

Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce News

August
2020



408 NE Main Street
Lewistown, MT 59457
406-535-5436
lewchamb@midrivers.com

Chew Choo Report August By Charlie Denison

It feels like a long time ago we ran our July 3 train. It was a nice ride enjoyed by all. Chamber Director Jo McCauley didn't know exactly what to expect of her first ride, but she was delighted, as was her father (who was lucky enough to be in town for the only train of the month). We were saddened to have to cancel the July 11, July 18 and Aug. 1 trains, but with the ripple effects of the coronavirus plus some mechanical issues we were left with no choice. Here at the Chamber we are doing all we can to ensure the safety of the passengers, the staff and the entertainers. We want people to be comfortable and enjoy a trip back in time to the Wild West Charlie Russell romanticized.

We are grateful for the hard work and dedication of Kim Ferrell and her Harry's crew. Eric Redfield of ER's Repair LLC has been working overtime to bring our mechanical issues to successful resolution, including several trips to Billings. We also greatly appreciate Carla Allen and Central Montana Rail. This has been a challenging year for all of us, but, despite the global pandemic, the train remains in demand. We look forward to resuming the train season August 14 (this train is sold out!) and will do all we can to keep it safe, smooth and fun for all on board. If all goes as planned, we will also have an Aug. 29 train, which continues to fill up.

A Note from Jo:

July was so full of activity its hard to keep track of it all. Luckily, I have an amazing volunteer and supporter in my husband. You may have seen us out and about recently as we measured off larger vendor spaces for the modified Chokecherry Festival lay-out. We also handed out water and snacks during the Pyro/FX Fireworks. Thank you again to the Jackson family for the use of their land to set up a safe and spectacular event. Regular monthly meetings, special meetings regarding the train, meetings with our website guru, Chris Cooler to get the gift shop off the ground. Has anyone else noticed her patience seems to be infinite? Thanks, Chris!

The LACC Golf Tournament at Judith Shadows and Pine Meadows had an 11-team turnout. Congratulations to Kevin, Dennis, Nate and Shawn from the Century team for your first-place finish!

The Central MT Fair was this week and we were able to meet many community members, answer questions and hand out some 2019 swag.

Lastly, thank you to the Lewistown community. My father visited recently and was warmly welcomed and believes my decision to move to Central Montana was well made! - Jo



CREEL FUNERAL HOME

When you experience the loss of a loved one, you can trust Creel Funeral Home to guide you through the arrangements necessary to create a meaningful ceremony that celebrates the unique life being honored. Our staff is committed to providing your family with the highest quality care in your time of need, and we take pride in our responsibility to lighten your burden as you take the first steps toward healing and recovery.

Staff members of the Creel Funeral Home are caring and experienced professionals who understand that understand each family is unique and has personal requests and traditions. These requests are of utmost importance to our staff of licensed professional funeral directors.

601 West Main Street, Lewistown, MT 59457

406-538-8755

www.creelfuneralhome.com

WELCOME

DAWSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

New Member



REBOOT CENTRAL MONTANA

August 6th - Part 1: Rebooting After the Pandemic

Learn 7 initiatives to help organizations, attractions, restaurants and retail shops recover.

August 20th - Part 2: Keeping the Dream Alive

Learn 26 low-to-no-cost ideas to implement now to keep local businesses afloat, lift spirits and promote our area for future visitation.



SNOWY MOUNTAIN
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Snowy Mountain Development Corporation and the Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce are providing a 2-part webinar event at the Snowy Mountain Development offices. This Destination Development Association webinar will be conducted by Roger Brooks.

Sessions are 1 hour each and will be held over the lunch hour for convenience.

Look for registration and more information soon from LACC or SMDC.

The August 10, 2020 Ladies Night Out will be held at 5:30 PM at the Central Montana Museum & Historical Society with Director Shirley Barrick.

We will order from Little Big Men and have it delivered. We can enjoy the museum and some social time in the conference room.

Please RSVP to 535-5436 by Friday, August 7th.

**Inserts due to the Chamber for
September's edition of the LACC News
by Friday, August 21, 2020.**

If you would like to have your business in the Members Spotlight, please contact the Chamber to reserve a spot.



Chamber booth at the Central MT Fair!

The Chokecherry Corner

Things at the Chamber have become busier now that our health and safety plan was accepted by the city/county officials. We are excited to host this popular annual event on September 12, 2020 from 8 AM – 5 PM. The Chamber will take every precaution, including distancing vendors, moving food and entertainment areas out of the main thoroughfare, masks, sanitation procedures and stations. The festival can be held safely and still be fun!



Congratulations to Century Companies, Inc.

LACC Golf Tournament 2020 winning team!

ROWL(Recycle Our Waste Lewistown) is pleased to be up and running again. We are located on Lewis Lane off the Truck Bypass.

- Clean #1 plastic bottles and jugs that are see-through. They must have a neck (not drink glasses).
- Clean #2 translucent bottles and jugs (milk, water, vinegar, etc.) – no colored nor solid nor white plastic of any kind.
- No lids or caps
- No plastic food containers shaped like a box – such as berries, relish trays, lettuce and bakery goods are sold in. No clamshells.

NOTE: some see-through jugs are not a #1 nor #2 and cannot be recycled. Check on the jug itself. EXAMPLES: some iced teas and syrups and sauces/salsas. If non-permitted items are left at the ROWL shed, our volunteers separate these by hand and we have to take them to the garbage/land fill.

ROWL is a totally volunteer-run local non-profit program.

We appreciate Central MT residents for supporting our efforts – by donating plastics which keeps those out of the landfills. Also, thanks to those

who donate financially allowing us to purchase large plastic bags for people to use for recyclable materials.

New volunteers are always welcome. To volunteer or donate or if you have questions, please call Rosemary Kent at 350 2283.



408 NE Main Street
Lewistown, MT 59457

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lewistown, MT
59457
Permit No. 194**

JLW Architecture
Jeff Whitcraft
464 Rifle Range Road
Lewistown, MT 59457

2020 Board of Directors

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Kevin Myhre – President
Dennis Descheemaeker – Vice President
Jeff Whitcraft – Secretary
Ronda Jensen – Treasurer

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Lonnie Mannin
Ralph Mihlfeld
Todd Smith
Abbey Wichman
Scott Chauvet

Phone: 406-535-5436

Fax: 406-535-5437

Toll free: 866-912-3980

www.lewistownchokecherry.com

www.montanadinnertrain.com

www.lewistownchamber.com



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF LEWISTOWN

George Mueller's family brings Solar Energy to the Boys and Girls Club

In George Mueller's Eulogy, Sally Mueller, George's niece wrote: 'George gave generously.'

He gave to many in our Lewistown community. His number one reason was because he did not want that "blankety blank" government to get that money (if you knew George you will surely smile at that). Very close after was reason #2: because Lewistown was his

home! He told stories of rattle snake hunting, how Lewis & Clark school grounds once housed the best prairie dog town where he would go and hunt, and stories of the many organizations he was involved with, his favorite being the Shriners.

George, loved kids, even though he did not have any himself! Nancy Rath's was a dear friend of George and of the Club, and orchestrated George's relationship with the Club. His first gift was to help buy your Club's current facility at 134 Park St. George offered to give \$100. After hearing Nancy speak about the Club's needs and the amazing kids the Club serves; George decided to give \$10,000. His gift was the first of six major gifts that gave the Club the jump start to the Capital Campaign of 2007 which allowed the Club to raise over \$600,000 in 25 days to buy the facility the Club calls home.

George passed a few years ago, and in that passing, shared his legacy to his Nieces and with their families; Ruth Mueller (Daniel Poli), Sally Mueller (Richard Opper) and Glenda Christensen (Tim Christensen). The Nieces are spread out geographically: Sally in Missoula, Ruth in New Mexico and Glenda in *****, and even with their own community needs, they are choosing to invest George's legacy back to Lewistown.

George Mueller's family has made a gift to the Club that will benefit the Club for years to come! They are matching the Northwestern Energy grant for the Club to have Solar Energy.



Proud Board Members of your local BG Club of Lewistown:

- Dorothy Gremaux
- Katie Spika
- Dr. David Holecek
- Deanna Stevenso
- Megan Bartel
- Dan Rhyner
- Nancy Puckett
- Dave Pillar
- Zach Rouhtzan
- Jennifer Weeden
- Dianne Scotten
- Shawn Briggs
- Matt Ventresca

102 Solar Energy Panels are being installed and will help cut costs and give the Club clean energy. In addition, the youth are learning about Solar Energy as the panels are installed and future lessons will be incorporated for youth during the year.

Sally shared in her Eulogy that in Georges final days he spoke about the importance of friendship.

George, you were a dear friend to us in so many ways! Some of our kids of the Club grew up with visiting you on a regular basis! You told stories, shared laughs and I am not going to lie, every once in awhile I would cringe at what you might tell the kids. You were an honest man. We love you and appreciate you! Special thanks to George's family and especially to Sally and Daniel for giving special help to the completion of the project.



Photo: 2013, Kids of Club visiting George.

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



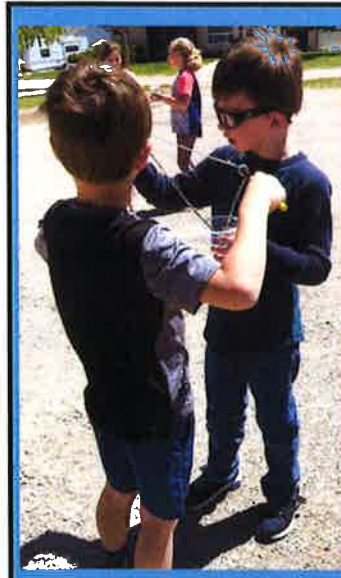
The Club and COVID19:

BG Club of Lewistown reopened May 18 to limited numbers of youth (after being closed for much of March, through April and the first part of May). In working with local sanitation officials, the Club was able to expand service to additional youth on June 1 and again on June 15th. We are now serving all youth who had been on our wait list and still needed care; however, we were not able to expand enrollment beyond our currently enrolled youth due to staffing, space and COVID limitations.

The Club continues to abide by special guidelines in relation to services that include:

- ◆ Structure of meal service.
- ◆ Separation of youth by class for both inside and outside activities.
- ◆ Volunteer utilization.
- ◆ Increased schedule of sanitization.

The Club is proud of the staff, families and kids who have adjusted to the changes! We feel that inspite of the changes, and probably even due to some of them, that we are having one of the best summers ever!



Titan returns strong and healthy!

You may remember this little dude had a terrible ski accident and broke his femur bone in two! The community stepped up and helped with some monetary needs for the family! Thank You!

It is now Summer, the pins holding his bone remain but you couldn't even tell he'd been hurt...he runs, jumps and is doing great! He should be able to do sports and live up life!

What great news!

We love this picture! The smiles, the grand-kids, the amazing people, Dick doing a selfie, Nancy cracking up at the whole thing...just love it! Congrats to our friends, Dick & Nancy Rath's who are finding their new rhythm and enjoying retirement! Dick & Nancy retired from Rath's Veterinary



Services at the end of 2019! The Boys & Girls Club finally caught up with them this last month to celebrate with a little lunch & we are happy to report that retirement is looking good on them. They are still working cows on their families ranch & answering occasional veterinary calls but we love that they took the time for lunch & spent some time with us! We love you both! Congratulations!



Yogo Inn Volunteer Initiative Program draws winners!!! Congratulations to the Sherrodd/Long Family, Brown Family, Petzak Family, Vargas Family, Durbin Family and Martin Family! Each family received a certificate for a poolside room due to their commitment and contribution as volunteers for the Club!



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF LEWISTOWN

COVID has brought changes to our BG Club programming and with every change we stick with that culture of the Club: To be positive and make it glass half full!

The same is going for our fundraising events! Changes are coming and without much force, we are super excited and super positive!

Let us tell you about them in as short of fashion as possible:

The Allied Steel, Town & Country and Moore Farmers Oil Chokecherry Jam is going Drive In Style! September 11th, join us at the Lewistown Municipal Airport as we toe tap through the night! Kyle Shobe & the Walk 'Em Boys will be the featured entertainment! Space only allows for 170 cars, so purchase your 'car pass' early! \$40 pre event, \$50 at event. **Additional thanks to the Tagline Sponsors: Greater MT Land Company, Lewistown Insurance, Lewistown Honda and We Recycle Montana!**

Countdown to Christmas is now the **ThanksGifting Event!** The Club got creative and changed the format – we are now selling 1000 tickets instead of 500 which has allowed the Club to double the income section, that income increase of \$10,000 is getting invested right back into the community with the purchase of gift certificates directly from our local stores and Chamber! All certificates (except for a handful of folks who wouldn't let us gift them monies) are 100% an infuse of monies back into the community! **Title Sponsors include Besel Construction and Fergus Federal Credit Union. Your \$100 Club Sponsor is the Bank of the Rockies!** Tickets sold in mid September through November until they are **SOLD OUT!**

Festival of Trees is going to look different too! We are hot and heavy into planning and looking for quality committee members! All Live and Silent Auction items will need to be submitted by November 1, which will allow the event items to be entered into an online bidding format. While we hope to have various locations to gather in safe numbers and provide social distancing we are making plans for all sorts of situations!

It is going to be a great year because of you and your support!

CHOCHECHERRY JAM
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA
Drive In Style
at the **AIRPORT**

ALLIED STEEL
Town & Country
FOODS
Moore Farmers Oil
Ph. 406-374-2555

The **ThanksGifting** Event

Presented by **Besel Construction** & **Fergus**

OVER \$10,000 In Local Prizes
Two grand prizes: \$500 & \$1000 Cash!
Prizes drawn EVERYDAY between November 1 & Thanksgiving

\$100 Club
(Buy 5 tickets to be entered into extra drawings)
Four \$250 Cash Drawings

\$20 Tickets

brought to you by **Bank of the Rockies** **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

Ballyhoo Tickets available at Boys & Girls Club, Sport's Center, Seiden Drug Call 535-2257 for More Information
Winners determined by NV Lottery



Boys & Girls Club
Festival of Trees

GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF LEWISTOWN

Inside look at the Club's summer happenings:

By the end of Summer, our kitchen will have prepared over 4000 snacks and meals!



Lynn, Lana and Falan teaching cooking!

30 Birdhouses hammered and out the door because of Bob Passow cutting and assembling kits!



Events for you, from your local BG Club.



Back a Kid Campaign: Give an annual or monthly gift to support kids who couldn't otherwise afford to attend the Club while also supporting the Club's operational expenses.



CHS Big Sky & Nicole Wines Livestock 30 Days of Beef: Tickets sold in March, Event in April! We love Central MT Agriculture! 60 beef prizes given throughout the month. Hubbard Feeds is your \$100 Club Sponsor!



Allied Steel, Moore Farmer's Oil & Town & Country Chokecherry Jam: Concert that kicks off the front end of the Chokecherry Festival weekend! Save the date and get ready to tap your toe! Great music every year! Tagline sponsors include: Lewistown Honda, Lewistown Insurance, Greater MT Land Company and We Recycle Montana.

This year we are switching things up from the Countdown to Christmas Event! Welcome to the **Besel Construction & Fergus Federal Credit Union ThanksGifting Event**, over \$10,000 in prizes. Tickets sold in October, Raffle in November—right in time for Holiday shopping! Bank of the Rockies is your \$100 Club Sponsor!



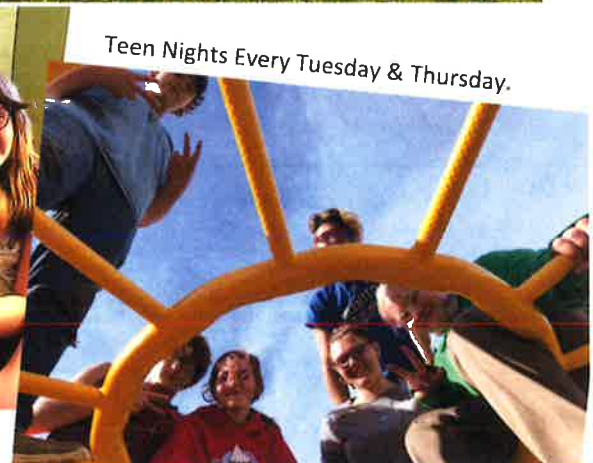
Festival of Trees has become the signature event for the Boys and Girls Club! Live, Silent Auctions and raffles—OH MY! December 5th.



Empowering YOUTH, Strengthening FUTURES.



Boys and Girls Club is excited to serve and have impact with youth of the Central MT community! You make that happen by your exceptional support! Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have questions, we would love to help: 406-535-2257. Ask for Abby.



Teen Nights Every Tuesday & Thursday.

What does the Central Montana Head Start Program offer?



- Evidence-based Vision & Hearing Screenings
- Nutritious Meals for breakfast and lunch
- Kindergarten Readiness Skills Training
- Comprehensive Early Childhood Education
- Safe Learning Environments

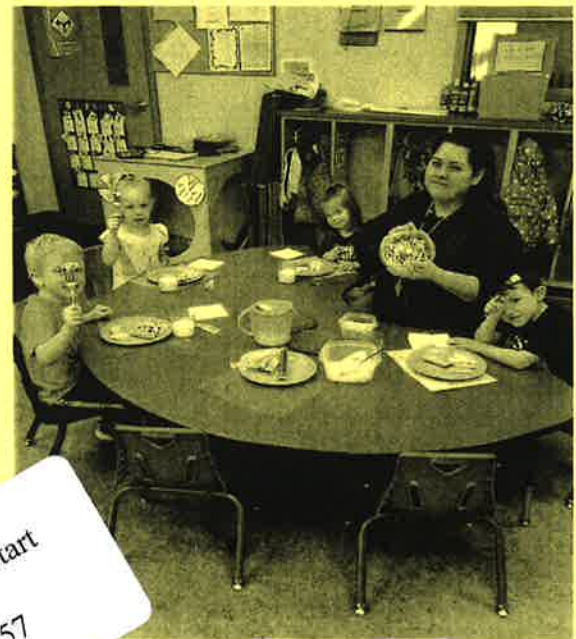



- Health, Oral Health, & Nutrition Education
- Health Screenings
- Oral Health Screenings & Exams

- Early Intervention Services
- Development & Social-Emotional Screenings
- Linkage to Support Services and Community Resources
- Transitional Services



- Family Engagement Activities
- Family Library
- Parenting Training
- Classroom Involvement Activities



 Central Montana Head Start
25 Meadowlark Lane
Lewistown, MT 59457

