up with a winner.

Alumni in Action
By Autumn Elliot

Missing the Aurora Newsletter? It will be out this summer, so catch up on all the Northern Alumni News and happenings around Northern. Due to the high printing and shipping costs, the issues will now be digital. If you would like a Newsletter emailed to you please send us your new or updated email address to: alumni@msun.edu.

@ Your Library
By Vicki Gist

Do you need last minute resources for your project? Don't forget that you can access the databases from home 24/7. Most databases allow you to limit your search to only full text articles. Just look at the search screen for the Full Text check box. This is a quick way to identify those articles that you can immediately download from the database. The Academic Search Complete and Academic OneFile databases are good sources of full text articles.

Do you need a place to study? The Library has many small study booths (carrels) downstairs. Just turn left at the bottom of the stairs and head towards the walls. These study booths are a great place to hunker down for a few hours of study.

Are you meeting your group to work on a project or study as a group? You will find many tables on the main level of the Library and in the study rooms. These tables are a good place to work on projects.

Starting Monday, April 23, the Library will be open extended hours. The Library will be open nights until 11:00p.m. on April 23-26 and April 29-May 3. The Library will also be open Saturday, April 28, from 12:00p.m.-5:00p.m. Check the Library's webpage (http://www.msun.edu/infotech/library/index.htm) for a complete listing of hours.

Computer Corner
By Marianne Hoppe

Word 2010 Tip

How to quickly add numbers in Word without a table
Looking for a quick and easy way to add values in a Word document, without resorting to a table and table formulas? You can use the Calculate command. It isn't readily available, so most users don't know about it. You can use Calculate to sum a series of values when you don't need a more complicated solution, such as a table or linking to Excel. It's easy to add the command to the Quick Access Toolbar (QAT) located in the upper left of your word window:

1. Click the down arrow at the end of the QAT and choose More Commands from the menu.
2. In the resulting dialog, choose All Commands from the Choose Commands From dropdown.
3. Select Calculate from the resulting list.
4. Click Add and then click OK. The Calculate icon is added to your QAT.

To use the Calculate command, you'll need a series of numbers. Simply separate values with a comma, select the values, and then click Calculate to display their sum in the Status bar at the bottom left of the Word window (it will temporarily replace the other indicators usually in that space). You can also then press Ctrl V to paste the sum into your document.

TidBit
By Bill Lanier

Today Northern will be holding an inauguration ceremony for Chancellor Dr. James M. Limbaugh as the next Chancellor of Montana State University-Northern. With Chancellor Limbaugh having moved
from Texas to Havre, reminds me of the tidbit that, the South/East corner of Montana is closer to Texas than it is to the North/West corner of Montana.

A Pinch of Salt
By Kimmi Boyce

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month:

"Pinwheels for Prevention" is a program through Prevent Child Abuse America. The program has become a national movement, and over 900,000 pinwheels have been purchased and displayed for this cause since April of 2008. Here's how you can get involved in preventing child abuse:
- Purchase pinwheels from your state chapter, and plant a pinwheel garden.
- Join other Child Abuse Prevention Month activities in April.
- Incorporate child abuse prevention into your work.
- Discuss child abuse prevention at your conferences and meetings.
- Contact the chapter in your state to explore more possibilities.

Information taken from and more info available at: www.pinwheelsforprevention.org

April is also National Pecan Month:

Recipe: Banana Pecan Strudel (Better Than Pecan Pie!)
Serves one (if you're lucky enough to be home alone)

Phyllo Dough
1 to 2 Bananas (preferably red bananas)
1 t lemon juice
1/4 cup butter, melted
1 T cane sugar
2 t cinnamon
2 t ground ginger

Honey
1/4 cup pecans

If you are using frozen Phyllo dough, remove from freezer. It should sit at room temperature for at least an hour. Lightly toast the pecans in a 450F oven until they are just hot, about 5 minutes. Finely chop, and set aside. Reduce the heat on the oven to 425F. In a small bowl, combine the sugar, cinnamon and ginger. Set aside. Slice the banana long-ways into 1/4 inch thick strips. Sprinkle with the lemon juice and set aside. Using a pastry brush, coat the bottom of your baking dish with a bit of the melted butter. Place one sheet of phyllo in the bottom of the dish, and brush with butter. Repeat with about 3 more piece of phyllo, lightly brushing after each piece. Add a layer of the bananas. Top with 3 layers of phyllo, brushing with butter after each piece. Add a layer of honey, squeezing or dribbling as you might to top a waffle. Top with 3 layers of phyllo, brushing butter, etc. Add a layer of pecans. Sprinkle with the cinnamon sugar mixture. Top with 3 layers of phyllo, brushing with butter. Add another layer of honey. Top with 3 layers of phyllo, brushing with butter. Sprinkle the top with some of the remaining cinnamon/sugar mixture and chopped pecans. Trim any phyllo edges that protrude from the baking dish. Cut a few air vents in the top few layers. Bake for about 15 minutes, or until golden brown. Allow to cool for a least 10 minutes before devouring. If desired, top with a bit more honey.

Cook & Eat (www.cookandeat.com)

Mission Statement

"MSU Northern, a teaching institution, serves a diverse student population by providing liberal arts, professional and technical education programs ranging from certificates through master's degrees. The university promotes a student centered and culturally enriched environment endorsing lifelong learning, personal growth and responsible citizenship. The university partners with a variety of community and external entities to enhance collaborative learning, provide applied research opportunities, stimulate economic development and expand student learning experiences."