



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**NORTHERN**

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - April 18, 2025

## Student Scholarship Awards Ceremony Held in SUB Ballroom



MSU-Northern celebrated the achievements of its students during the annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony, held this morning at 10 a.m. in the SUB Ballroom. A total of 364 scholarships were awarded, amounting to \$360,300 in financial support for students.

Attendees gathered to recognize and honor the hard work of scholarship recipients. Students who received scholarships and were present at the event were entered into six \$50 gift card drawings and had a chance to win a \$500 “We Love Northern” Scholarship. The drawings took place at the end of the ceremony, and students needed to be present to win.

Refreshments, including oatmeal raisin cookies and fresh fruit, were provided. The event offered a special moment for the campus community to come together in celebration of student success.

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## 2025 Student Excellence Recipients Announced



Since 1982, MSU-Northern has honored outstanding students with the Student Excellence Awards—recognizing individuals who have achieved personal, academic, and professional success while making impactful contributions to the campus, local, and global communities. These awards celebrate students who demonstrate a strong dedication to academic excellence and active campus involvement. Recipients consistently uphold high standards, lead with integrity, and serve as role models in their pursuit of well-rounded growth and engagement.

Twelve students received a Student Excellence Award during last week's Awards Day celebration. Pictured (L to R): Bridger Beach, Owen Smith, Jaden Koon, Crawford Terry, Orion Thivierge, Rogan Barnwell, Jason Rice, Ellen Collins, Elaine Reed, Courtney Boese, McKenzie Long, and Kaiya Doney.

[Learn More...](#)

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## Outstanding Attendance at 48th Annual Sweetgrass Society Powwow



The 48th Annual Sweetgrass Society Powwow drew an impressive crowd during its two-day celebration on April 11 and 12 in the Armory Gymnasium at MSU-Northern. The student-led, student-organized event featured grand entries at 7 PM on Friday and at 1 PM and 7 PM on Saturday. Attendees enjoyed a vibrant showcase of Native American culture, dance, and music.

Supported by the community and made possible through yearlong fundraising efforts by the Sweetgrass Society, the powwow remains a free and inclusive event that honors tradition and brings people together.

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## MSU-Northern Students Honor Outstanding Faculty and Staff with 2024-2025 Golden N Awards



Each year, the Golden “N” Awards represent the highest honor faculty and staff can receive at Montana State University-Northern—made especially meaningful because the nominations and selections are made entirely by students. At this year’s ceremony, the Associated Students of MSU-Northern (ASMSUN) presented three awards to individuals who have made lasting impacts on student life, learning, and success.

Pictured above are the three award recipients with their awards (L to R)  
Name and Story Award: Tom Friede, Excellence in Teaching Award: Kevin Holzworth, Educator Award: Chuck Terry

[Read more...](#)

## **MSU-Northern’s Automotive Program Reaccredited by ASE**



MSU-Northern’s Automotive Program has officially had its national accreditation reaffirmed by the ASE Education Foundation. To earn this recognition, the program underwent a thorough and rigorous evaluation based on national standards in instruction, facilities, and equipment. The faculty conducted a self-assessment last fall, assisted by the Automotive Advisory Board, and this spring there was an on-site visit by an evaluation team. The team leader traveled from Spokane, and was joined by two local persons.

“This is great news for students and parents,” said Michael Coley, President of the ASE Education Foundation. “This program strengthens the connection between education and the automotive industry, ensuring MSU-Northern graduates are well-prepared as entry-level technicians. That means better service for drivers and more qualified workers for shops.”

“The automotive faculty has worked hard to meet these high standards, and we’re proud to once again be ASE accredited. This assures students of a strong education and gives employers confidence in our graduates,” said Steven Don, Dean of MSU-Northern’s College of Technical Sciences.

The ASE Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization that accredits automotive training programs based on industry-developed standards and MSU-Northern has been ASE accredited for over 30 years.

[Click here to learn more about the AES Education Foundation...](#)

## The 2025 Battle of the Best Beast Burger Has Begun!



Havre’s meatiest, messiest, most mouthwatering showdown is BACK — and it’s bigger, bolder, and beastlier than ever! Six local restaurants are throwing down in the Third Annual Beast Burger Competition, each crafting their own jaw-dropping take on what it means to be the best burger in town.

From April 14–30, you become the judge.

Dine in, chow down, and cast your vote for the burger you think deserves the crown — but remember: you’ve gotta try at least one to vote!

Here’s the lineup of legendary contenders ready to throw you into a food coma:

**A - The Stack** – The Smashing Full Monty: A sweet and savory monster featuring smashed patties, honey ham, raspberry preserves, Swiss, cream cheese, and powdered sugar on a raspberry bagel bun.

**B - 40Below** – The 406 Cheddar Bomb Burger: Double cheddar bomb patties oozing with jalapeños and cheese, loaded with poppers, onion rings, bacon, and smothered in jalapeño cheddar sauce.

**C - Bow and Marrow** – A breakfast-lover’s dream burger with sausage and beef patties, hash browns, a fried egg, bacon, pepper jack, hot honey, and maple syrup between two pancakes.

**D - PJ's Restaurant and Casino** – A triple-cheese BBQ-loaded double burger packed between garlic Texas Toast and topped with onion rings.

**E - Murphy's Pub** – The Holy Cow!: Four smash patties, crispy bacon, fried mozzarella, sautéed whiskey onions, and drizzles of sriracha honey.

**F - Parker's BBQ Pit** – Beef patty stuffed with brisket and mac n cheese, pulled pork and bacon on top and lettuce

Vote for your favorite beast by April 30 and help us crown the 2025 Beast Burger Champion!

[Click here to vote...](#)

## Outstanding Turnout at Student Art Show's Opening Night



The 2025 MSU-Northern Student Art Show kicked off with an impressive crowd at its Opening Night Reception on Monday, April 14, in the Vande Bogart Library. Attendees enjoyed an evening filled with creativity, community, and conversation as they explored a wide range of student artwork. Dr. Barb Zuck serenaded the crowd with her beautiful lever harp (made out of Bubinga wood).

This year marks an exciting milestone for the show—it's the first-time art from local high schools has been included. Autumn Elliot, Kendall Griggs, Lindsey

Ratliff & Shay Waldbillig, from Box Elder, Havre High and Chinook respectively, was proudly displayed alongside MSUN student pieces. The exhibit features a variety of media, including paintings, drawings, woodworking, and stained glass.

If you missed the opening, there's still time to experience the talent on display! The Student Art Show runs through April 25 and is open to the public during regular library hours. Stop by the Vande Bogart Library and check it out!

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## Student Spotlight – Luke Malo



Luke Malo's journey to MSU-Northern began with a visit from an automotive instructor to his high school in Missoula. Though he initially took automotive classes, he soon realized that Diesel Technology was the path he wanted to pursue. Now, he is working toward not just one, but two four-year degrees—one in Diesel Technology: Equipment Management and the other in Business Administration.

One of the most rewarding aspects of his time at Northern has been the friendships he has built with fellow students. The close-knit community and small class sizes have allowed him to form strong bonds with both his peers and professors. His technical instructors have played a key role in his success, offering guidance and support as he mastered new skills. Additionally, his business professors have helped him navigate his academic workload, ensuring he stays on track toward graduation.

Havre has also been an ideal place to study, with its affordable cost of living making college more accessible. However, Luke quickly learned that having a reliable vehicle capable of handling the harsh Montana winters is essential for students living in the area.

This past summer, Luke had the opportunity to put his skills to the test during an internship at Modern Machinery, where he worked as a Diesel Technician Intern. The experience provided him with a broad overview of shop work, as he was assigned to various projects alongside different technicians. From engine swaps to excavator track pads, he was exposed to a wide range of tasks, each offering valuable hands-on experience.

While he didn't take on the most technical jobs, Luke gained a strong understanding of the daily routine of a shop technician. Most importantly, he learned the critical balance between safety and efficiency—two key elements of success in the industry. The internship served as a crash course in applying

the knowledge he had gained over his four years of study, reinforcing his confidence as he prepares for his career.

Now in his final semester at Northern, Luke is looking forward to graduating and stepping into the workforce. While he has yet to make a final decision on which company he will join, he is keeping his options open and maintaining communication with potential employers. Regardless of where he ends up, he is eager to return to the shop environment and put his education into action.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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### **University Day – April 18**

No Classes / Offices Open

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### **MSU-Northern Rodeo – April 18-19**

Come to the Bigger Better Barn to cheer on the Northern Lights Rodeo team compete against 9 other schools from MT & WY! Starts Friday-7:00PM.

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### **MSU-Northern Retirement Reception – April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

On Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> in the SUB Ballroom we will gather to honor the many years of hard work and dedication to MSU-Northern by Mary Brown (15 years) and Trygve “Spike” Magelssen (19 years) - Congratulations! You make Northern Proud. Enjoy your retirement!

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### **Idle Assets to Active Learning: Revitalizing Campus Resources for Student Engagement - Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

In this Brownbag Lecture, Aaron Riggin will share some of the ways he has retrofitted, updated and revitalized campus equipment to expand and enhance student learning and engagement.

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## 2025 Founders' Excellence Award – April 25



The MSU-Northern Alumni Foundation is proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 Founders' Excellence Awards: Don Holst, T. Wayne Koepke & Renelle Braaten, and a posthumous awards for Arnold & Joy Hokanson.

The Founders' Excellence Award recognizes individuals whose professional achievements, loyalty, and service have greatly contributed to the advancement of Montana State University–Northern.

Recipients will be honored at a special celebration on Friday, April 25 at the MSU-N Student Union Building. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. For tickets or event information, please call 406.265.3711 or email [alumni@msun.edu](mailto:alumni@msun.edu).

[Read more...](#)

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## CAPTURE THE BEAST SCAVENGER HUNT – April 30

6:30 pm Gather your team (max 5 students) & Check-In @ SUB Front Desk

7:00 pm “Capture the Beast” Campus Scavenger Hunt begins...  
8:00 pm All teams report back to SUB & upload photos/videos  
8-10 pm BEARPAW BEAST AFTER PARTY & AWARDS, SUB Lights Lounge

Team members w/ the most points win \$50 Havre Chamber of Commerce gift certificates

Team members w/ the best costumes win \$50 Havre Chamber of Commerce gift certificates

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## **Voices of the Hi-Line, International Poetry Reading - Apr 29**

Campus and community members are invited to celebrate a love of poetry and languages at the International Poetry Reading, "Voices of the Hi-Line," on the evening of April 29th, at 7.00 pm in the Cowan Hall Theatre. Co-organizers Valerie Guyant, associate professor of English and Gwen Hart, ~~assistant~~ associate professor of English, invite members of the community, students, faculty, and staff to celebrate our collective linguistic and cultural diversity in the form of a poem, song, or chant. All pieces will be read/performed in any language other than standard modern English. Ancient languages, modern languages, and fictional languages are all encouraged.

If you are interested in performing, please email [valerie.guyant@msun.edu](mailto:valerie.guyant@msun.edu). Kindly include the name of the poem (if you already know it) and the language you will be using.

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## **Science Saturday Series - May 3**

The “Science Saturday” series provides teachers of grades 5-12 with tools to grow STEM opportunities in classrooms across the Hi Line. Participants can earn 5 hours of Professional Development Units each Saturday. This series is offered at no cost to participants.

**Science Saturday III: Medicinal Plants of Montana** May 3, 2025: 10am 4pm

[Click Here for more information...](#)

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## **Nurses Pinning – May 9**

The annual Nurses Pinning will occur at the Prairie Farms on May 9. This event is by invitation only as it has limited space available for guests. Please family and friends only.

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## Montana Constitution Roadshow Coming to MSU-Northern – May 13

Upper Seven Law will present the Montana Constitution Roadshow on Tuesday, May 13, from 12:00–1:00 PM in Hensler Auditorium at MSU-Northern.

This engaging, hour-long presentation explores Montana's unique constitution, government transparency, and the rule of law. Hosted by nonprofit law firm Upper Seven, the event invites everyone to join the conversation about what makes our state's foundation of government so distinctive.

[Click here to register for the free event...](#)

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## Advising and Registration

### SOAR (Student Outreach Advising & Registration)

- Sessions will be broken down between virtual and in-person events
- Virtual sessions will have the option of zoom or over-the-phone if zoom is not an option
- Information about all of our support services will be sent to each student that attends virtual (hopefully in the form of short video clips)
- Going forward – SOAR, Housing, & Orientation dates will be selected and open in the fall for students to register for the events

### *Virtual Session Dates*

- Friday, May 16, 2025
- Friday, June 27, 2025
- Friday, July 25, 2025
- Friday, August 1, 2025

### *In-person Dates*

- Friday, April 25, 2025
  - Friday, June 13, 2025
  - Friday, July 11, 2025
  - Monday, August 18, 2025 (During Navigate Northern Orientation)
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## NEXT WEEK

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### Friday, April 18

- MSUN Rodeo 7:00PM - Bigger Better Barn

- University Day (no classes, offices OPEN)

## **Saturday, April 19**

- MSUN Rodeo 7:00 - Bigger Better Barn

## **Sunday, April 20**

- Summer 2025 and Fall 2025 Graduation Applications Due

## **Monday, April 21**

- Registration for Fall Semester 2025 Begins -New Students

## **Tuesday, April 22,**

- Retirement Reception 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM – SUB Ballroom

## **Wednesday, April 23**

- Brown Bag Lecture: Idle Assets to Active Learning - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## **Thursday, April 24**

- MSUN Rodeo @ Miles City Community College

## **Friday, April 25**

- MSUN Rodeo @ Miles City Community College
- SOAR Event for New Students - 9:00 AM
- Founders' Excellence Awards Dinner - 5:30 PM

## **Saturday, April 26**

- MSUN Rodeo @ Miles City Community College
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MSU-NORTHERN

# TidBit

By: William J. Lanier

## (#435) Northern Alumni Being Recognized

Recently multiple Northern Alumni were recognized for outstanding achievements in various fields. If you see any of these outstanding Alumni please take time to congratulate them for their achievements.

**Jen La Fromboise Wagner** – At the Montana Spring Gear Up Planning Meeting she received the Gear Up Administrator of the Year. Jen is currently the Assistant Superintendent for the Browning Public School District.

**Bridget Kallenberger** – Received the Exemplary Service Award from the Montana Public Health Association. This was for "... recognition of 20 years of service dedicated to public health in Hill County...".

**Rudy James** – Captured his 11th Masters Folkstyle National Championship  
**Ted Hill** – Montana Coach of the Year for Class A Boys Wrestling Laurel High School

**Cameron Neiss** – Montana Coach of the Year for Class A Girls Wrestling Ronan High School

**Taylor Cummings** – Montana Coach of the Year for Class AA Girls Basketball Bozeman Gallatin High School

**Dustin Kraske** – One of ten coaches from Montana that were announced as finalists for national coach of the year by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association. Dustin retired from coaching the Havre High Lady Blue Ponies last year after coaching them for 18 years that included 6 state championships.

If there is anything that you would like me to highlight, please let me know by e-mailing me at [wjlanier1963@yahoo.com](mailto:wjlanier1963@yahoo.com) Thank you.

Visit our website

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