

MonDak Heritage Center

120 3rd Ave SE
Sidney, MT. 59270
Phone: 406-433-3500
Fax: 406-433-3503

NOTE new email!
Email: mdhc@richland.org
www.mondakheritagecenter.org

Hours

Tuesday - Friday 10am - 4pm
Thursday evening 4pm - 7pm
Saturdays 1pm - 4pm



Please check if your Membership needs to be renewed. You will find the expiration on the mailing label.

Where Art &

Staff:

Carrell Evans - Acting Interim Director
Leann Pelvit - Administrative Assistant,
Debi Fox - Experience Works
Jay Witte - AmeriCorps VISTA

Board of Directors:

David H. Branson- Board President
Gerald J. Navratil- Vice President
Camilia Skinner- Treasurer
Jean Campbell- Secretary
Sara Berndt, Margaret Bradley, Carrell
Evans, Bill Forrester, Stefan Jaronski, Linda
Mann, Candy Markwald, Duane Pust



3rd Annual Celebrating Chocolate

Chocolate Dipped Jalapenos and Fiery Chocolate are just two of the possibilities that you might find at this year's Mexican Fiesta Celebrating Chocolate. Strolling Mariachi singers will perform throughout the evening. Wine and beer will be available for sampling as well as cold milk, punch, coffee and water to cleanse your palette between chocolates. Additional food items will include fruit, cheese, crackers and other snacks.

The past two years have been a huge success enjoyed by all who attended. No one left still hungry for chocolate. Tickets go on sale to members starting January 18th at 10am. General public tickets sales will start Saturday evening January 23rd at the Cotton Wood Blue Grass concert. Cost of tickets will be \$15.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members. Memberships may be purchased at the time of sale to receive the reduced price chocolate ticket. Tickets are limited, so stop in early.

"Chocolatiers" for this year will be The Fringe, South 40, Sidney Herald, Carmen Simonis, Mo O'Mara, Tammy Linder, Shelly Kessler, Sarah Parsons, Laura Senior, Wanda Faul, Carrell Evans, Dorene and Heather McDonald, Renee Fehlauer, Kim Mann and Jean Campbell. Additional contributors will be Reynolds Market, Valley View IGA, Candy Bouquet, Bean Bag, Party Central, Finnicum's Furniture, Miller's Corner, Nancy Simonsen, Avic Hoff, Afton Ray Rossol, Hannah Whiteman, Bev Forthum and Friends of the MonDak.

A very special thank you to our corporate sponsor, Stockman Bank. Without the generosity of these people and our community and members this event would not be possible.



PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
SIDNEY MT
59270
PERMIT NO 237

Acting Interim Director's Letter

Welcome to a New Year the MDHC:

As I try to fill Sandy's shoes, at least temporarily, I wanted to share my thoughts on the present and future of the MonDak Heritage Center. It is an amazing place. With grants and the tremendous support of the county, sponsors and our members and long hours of work by staff and volunteers, the transformation over the last five years, from a quiet, little, very nicely done museum and art gallery to a MonDak regional cultural center, has been remarkable. An abundance of cultural and musical events throughout the year in addition to the expanding historical archives and managed collections is a large part of this transformation.

In the works for our collections over the next couple of years beyond completing the cataloging and preservation of the remaining collections, is the development of a separate fossil/dinosaur exhibit with possibly some hands on features. The reorganization of the scene/storefront exhibits will have enhanced signs to tell more of the stories of the items on display and historic residents of the MonDak region. An audio tour system has been developed and will be in operation soon, thanks to this year's VISTA, Jay Witte. The history archives are being organized for easier access for researchers. Completion of the newspaper collections is vital. At this point the hiring of a temporary, full-time (1-2 yrs) archivist and/or curator, with grants and donations, would be key to completing these projects.

The round of cultural events keeps the Center hopping through the year, beginning with "Celebrating Chocolate" in February to help ward off the cold and keep the women sane; the annual "Quilt Show" which will have a Quilting 101 class added this year; the "Youth Art Show" which showcases the amazing talent the youth of our region possess in abundance; the "Spring Fling" with its birdhouses some of us might envy as homes; and a steady stream of musical events, traveling art and historical exhibits, community programs and special celebrations round out the cultural contributions of the MonDak Heritage Center. For the enhanced enjoyment and added comfort at all the events, sound equipment, acoustical draperies, chairs one can actually sit in for a time and other projects, have all been purchased with donations from the community and our members. Thank you all supporters of the MonDak Heritage Center.

WOW. We have it ALL! Welcome to a New Year at the MonDak Heritage Center.

Sincerely,
Carrell Evans
Interim Acting Director

Coming Exhibits and Events



Buffalo Hunter Vic Smith March 25th 7pm

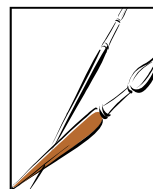
Arch Ellwein brings
Buffalo Hunter
Yellowstone Vic

Smith (1850-1925) to life in a poignant and often humorous first-person portrayal set in 1900. Victor Grant Smith had a varied career as an army scout and dispatch rider, trapper and hunter and trick shot artist and storyteller. Based on Smith's memoir, Ellwein recounts Smith's experiences with the likes of George Armstrong Custer, Sitting Bull and Theodore Roosevelt. This program can lead to a discussion about the demise of the buffalo and conservation as the actor comes out of character after the performance. Performance made possible thru funding provided by Humanities Montana, the MT Cultural Trust and the National Endowment for the Humanities "We the People".

Youth Art Show March 11th - April 3rd

Sponsored by Edward Jones agents, Enid Huotari, Jerry Hughes and Nick Lonski

The MonDak Heritage Center will be showcasing art work by 7th - 12th grade students from the surrounding area schools. A student doesn't have to be enrolled in an art class at the time of the show. People's Choice awards will be given in each grade division. Please stop in and see the excellent young artists from this area.



Invite a Friend to become a Member

Memberships and tax-deductible donations help make the increasing number of exhibitions, special events and shows possible. Please encourage your friends to become members.

- Membership dollars are primarily used for programming and collections preservations.
- CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL FOR YOUR EXPIRATION DATE

We occasionally publish our membership list in our newsletter and display it on our donor wall. If you wish your name to be excluded please let us know.

The board meetings of the MonDak Historical Society are open to the public and held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the MonDak Heritage Center.

Your membership counts

	Basic	Supporter
Senior	\$15	\$30
Senior Couple	\$25	\$50
Individual	\$20	\$40
Family	\$35	\$70
Business	\$50	\$100
Sustainer	\$100 to \$249	
Sponsor	\$250 to \$499	
Patron of the Arts	\$500 to \$999	
Benefactor	\$1000 to \$2499	
Director's Circle	\$2500 and up	

Consider raising your membership support above the basic level, because even an extra \$20 helps. **All support above the minimum level is tax deductible.**



**Sculpted Landscapes
By Ken Dalgarno**

March 16th - May 1st, 2010

Ken Dalgarno's contemporary art, *Sculpted Landscapes* paints the prairie land as it actually looks with an undercurrent of the inner landscape about the futility of human endeavour. His work is filled with reminders of by-gone rural life and what is now left: abandonment. Dalgarno uses the impasto style as a descriptive tool to implant emotions, both spiritual and physical. Many bright light and dark colors are interwoven throughout his thick textural paintings to symbolize the perseverance of the prairie that his forefathers endured. Life embraces the past: creation and destruction, activity and tranquillity, permanence and fleeting, life and death are all uttered in Dalgarno's art.



**29th Annual Quilt Show
February 10th - March 6th**

Everyone is welcome to enter a quilt or quilts at no charge. Please

have your quilt to the Center by Jan 29th. We offer cash prizes for People's Choice Awards: 1st: \$50, 2nd: \$30, 3rd: \$20. Be sure to stop by and vote for your favorite quilt.

New this year will be Quilting 101 on Saturday, February 27th from 1 - 4pm. If you know someone who has never quilted and would like to start or if you quilt but want to join in the fun, the Piecemakers Quilt Group will be here giving lessons. Participants will complete a 12" square trivet. All supplies will be provided.

- 2010 Celebrating Chocolate February 6th 7pm
- 29th Annual Quilt Show February 10th - March 6th
- Quilting 101 Saturday February 27th 1pm
- Paul Taylor March 11th 7pm
- Buffalo Hunter Vic Smith March 25th 7pm

MonDak Heritage Center

Where Art & History Meet

President's Letter by Dave Branson, Board President

I want to start by once again thanking Sandy Turner for her exemplary service as Center Coordinator. Although Sandy has moved on to new adventures, she continues to volunteer for special events such as Celebrating Chocolate (Be sure to get your tickets early – it will sell out!).

Many people have asked what is happening in terms of hiring a replacement. I am happy to report that an agreement has been finalized between Richland County and the MonDak Historical and Art Society and is in the process of being signed. As I indicated in the last newsletter, we needed this agreement before anything could happen on hiring Sandy's replacement as it specifies the nature of the relationship between the Heritage Center and the County. I want to thank our board vice-president Jerry Navratil who worked tirelessly on this project. The hiring process is starting, but the job is not yet advertised.

As part of the agreement, we will be welcoming the 3 Commissioners or their designated representatives to our Board of Directors. This change in our bylaws, which was welcomed by the Board, provides Richland County added oversight that was needed given their generous level of support.

So what happens in the interim? The agreement specifies that a board member can be appointed as acting Coordinator. We are lucky that board member Carrell Evans, our past board president, has graciously agreed to serve as a part-time Acting Coordinator until a permanent replacement can be hired.

Last I want to mention a couple opportunities to serve: 1) We are looking to form a music committee to help find potential music groups for the Center. If you are interested in helping in this manner, get in touch with me. 2) If you are able to sit at the front desk either on Thursday nights or Saturday afternoons – we can really use help with our current staffing shortage.

I hope to see many of you at the concert January 23rd and at Celebrating Chocolate February 6th. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me (dhbranson@yahoo.com or 489-0463).



Paul Taylor Concert March 11th 7pm

A family performance weaving the story of Australia's history and

people with songs, stories and music of the didgeridoo comes to the stage on March 11th, 2010. Paul Taylor, storyteller/musician, celebrates the culture of his Australian homeland weaving Aboriginal and European roots through a multi-media performance. Paul's CD, "Cooee," won six national awards including Parent's Choice Gold and the Storytelling World Award. Take a trip "down under" with Paul Taylor. This performance is a NAN Concert event. Season and single concert tickets will be available at the door. Join us for a Member's Only Open House to meet the Artist on March 10th from 7 - 9 pm with a demonstration of the didgeridoo, a wind instrument developed by Indigenous Australians of northern Australia.



Scott Kirby Art Exhibit April 6th - Apr 10th Concert Wed April 8th , 7pm

Scott Kirby, professional pianist, joins the NAN tour with his presentation "Main Street Souvenirs." This concert will feature solo piano and commentary accompanied by an exhibit of paintings inspired by the American Great Plains, with an emphasis on Montana. Kirby's music consists of a combination of the "old" and the "new," and features traditional American music from Stephen Foster to Scott Joplin and a series of original compositions inspired by the Great Plains. This special evening is sponsored by the Stockman Bank. If you're a member, and can't attend please join us for our Member's Only Open House on April 6th from 7 - 9pm.