

## Community CALENDAR

**FRI, OCT 25 – Flu Shot Clinics.** 7AM – 6:30PM. Benefits Northwest - 25 14th Ave. NW. Stay healthy this winter and get you and your families flu shots at Benefits! (Oct 25, 28).

**FRI, OCT 25 – Think Pink at the Rink!** 4001 29th St SW, Great Falls. Join the Great Falls Americans hockey team for the second annual Think Pink for the Girls game.

**FRI, OCT 25 – Allegedly Red band at Whiskey Ridge.** 8PM, 601 3rd Ave NW, Great Falls

**SAT, OCT 26, 1PM-4PM – Story Quilt Project** with Jean Wakely. Great Falls Public Library 301 2nd Ave N, Great Falls.

**SAT, OCT 26, 9AM – Ghouls & Goblins Fall Craft Show 2024.** 2 Park Dr S (Civic Center Park), Great Falls. Family friendly Halloween Fall Craft Show sponsored by the Great Falls Farmers Market! Enjoy spooktacular vendors, trick or treating, live radio broadcasts, free kids activities, free photo booth, costume contest and more! Please direct any inquiries to our Facebook page at Great Falls Farmers Market.

**SAT, OCT 26 – Annual Halloween Party** at The Wild Hare, 518 Central Ave., Great Falls.

**SAT, OCT 26 – Community Halloween Party,** 6PM-8PM, Central Christian Church, 1025 Central Ave, Great Falls. Spooky season is here! Put on your best costume and join us for an evening of all-ages fun with candy, games, snacks and more. All are welcome!

**SUN, OCT 27 - Trunk or Treat, Lions Park,** Great Falls by Kiwanis Club of Great Falls. 1PM-4PM. We will also have a haunted house, DJ Sarge, smores, hot cocoa, and candy!

**SUN, OCT 27 – Annual Halloween Spooktacular** by Lewis and Clark Foundation at the Interpretive Center. 12PM – 4PM; 4201 Giant Springs Rd, Great Falls. It's OCTOBER so that means it's time for our Annual Halloween Spooktacular on Sunday, October 27 from 12noon - 4pm. The FREE community event is a fun afternoon of costumes, crafts and candy! This year we are showing Hocus Pocus in the theater as well.

**WED, Oct 23 - The Montana Repertory Theatre** will perform "Monster + Farmer, A Frankenstein Tale" at 10AM in the Dutton/Brady Public School auditorium. The public is invited.

**SAT, Oct 26 - Halloween with Great Falls Symphony.** 10:30am. Get your family dressed up in their favorite Halloween costume and join others for a family matinee to listen to the Spookiest Music Ever! Free tickets at <https://www.gfsymphony.org/halloween>

**THU, OCT. 31 - Pumpkin Decorating Contest** at Fairfield-Teton Public Library. Drop off your pumpkin by 4PM, then come back to vote & trick-or-treat from 5-8PM.

**THU, OCT. 31 - Fairfield Trunk or Treat. 5:30PM. NEW LOCATION:** 3 Rivers East parking lot (across from NewLife Church)! The more trunks the more fun! So bring the kiddos and join us!

**THU, Oct 31 - Great Falls Downtown Safe Trick or Treat.** 3PM-5PM. 318 Central Ave, Great Falls. Join us in Downtown Great Falls on Thursday, October 31st from 3:00pm to 5:00pm to celebrate Halloween with our annual Safe Trick-or-Treat!

**THU, Oct 31 - Trunk or Treat at Taylor's Auto Max.** 4100 10th Ave. S., Great Falls. 4:00pm - 6:00pm. 727-0380 for more info.

**THU, Oct 31 - 9th Annual Trunk or Treat,** 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Faith Lutheran Church, 1300 Ferguson Dr., Great Falls

**FRI, Nov. 8 - Harvest Howl '24 - Featuring Asleep at the Wheel and Dale Watson.** MT Expo Park. For tickets, go to [harvest-howl.com](http://harvest-howl.com).

## 3Rivers provides funds to Cross Country Team

Team offers late season update to readers.



Team picture back row, left to right: Ashyr Tweet, Colter Dowdy, Isaiah Talton, Cal Hatch, Jack Hopwood, Weston Murphy, Wyatt Yeager, Kesston Thomas, Bryce Hooper. Front row, left to right: Coach Callee Peebles, Coach Misti Pearson, Kamree Pearson, Tessa McFarlin, Daesey McNary, Shienne McNary, Madi Hatch, Madysen Adams, Coach Krystal Tweet.

Photo courtesy Kande Yeager

The Fairfield High School Cross Country team is about to wrap up our second season.

It was decided to co-op with Choteau this year. Our team consists of 12 Fairfield runners and 3 Choteau runners with Krystal Tweet, Misti Pearson and Callee Peebles as the coaches.

We have competed in seven meets: Cut Bank, Shelby, Havre, Missoula, Great Falls, Helena and Townsend. A cross-country meet consists of running three miles. The State Cross Country meet will be held in Missoula on October 26th, 2024.

Our boys' team will have seven runners with one alternate. Our girls' team will have 4 runners competing.

We have had a very successful season and couldn't be prouder of our runners. They have each met several of their individual goals, as well as, setting personal records throughout the

season. They have worked hard and continue to be encouraging teammates to one another.

We would like to extend our appreciation to the community members who have supported our team; especially 3 Rivers Communications for providing the funds for us to purchase an athletic tent.

The tent provided shelter during our meets. It has been wonderful for the runners to have a place of shade to rest under between races.

We would also like to thank Harvest Hills Golf Course for allowing our runners to practice there.

As volunteer coaches with a young team, we deeply appreciate the support. If you or your business would be interested in donating to the Fairfield Cross County team please contact Krystal Tweet for more details, (406) 899-9485.

## Fairfield Trunk or Treat set for Halloween at new location



The Fairfield Junior Women's Club is hosting another trunk-or-treat on Halloween in a new location. The location has moved to the 3 Rivers Communications east side parking lot, across from the NewLife Church. Individuals, businesses and organizations planning to participate can start setting up at 5 p.m. The event runs from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

"The more trunks the better, so please join the fun," said Junior Women's Club President Nikki Misner. If you have questions, contact Misner at 406-450-2467 or any Fairfield Junior Women's member. Those planning to participated aren't required to let the organizers know but they appreciate knowing to make sure there is enough space.

## Happy Halloween!

From your friends at the

TIMES-LEADER

## Fairfield Firemen pack Community Hall at Pancake Supper



Brand Evans, foreground, and James Konen stayed busy cooking the sausages. Darryl L. Flowers/Sun Times photos



Notice that the pancake that Fairfield Volunteer Fireman Nick Dale is flipping is blurry. Yes, it was a big, hungry crowd, so the work at the griddle was fast-paced.

If you missed the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Department's annual Pancake Supper this year, you missed one of the best yearly feeds in the area.

About halfway through the feed, and it was easy to see that there was a big turnout, but the firemen kept the food coming.

For me, being from Tennessee, the sausage is what makes the day. Whether link or patty (my preference is patty sausage). The sausage is made here by Brian Larson at Benchland Processing.

A few large patties and a few scrambled eggs, you have the perfect breakfast... or lunch... or dinner.

The firemen packed 'em in this year and as people entered the Community Hall, many took advantage of buying a ticket for the big gun drawing that the department is about to undertake.

If you haven't gotten your gun raffle tickets, contact any member of the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Department.

## Celebrating the Drop In Center's new dining room

Last week, the Fairfield Drop-In Center hosted their "Bring a Friend" in their recently remodeled dining room.

A delicious turkey dinner was served, Stacey Peterson and Betty Bulik did a great job serving everyone.

Carol and Charlie McWilliams joined Marlene and Nick Konen. Sheila Colten, Betty Van Setten, Nina Freeman, Bet-

ty Nelson and Alice Pedersen enjoyed lunch and chatting.

Leo Mueller and Wayne Vatsndal shared stories.

Marlene Konen, Andy Watson, Gary and Sylvia Waters sang a few songs.

Mark your calendars now... the next Bring a Friend dinner is planned for November 20.



Photos courtesy Jayette Robb

## Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN) highlights Power School's program

Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN) is highlighting Power Public School District's non-congregate meal program this month!

In Power, MT, Becky Taylor is the one who ensures kids have delicious and nutritious meals over the summer months. She talks about how she started the program in 2023, "I surveyed the community, to see what would work best for families." The options on the survey consisted of every-day pickups, a few times a week, and once a week. Families chose once a week.

The Summer Food Service Program or SFSP allows eligible sites to serve free meals for kids under 18, and receive federal reimbursements for each meal served. Before the pandemic, schools could only serve sit-down or "congregate" meals through SFSP, meaning that families would have to bring each child to eat breakfast and then again for lunch. During the pandemic, the federal government expanded SFSP to include to-go or "non-congregate" options, where families could pick-up on behalf of

the child. 2024 is the first year where non-congregate is a permanent option for rural schools.

When asked why non-congregate was a better option, Becky explained the once a week distribution made it easier for families to access food in their rural areas by making the trip to town worth-while.

"What makes Becky's program special" says Laura Toeckes, the Food Service Director at Power School, "is that 40-50% is cooked from scratch. She cooks fresh muffins, pasta, and salads. When I went camping with my family this summer, one of my kids missed her pasta dish." Becky's mini penne pasta dish has green peppers, onions, pepperoni, sausage and Montana Marinara.

"Kids vote with their forks," says Samantha Dennison, Child Nutrition Manager at MFBN. Between last summer and this one, the numbers doubled from about 40 students participating to 80. In total, Becky served 3,645 meals in summer 2024. Thanks to dedicated staff like Becky, summer meal programs not only exist but can flourish in Montana.