



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - April 22, 2022

MSU-Northern Honors Retirees



On Tuesday, April 19, a group of faculty, staff, and friends gathered in the SUB Ballroom to honor and reflect on the 114 years of collective dedication that four people have given to MSU-Northern. The four staff and faculty members that retired since last year's retirement reception are: Lori Borth - the coordinator, cohort program & curriculum specialist for Veteran's Upward Bound, Vicki Gist – library director, Dr. Steve Hesske – English professor, and Dr. Carol Reifschneider – professor of water quality technology.

Students Use Outdoor Plumbing Lab



This year, the plumbing students moved outside to use their outdoor plumbing lab. In this lab, students learn how to prepare and run the plumbing that is located under a house or business structure. It is the second year that the plumbing program has used this space to learn about all aspects of plumbing below the ground.

MSU-Northern Hosts Heads Up Camp



Dr. Tony Gryffin, Assistant Professor in the College of Health Sciences, facilitated a workshop on April 21st to help high school students partake in career exploration and learn valuable skills in the field of behavioral health. The “Heads Up Camp” gave students the opportunity to hear from local professionals from a range of occupations including social work, addictions counseling, psychiatry, psychology, and more. Students received training in areas including suicide prevention and anti-bullying to use as advocates and peer-supporters in their communities. Over the course of the camp, students also had the opportunity to earn a Mental Health First Aid certificate and learn tools to assist those in need.

The Heads Up Camp is part of a program initiative from the North Central Montana Area Health Education Center (AHEC), whose mission is to “recruit, train, and retain a health professions work force committed to rural and underserved populations.” To learn more about the Heads Up Camp and AHEC, visit <http://ncmtahec.org/>

Wellness Wednesday – Explores Meditation



This Wednesday (April 13), MSU-Northern students and staff had the opportunity to take a break from their busy schedules to get an introduction on meditation. Some of the techniques they were introduced to included: breathing meditation, body scan, progressive muscle relaxation, and guided imagery. Research has shown that meditation helps to reduce stress, decrease anxiety, increase self-awareness, improve your attention span and sleep, help manage your pain, and reduce your blood pressure. If you missed the session and would like to learn more about meditation contact Amber Spring at amber.spring@msun.edu.

Blue / Orange Now Playing



Montana Actor's Theatre (MAT) is pleased to present a very thought-provoking look at people, culture, and how humans think, behave, and interpret those actions in various environments. MSU-Northern's own Associate Professor of Graduate Studies, Dr. Joyce Mphande-Finn, is the director for Blue/Orange. It features Dr. Grant Olson playing Dr. Bruce Flaherty, Martin Holt as Dr. Robert Smith, and Kaymen Cureton as Christopher. Kaymen is a liberal studies student at MSU-Northern and is the star quarterback on the Lights football team.

The show takes place in a London psychiatric hospital, an enigmatic patient claims to be the son of an African dictator—a story that becomes unnervingly plausible. BLUE/ORANGE is an incendiary tale of race, madness, and a Darwinian power struggle at the heart of a dying National Health Service. This show contains language and themes around racism that some audience members may find offensive. The show runs this weekend and next weekend (April 21-23, 28-30)

[For Tickets...](#)

Northern Appreciation SpotLIGHT



Staff Appreciation Spotlight

The Chancellor took his Staff Appreciation Spotlight crew down the hall to the other end of Cowan Hall to feature the various departments that call Student Central their home.

These offices include the following staff members:

Admissions/Recruiting – Maura Gatch, Natalee Faupel, Erika Arnold, Kealani Sagapolu, Marvin Williams, Emilee Luke

Financial Aid – Cindy Small, Sandy Johnsrud, Darla McCloy

Career Center – Lisa Moisey, Jennifer Henderson

Accessibility Services– Johnna Antonich

UPCOMING EVENTS

Brown Bag Lecture #3 - “The Value of Implementing an Oil Analysis Program” - Today

MSU-Northern will be continuing its Spring 2022 Brown Bag Lecture Series today, Friday, April 22, with a presentation by Brandon Matson, Charlie Mack, and Keith Jensen, MSU-Northern Assistant Professors of Diesel Technology. The event will be held from 12:00pm to 1:00pm in Hensler Auditorium in the ATC Building, and is open to the public.

In their lecture, “The Value of Implementing an Oil Analysis Program,” Matson, Mack, and Jensen will present an oil analysis program that they have developed as part of a joint research project. They will discuss their results and show how oil analysis, when implemented correctly, is an investment that can ultimately result in cost savings on repairs and unscheduled downtime. With oil analysis, failures can be identified before they become catastrophic failures.

Matson, Mack, and Jensen are all graduates of MSU-Northern’s diesel technology program. Upon completing their degrees, all three worked in the diesel industry, gaining a combined 30 years of experience before returning to MSU-Northern as faculty. Their research on the benefits and strategies of implementing an oil analysis

system is a project that they have implemented as part of their master's degree coursework.

MSU-Northern's Brown Bag Lectures are open to the public and are designed to share some of the exciting academic work happening at MSU-Northern. The series is organized by MSU-Northern's Instruction, Research, & Faculty Development committee, in partnership with the Office of Teaching & Learning Excellence, and is sponsored by the Office of the Provost. After today's event, the series will reconvene in September 2022 with monthly lectures throughout the academic year.

Skylights BB Dinner Raffle – Apr. 22

The Skylight basketball dinner and raffle will take place on April 22, in the SUB Ballroom. The dinner helps support the Skylight Scholarship. A pasta dinner is scheduled for 6pm with the drawing of each number set to begin at approximately 7pm.

A ticket entitles the owner to dinner as well as the opportunity to win cash and raffle prizes. There will be 20, \$100 winner, 40, \$50 winners, 1 \$500 winner, 1 \$1000 winner, and the grand prize winner will receive \$3000. Tickets are \$25, but they are running out quickly. Tickets can be purchased through Coach Chris Mouat at 265-3584 or 390-3262 (cell) or any Skylight basketball player.

Charlie's Aunt Dinner Theatre

- **(Chinook) – Apr. 22 & 23**
- **(Shelby) – Apr. 29 & 30**
- **(Lewistown) – May 6 & 7**
- **(Havre) – May 19-21**



A new script written by Martin Holt based on the original play by Brandon Thomas, *Charlie's Aunt* is a comedic farce, perfect for dinner theatre! Charlie and Jack love Amy and Kitty. Amy is about to go away, and Charlie thinks he may miss his opportunity to ask for her hand. Then he discovers that his aunt, a Brazilian woman he hardly knows, is coming for lunch. How fortuitous! Now the aunt can chaperone while the boys ask the girls to marry them. Naturally, things don't go as planned. Donna Lucia, the aunt, is late, and their friend, Lord Fancourt Babberley (Babbs) shows up in drag. He is convinced to pretend to be Donna Lucia, and a wild afternoon of mistaken identity, young love, old love, angry uncles, and one beautiful, exotic aunt ensues. In the end, just as it looks like Uncle Stephen is going to ruin everything, the real Donna Lucia steps in and graciously puts an end to the madness. All the lovers end up together and happy, except for Uncle Stephen, who was starting to fall for Babbs.

[For Ticket](#)

New ASMSUN Student Senate “Meet & Greet” – Apr. 25

The new ASMSUN Student Senate would like to invite the campus to a “Meet & Greet” for the newly elected 2022-2023 ASMSUN Executive Council and Senate on Monday, April 25, at 4:00 in the SUB Ballroom. The Student Senate members will be sworn into their positions at that time. This is a great time for you to meet your new student government and help acknowledge the outgoing members for their contributions to ASMSUN, MSU-Northern, and the community. Light refreshments will be served after the new members are inducted.

Earth Day/Spring BBQ - Apr. 27

Congressional Primary Debates – Apr. 28

Founders Excellence Awards Ceremony – Apr. 29

The Founders' Excellence Award Ceremony is coming up on Friday, April 29th! Tickets are still available to join the MSU-Northern Foundation in honoring Dr. Joseph Callahan and Clyde R. Thomas Jr. for their incredible service to Northern. Tickets are \$30 per person and includes dinner. Doors open at 5pm in the SUB Ballroom. RSVPs are required to attend, so please call (406) 265-3711 to reserve your seat, or email alumni@msun.edu.

Nurses Pinning – May 6

Nurses Pinning ceremony on May 6, from 3-5 p.m. at 5th Avenue Christian Church is free and is open to the public. Come celebrate the achievement of this year's nurse graduates.

Commencement - May 7

Saturday, May 7, marks the end of another academic year at Montana State University-Northern with the graduation of the 2022 class. This year's commencement speaker will be Brian Hoven. The ceremony is for students who complete degree requirements by the end of the upcoming summer sessions. The ceremony is free and open to the public. There will be no reserved seats for individuals. A section of lower bleacher seats will be reserved for the handicapped. Handicapped parking spaces are limited.

MSU-NORTHERN

TidBit

By: William Lanier

#366

Dr. Reno Parker Remembered

This past fall Professor Emeritus, Dr. Reno Parker passed away. Dr. Parker came to Northern Montana College in the fall of 1988 as an associate professor of biology and taught until 2005. In 2006, Dr. Parker was granted Emeritus status. He was one of those people you just enjoyed talking to and being around, which made him very popular with students, staff and fellow faculty.

Here is an abridged version of his obituary that was in the Missoulian

"Montana has lost a college professor who was an active participant and promoter of life-long learning. He will be missed.

Reno loved school. He attended the University of Minnesota receiving a BA in History; Montana State University receiving a Masters in Chemistry and Kent State University, Kent, Ohio for his Ph.D in Biological Sciences. He was supported by a National Science Fellowship for his doctoral studies.

In 1988, Reno was offered an Associated Professorship at MSU-Northern in Havre, Montana where he taught Anatomy and Physiology to an average of 100 students per class for over 20 years. He taught up to 10 distance learning sites from Browning to Bainville at one time across the Hi-Line. He was awarded "A Friend of Nurses Award" from the Montana Association of Nurses in 2001.

In addition, Reno taught Paleontology classes during the Summer and was a member of the team from the University of Chicago in 1988 that discovered a small dinosaur, *Albertosaurus Rex* which was a possible new species at the Fresno Reservoir Area north of Havre. It was the only one found.

Reno served as Chair of the Science/Math Department for 12 years; was co-director of the Hi-Line regional Science Fair; advisor to the science/math student organization and advisor and supervisor of the "scone booth" at the Northern Montana Fair as a fundraiser. Reno has 20 published articles and advised and chaired seven Masters students. Reno retired in 2006 with the distinction of Emeritus Professor of Biology.

Reno would tell you he had a wonderful life with lots of great friends, world travels and respect and admiration of colleagues in the fields of Biological Sciences and other college teaching areas. Reno always said "I never met a college student I did not like. No one ever gave a person a better reason to keep growing and learning and feeling hopeful than a class full of good students".

Visit our website

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