

NEWS CHANNEL 12, KTVH/KBGF
News at 6pm and 10pm
August 15th thru August 20th, 2011

August 15, 2011

LIFESTYLES/THEATRE IN THE PARK

0:50

MONTANA'S SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARKS HAS ARRIVED IN HELENA'S PIONEER PARK. TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE PUT A TWIST ON SHAKESPEARE'S "MUCH A DO ABOUT NOTHING." THE STAGE WAS SET IN THE CIVIL WAR ERA -- COMPLETE WITH COSTUMES AND MUSIC FROM THE PERIOD. THE HELENA COMMITTEE FOR MONTANA SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARKS HAS HELPED FUNDRAISE THE EVENT FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS. THE COMPANY PERFORMS "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE" TOMORROW NIGHT AT SIX-THIRTY.

HEALTH/ SALMONELLA POISONING

0: 37

MONTANA'S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CONFIRMS THE FIRST CASE OF SALMONELLA IN THE STATE THAT'S LINKED TO THE SAME STRAIN AS A NATION-WIDE GROUND TURKEY RECALL. THE MANUFACTURER VOLUNTARILY RECALLED 36-MILLION POUNDS OF THE PRODUCT ON AUGUST THIRD. OFFICIALS SAY THE SICKENED PERSON IS A CASCADE COUNTY RESIDENT AND THE CASE WASN'T SEVERE ENOUGH TO REQUIRE HOSPITALIZATION. THE D-P-H-H-S SUPERVISOR OF FOOD AND CONSUMER SAFETY SAYS A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION DOESN'T INDICATE THE PERSON ATE THE RECALLED TURKEY -- BUT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WAYS TO CONTRACT SALMONELLA. 7:21-34 Melissa Tuemmler, There is a chance that you could've been exposed or cross contamination too from exposure to this product from it being on utensils or on a work surface and then transferring it from another surface. OFFICIALS URGE ANYONE WITH POSSIBLY CONTAMINATED TURKEY TO RETURN IT. FOR THE COMPLETE LIST OF DISTRIBUTORS VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT BEARTOOTH NBC DOT COM.

ENERGY/ PEPOLINE

0: 40

THE U-S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS ASKING MONTANA BUSINESSES TO GET BEHIND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PIPELINE -- SAYING CANADIAN RESOURCES WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR A GROWING ENERGY NEED IN THIS COUNTRY. TODAY -- A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE U-S CHAMBER SAID CONSTRUCTION OF THE KEYSTONE X-L PIPELINE WILL CREATE MORE THAN 20-THOUSAND JOBS IN THE U-S IN THE SHORT TERM... AND BRING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN REVENUE TO MONTANA. THEY'RE TRYING TO PROMOTE AND EDUCATE BUSINESSES ON WHY THEY SHOULD SUPPORT THE CONTROVERSIAL PROJECT. SO FAR - A HANDFUL OF MONTANA BUSINESSES HAVE SIGNED ON, AS WELL AS THE STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Jon Bennion "Even the small businesses. Whether you're a hotel, gas station, grocery store, hardware store. Those kinds of businesses will see positive impacts as well." THE KEYSTONE X-L PIPELINE WOULD BRING MORE THAN **A MILLION BARRELS OF OIL** A DAY FROM CANADA TO THE UNITED STATES.

JOBS/ECONOMY

0: 41

THE U-S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HELD A JOB FAIR FOR GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS, VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES IN GREAT FALLS OVER THE WEEKEND. BEARTOOTH N-B-C'S RYAN WHALEN REPORTS IN TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES -- EVENTS LIKE THIS BENEFIT THE BUSINESSES AND THE VETS. THE BUILDING IS BUSTLING WITH ALL SORTS OF INDUSTRIES AND VETERANS AT ALL DIFFERENT STAGES IN THEIR LIVES. SOME LIKE AARON GURECKI (**GUR-key**) WILL TAKE OFF FOR BASIC TRAINING SOON -- BUT GURECKI IS ALREADY LOOKING TO WHAT COMES AFTER. Aaron Gurecki "I like the energy opportunities with Halliburton, GE, Northwestern Energy. It seems like a career that would be good to take off on." THE U-S CHAMBER SAYS THEIR JOB FAIRS ARE A HIT ACROSS THE COUNTRY. PEOPLE WALK IN WITH ESUMES AND OFTEN WALK OUT WITH JOBS -- BUT IT'S MORE ABOUT CREATING A SYSTEM OF OUTREACH. Kevin Schmiegel "We're bringing together the leaders in Great Falls. They've taken ownership of this issue and when we leave they'll continue to do this on a 24-hour seven day a week basis." THIS IS THE FIRST FAIR IN A RURAL STATE WHERE VETERAN UNEMPLOYMENT IS UPWARDS OF TWENTY TO THIRTY PERCENT. Kevin Schmiegel "When you go to New York, you're dealing with thousands of veterans who are unemployed. When you come to Great Falls, there's a smaller number but there's a greater percentage of unemployment here in Great Falls. "SO THERE'S A NEED -- BUT EMPLOYERS SAY THIS IS NO HAND OUT. VETS BRING A LOT TO THE TABLE. Paul Nash "A lot of the employers we work with are really looking at hiring veterans, just because they know they're going to be very employable. They're going to show up on time. They're drug free. They're not going to be unsafe when they're working." AND WHILE GURECKI'S NOT LOOKING FOR A JOB RIGHT NOW. Aaron Gurecki 16:43 - 16:52 "It's very important to come back and have something lined up and today was good to have all these companies here to talk to. It's very encouraging." WHEN HE'S DONE WITH BASIC TRAINING HE'LL HAVE MORE SKILLS TO FIND HIS POST MILITARY CAREER. IN GREAT FALLS RYAN WHALEN BEARTOOTH N-B-C.

ACCIDENT/ROLLOVER

0: 30

A 22-YEAR-OLD WOMAN ROLLED HER CAR OFF NORTH MONTANA AVENUE IN THE VALLEY TODAY. MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL TROOPER CONNER SMITH SAYS THE WOMAN WAS DRIVING SOUTHBOUND ON NORTH MONTANA AT JOHN G MINE ROAD WHILE FIDGETING WITH HER CD'S. HE SAYS SHE STARTED TO SWERVE AND OVERCORRECTED HER CAR, NEARLY HITTING ANOTHER VEHICLE HEAD ON. SHE OVERCORRECTED AGAIN AND ROLLED HER CAR A COUPLE OF TIMES OFF THE ROAD. "You've got to pay attention to the road. You gotta make sure that when you are driving, you're paying attention to what you are doing and not being distracted. And always wear seatbelts." THE WOMAN WAS NOT WEARING A SEATBELT AT THE TIME. HER AIRBAG DID DEPLOY, BUT SHE WAS NOT HURT.

EDUCATION/NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

0: 25

STATE AND FEDERAL EDUCATION OFFICIALS HAVE COMPROMISED ON MONTANA'S NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND BENCHMARKS FOR THE 20-10 20-11 SCHOOL YEAR. UNDER THE LAW'S "ANNUAL MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES" -- 92-PERCENT OF STUDENTS SHOULD BE PROFICIENT IN READING AND 84-PERCENT IN MATH. THAT PERCENTAGE WAS NOT MET IN MONTANA. THE STATE SUPERINTENDANT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ANNOUNCED NEW STANDARDS TODAY -- LEAVING 16 PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN MONTANA FALLING SHORT INSTEAD OF THE ORIGINAL 155 SCHOOLS.

August 16, 2011

PLANE ACCIDENT/INVESTIGATION

0: 10

TWO PEOPLE ARE DEAD FOLLOWING A SINGLE-ENGINE AIRPLANE CRASH WEST OF BUTTE. IT HAPPENED AROUND ELEVEN O'CLOCK THIS MORNING. A F-A-A SPOKESPERSON SAYS THE TWO PEOPLE ON BOARD THE PLANE WERE THE ONLY FATALITIES. THEIR IDENTITIES HAVEN'T BEEN RELEASED AND THE CAUSE OF THE CRASH IS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION. A NEARBY RESIDENT SAYS HE HEARD SOME NOISE SHORTLY BEFORE THE ACCIDENT -- BUT THOUGHT IT WAS SIMPLY A SEMI ON THE HIGHWAY. I heard kind of a stranger noise than what you usually hear here but I thought it was probably a semi just going down the road with the brake or something like that. THE CRASH HAPPENED BETWEEN ROCKER AND RAMSAY AND CAN BE SEEN JUST SOUTH OF INTERSTATE-90. THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BERT MOONEY AIRPORT SAYS THE PLANE HAD DEPARTED FROM THE BUTTE AIRPORT MONDAY MORNING.

CRIME/TASER INVESTIGATION

0: 44

A HELENA MAN IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION AT BENEFIS HOSPITAL FOLLOWING AN INCIDENT SUNDAY NIGHT WHEN HE WAS TASERED **TWICE** BY A LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY. BUT SHERIFF LEO DUTTON SAYS HE DOESN'T BELIEVE ROGER CHANDLER'S CONDITION IS A RESULT OF THE ELECTRIC SHOCK -- MORE LIKELY HE SAYS IT WAS WHATEVER CAUSED THE 41-YEAR OLD MAN TO ACT SO ERRATICALLY IN THE FIRST PLACE. ON SUNDAY NIGHT - DEPUTIES RESPONDED TO A CALL ON ROSS ROAD WHERE THE MAN WAS ACTING IN AN IRRATIONAL AND DANGEROUS MANNER SAYS DUTTON. HE WAS NOT RESPONSIVE TO DEPUTY'S COMMANDS. Sheriff Leo Dutton "Officers had to do something. They had to protect themselves. They had to protect the person who was out of control and they had to protect or look out for the safety of the public as well." SHERIFF DUTTON SAYS IT'S PROTOCOL TO HAVE INCIDENTS LIKE THIS ONE REVIEWED BY AN OUTSIDE AGENCY. HE'S ASKED THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION TO CONDUCT IT.

TRANSPORTATION/SCHOOL BUS REGULATIONS

0: 34

BOZEMAN SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT KIRK MILLER SAYS THEY'VE BEEN WORKING TO DEVELOP STRICTER GUIDELINES FOR BUS DRIVERS -- AFTER TWO DRIVERS WERE CHARGED WITH DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE ON A FIELD TRIP IN JUNE. THE UPDATED POLICY STATES -- **NO ALCOHOL** ON ANY TRIPS INVOLVING STUDENTS... NO SMOKING CIGARETTES IN SIGHT OF STUDENTS AND NO CELL PHONE USE ON THE ROAD... INCLUDING TEXTING. SUPERINTENDENT MILLER SAYS THE BUS PROVIDER HAS MET EXPECTATIONS AND THE DISTRICT WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE SERVICE AS LONG AS THEY FOLLOW THEIR NEW GUIDELINES. "They really took this very seriously. They were as remorseful and upset about it as, certainly, we were when it happened in the spring and they took immediate action and that's the sign of somebody that's pretty good to work with." THE NEW GUIDELINES WILL APPLY TO ALL DRIVERS TRANSPORTING STUDENTS.

FIRES/SWAN LAKE

0: 30

A FIRE BURNING ABOUT SEVEN MILES SOUTH-EAST OF SWAN LAKE HAS TORCHED ABOUT 490 ACRES OF LAND SINCE IS STARTED ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON. ALTHOUGH THE CAUSE OF THE "SOUTH FORK LOST CREEK" FIRE IS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION -- PRELIMINARY INFORMATION INDICATES IT WAS STARTED BY A PERSON. ONE FIREFIGHTER WAS INJURED MONDAY -- HE WAS TAKEN TO KALISPELL REGIONAL HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT. THE FIRE IS CURRENTLY FIVE-PERCENT CONTAINED. A FEW TRAILS AROUND THE AREA REMAIN CLOSED. WE'LL CONTINUE TO UPDATE THE STATUS OF THE FIRE AS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE.

LIFESTYLES/TROLLEY TRANSFER

0: 34

THE HELENA - LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION IS PLANNING THE FATE OF A HISTORICAL TROLLEY. LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER --ERIC BRYSON-- SAYS THE CITY IS HOPING TO TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OF THE TROLLEY TO THE COUNTY. THE *CITY IS CURRENTLY* IN CHARGE OF THE TROLLEY RESTORATION PROJECT. BUT BUDGET SHORTFALLS HAVE PREVENTED THE CITY FROM CONTRIBUTING MORE TO THE PROJECT. "And at the time, the committee came to the county and asked if the county would be able to make a request to the city to take ownership of the trolley, basically so they could continue to generate interest in the restoration of the trolley project." THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION CHAIR SAYS IT WILL COST AROUND 50-THOUSAND DOLLARS TO COMPLETE THE TROLLEY RESTORATION. THE COMMISSION IS LOOKING FOR A FULL-TIME VOLUNTEER TO TAKE OVER THE DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS OF THE RESTORATION PROJECT.

ENVIRONMENT/FIRE MITIGATION

0: 35

THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT IS TEMPORARILY CLOSING SOME ROADS IN THE SCRATCHGRAVEL HILLS FOR FIRE MITIGATION. THE CLOSURES WILL BE IN AFFECT FROM AUGUST 24TH TO NOVEMBER 6TH. TREES WILL BE REMOVED FROM 210 ACRES OF LAND AS PART OF THE SCRATCHGRAVEL HILLS WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT. THE PUBLIC IS ASKED TO STAY AT LEAST 300 FEET FROM THE WORKING EQUIPMENT BECAUSE THE MACHINES CAN THROW DEBRIS. RED DEAD TREES WILL BE REMOVED AND SOME GREEN TREES WILL BE THINNED OUT. THE PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO LESSEN THE SEVERITY AND ALLOW FOR SAFER SUPPRESSION SHOULD A FIRE OCCUR IN THE AREA.

AUGUST 17, 2011

ENVIRONMENT/POISONIOUS

0: 30

WHILE ALGAE LOOKS RELATIVELY HARMLESS -- ECOLOGISTS AT THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SAY IT'S PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA TO STAY AWAY FROM IT WHILE ENJOYING TIME ON THE WATER. BLUE-GREEN ALGAE IS IN BLOOM OVER THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS IN MANY AREA LAKES. THE TWO PREDOMINANT STRAINS ARE CAPABLE OF PRODUCING POISONOUS CYTOTOXINS. THEY ALSO MULTIPLY IN A MATTER OF HOURS. ECOLOGISTS AREN'T SURE WHAT TRIGGERS THE POISONS. THEY SAY IT'S BEST TO PLAY IT SAFE NEAR HIGH CONCENTRATIONS. Rod McNeil "it's a nuisance. It doesn't smell particularly good. It's not a good place to go wading or swimming. If you can see it in concentrations that are high enough to bother you visually, it's probably best to just avoid that stretch of water." INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH BLUE-GREEN ALGAE ISN'T TECHNICALLY ALGAE AT ALL. IT'S A TYPE OF BACTERIA.

HEALTH/CIGARETTE LAWSUIT

1: 35

OFFICIALS SAY THE ACTIONS OF A YELLOWSTONE VISITOR JUST FEET FROM A GRIZZLY BEAR ARE RECKLESS AND ILLEGAL... BUT SOME PEOPLE SAY IT'S YELLOWSTONE'S RULES THAT ARE THE PROBLEM. NBC MONTANA'S JESS ANTONIO REPORTS SOME OF THE IMAGES YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEE ARE PRETTY GRAPHIC AND DISTURBING. IN FACT, FOUR TOBACCO GIANTS SAY THEY'RE SO GRAPHIC AND DISTURBING THAT THEY SHOULDN'T BE FORCED TO PUT THEM ON THEIR PACKAGES OF CIGARETTES BY SEPTEMBER OF 20-12. THE TOBACCO COMPANIES HAVE FILED SUIT AGAINST THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. NBC'S CHRIS CLACKUM HAS THE STORY. THE NEW, GRAPHIC WARNING LABELS DEPICTING DISEASED LUNGS, GUMS AND TEETH, EVEN A CORPSE.....WERE UNVEILED IN JUNE BY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY KATHLEEN SEBELIUS. BUT NOW FOUR OF THE LARGEST TOBACCO COMPANIES IN THE WORLD ARE SUING... SAYING THE FEDERAL MANDATE TO START USING LABELS A YEAR FROM NOW IS ILLEGAL. A STATEMENT FROM ONE OF THE FOUR, RJ REYNOLDS, SAYS THE REGULATION VIOLATES CORE CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES OF FREE SPEECH AND COMPLAINS ABOUT.."CONTROVERSIAL PHOTOGRAPHS THAT HAVE BEEN TECHNOLOGICALLY MANIPULATED TO MAXIMIZE AN EMOTIONAL RESPONSE FROM VIEWERS, ESSENTIALLY TURNING OUR CIGARETTE PACKS INTO MINI-BILLBOARDS FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-SMOKING MESSAGE." ADVOCATES SAY THE WARNING LABELS ARE AIMED AT ADULT SMOKERS AS WELL AS THE FOUR-THOUSAND TEENAGERS WHO TAKE UP SMOKING EACH DAY. "The vast number of smokers start while they're teenagers. I think the latest numbers are about 90% of all smokers start smoking before they turn 19" BUT A LAWYER REPRESENTING LORILLARD IN THE LAWSUIT SAID "THE NOTION THAT THE GOVERNMENT CAN REQUIRE THOSE WHO MANUFACTURE A LAWFUL PRODUCT TO EMBLAZON HALF OF ITS PACKAGE WITH PICTURES AND WORDS ADMITTEDLY DRAFTED TO PERSUADE THE PUBLIC NOT TO PURCHASE THAT PRODUCT CANNOT WITHSTAND CONSTITUTIONAL SCRUTINY" SUPPORTERS SAY THE U-S IS MERELY CATCHING UP WITH DOZENS OF OTHER COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD WHO'VE BEEN USING THE GRAPHIC LABELS FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW. CHRIS CLACKUM, NBC NEWS.

ENVIRONMENT/BEAR POLICY

1:30

THIS VIDEO SHOWING YELLOWSTONE VISITORS DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO A GRIZZLY BEAR CAUSED MANY TO WONDER HOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT COULD HAPPEN. PARK OFFICIALS SAY THE RULES ARE CLEAR...PEOPLE MUST STAY AT LEAST A HUNDRED YARDS FROM A BEAR. BUT BEAR SPECIALIST DAVE SMITH SAYS THE PARK NEEDS TO ADOPT A POLICY SIMILAR TO ONE USED IN ANOTHER NATIONAL PARK..."glacier's policy is simply that they don't tolerate roadside bears, they don't want bears to habituate to people, to get accustomed to having people that close" GLACIER NATIONAL PARK'S POLICY IS TO FREQUENTLY HAZE BEARS WHEN THEY COME INTO CLOSE CONTACT WITH HUMANS. YELLOWSTONE SPOKESMAN AL NASH CLAIMS YELLOWSTONE RANGERS HAZE BEARS AS WELL, BUT EVERY PARK HANDLES THINGS DIFFERENTLY. "we are much less likely to haze a bear that might happen to be out somewhere along a roadside" YELLOWSTONE PARK COVERS 2-POINT-2 MILLION ACRES... NASH SAYS IT'S JUST TOO LARGE TO STOP EVERY INCIDENT LIKE THIS FROM HAPPENING. "it's just not possible for us to have a uniformed park service employee nearby at every location where something might occur" THOUGH THE PARKS MAY DIFFER ON THEIR POLICIES TO CONTROL ANIMAL AND HUMAN INTERACTION, MOST AGREE VISITORS MUST TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR SAFETY. "the issue that we saw on tape wasn't an issue regarding a bear, it was an issue regarding visitors" "if you're in the ocean and you yell shark, everybody runs out of the water. If you're in Yellowstone and you yell bear, everybody grabs a camera and gets closer"

CRIME/BUTTE BANK ROBBERY

0: 40

INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE A WOMAN ARRESTED IN CALIFORNIA ON MONDAY IN CONNECTION WITH A HOLD UP AT A BANK COULD BE LINKED TO A BUTTE ROBBERY. THE BANK OF BUTTE WAS ROBBED BY A WOMAN WEARING A WIG LAST WEEK. POLICE ACKNOWLEDGED THE RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN THE SUSPECT AND A SERIAL BANK ROBBER -- CYNTHIA VAN HOLLAND -- ALSO KNOWN AS THE BAD HAIR BANDIT -- BUT THEY STILL HAVEN'T CLOSED THE CASE. FORTY-SEVEN-YEAR-OLD VAN HOLLAND AND A MALE ACCOMPLICE WERE ARRESTED IN CALIFORNIA. BOTH SUSPECTS ARE FROM HAYDEN IDAHO -- JUST NORTH OF COEUR D'ALENE. THE BAD HAIR BANDIT IS WANTED FOR 18 OR MORE ROBBERIES IN WASHINGTON -- OREGON -- CALIFORNIA. SHE EARNED THE NICKNAME FOR THE VARIETY OF WIGS SHE WORE DURING THE ROBBERIES.

CRIME/OLIVARAES' COASTER SHOOTING

0: 45

THE STATE SUPREME COURT RULED THAT A JUDGE WAS WRONG TO IMPOSE PAROLE ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS ON A HELENA TEEN SENTENCED TO THREE LIFE SENTENCES. DISTRICT JUDGE DOROTHY MCCARTER'S DECISION TO IMPOSE A 60-YEAR RESTRICTION ON PAROLE FOR SEBASTIAN OLIVARES-COSTER WAS OVERTURNED BY THE SUPREME COURT TUESDAY. HE WAS 17 WHEN HE SHOT AND KILLED ONE HELENA BOY AND INJURED TWO OTHERS. HE WAS SENTENCED TO **THREE LIFE SENTENCES** FOR THE CRIMES -- WITH TWO TO BE SERVED CONCURRENTLY, BUT CONSECUTIVELY WITH THE THIRD SENTENCE. STATE LAW AUTOMATICALLY RESTRICTS PAROLE ELIGIBILITY FOR 30 YEARS FOR LIFE SENTENCES. A SECTION OF THE STATUE SAYS PAROLE ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS DO NOT APPLY IF THE OFFENDER WAS UNDER 18 WHEN THEY COMMITTED THE CRIME. THE SUPREME COURT'S RULING STRIKES THE PAROLE RESTRICTION -- BUT MAINTAINS ALL OTHER PORTIONS OF THE SENTENCE.

CRIME/TASER DEATH

0: 40

THE LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY CORONER SAYS A HELENA MAN WHO WAS HOSPITALIZED FOLLOWING AN INCIDENT WHERE HE WAS TASERED TWICE BY A SHERIFF'S DEPUTY HAS DIED. SHERIFF LEO DUTTON TOLD BEARTOOTH N-B-C TUESDAY HE DID NOT BELIEVE ROGER CHANDLER'S CONDITION WAS CAUSED BY THE ELECTRIC SHOCK -- BUT RATHER WAS A RESULT OF WHATEVER CAUSED THE 41-YEAR-OLD TO ACT ERRATICALLY. DEPUTIES RESPONDED TO A REPORT OF A MAN ACTING VIOLENTLY ON SUNDAY EVENING. CHANDLER WAS TASERED AFTER BEING COMBATIVE WITH DEPUTIES. HE BECAME UNRESPONSIVE AND WAS HOSPITALIZED IN THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT WHERE HIS CONDITION INCREASED TO CRITICAL. THE CORONER SAYS THE CAUSE OF DEATH HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED.

APRIL 18, 2011

LIFESTYLES/ ST. PETER'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

0: 25

SAINT PETER'S HOSPITAL HELD ITS 12TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR THE FOUNDATION TODAY. MORE THAN 100 PARTICIPANTS TOOK TO THE COURSE TO SUPPORT THE CAUSE. EACH YEAR -- THE TOURNAMENT SUPPORTS A DIFFERENT FUNDRAISING PURPOSE. THIS YEAR -- THE GOAL IS TO FINISH FUNDING FOR THE CANCER TREATMENT CENTER EXPANSION. THE DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL GIVING SAYS THEY'RE VERY CLOSE TO THAT GOAL. Doris Romanisko, With this event and with our gala in October, we think that'll put us at \$1.9 million which was the entire cost of the construction remodel. THE NEW CANCER TREATMENT CENTER OPENED IN JULY.

EDUCATION/CARROLL COLLEGE ORIENTATION

0: 34

Kids and parents got a warm welcome Thursday as new Carroll students arrived from all over the country. Nick Garteiz "when we were greeted on the street it was perfect. The kids were all out there, they've got signs, they're clapping. All you have to do is honk your horn a little bit, they get all fired up. So, it's a lot of fun." Returning students unpacked cars and moved countless boxes into the dorms for their new classmates. Incoming freshman Mary Ternes (tur-ness) Says the upperclassmen help new students learn the ropes. Mary ternes "they know what's going on around campus. They can help you, they can show you where to go and they can help you with classes and tell you what teachers are like." Carroll junior Rachel Avila (av-lah) Says greeting the incoming students and helping them move in eases the transition from high school to higher ed. Rachel avila "i know a lot of people don't know anybody when they come to college, but especially at carroll we help them just feel like they fit in and feel like they belong and they did choose the right school." The approach also calms the anxiety mom and dad might have. Nick Garteiz "it seems like a great community and the college seems like a great place. So I'm not really too worried about it." This year's incoming class numbers close to 350 students. Katelyn Kelly, Beartooth NBC.

LIFESTYLES/HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

0: 36

THE YOUTH BUILD HELENA PROGRAM IS HELPING REBUILD THE FUTURE OF SOME LOCAL YOUNG ADULTS. TODAY -- A FEW WERE HELPING **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** BUILD A HOME FOR A FAMILY IN NEED. THE PROGRAM WAS CREATED THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY AND HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT. YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 24 HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN THEIR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR G-E-D WHILE LEARNING CONSTRUCTION SKILLS AND RECEIVING A MONTHLY STIPEND. A YOUTH BUILD CASE MANAGER SAYS EVERYONE HAD TO APPLY TO BE ACCEPTED FOR THE 10-MONTH LONG PROGRAM. "This is a voluntary program and what impresses me about these you is that they want to make a change in their life, they want a better future for themselves and their families." AFTER THE TEN MONTHS, EACH PERSON RECEIVES A PRE-APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATION IN CARPENTRY.

CRIME/DUI SENTENCING

0: 26

A MAN CONVICTED OF AT LEAST A DOZEN D-U-I'S WAS SENTENCED TODAY BY JUDGE JIM REYNOLDS TO THIRTEEN MONTHS IN STATE PRISON -- WITH A FIVE YEAR SUSPENDED SENTENCE. BUT CHARLES HORTON MAY TAKE PART IN A **SIX-MONTH REHABILITATION PROGRAM** AT WARM SPRINGS HOSPITAL AND HAVE THE REST OF HIS SENTENCE SUSPENDED. JUDGE REYNOLDS ALSO ORDERED HORTON TO PAY ATTORNEY FEES FOR HIS PUBLIC DEFENDER -- UNLESS IT'S LATER FOUND HE CANNOT AFFORD IT. FINALLY -- DESPITE OBJECTIONS FROM THE **DEFENSE** -- REYNOLDS REVOKED HORTON'S MEDICAL MARIJUANA CARD SAYING IT VIOLATED STATE LAW. HORTON EXPRESSED FRUSTRATION TODAY SAYING HE'S BEEN NEGATIVELY PORTRAYED DURING THE PROCESS. Horton "I'm sure if Mr. Menahan had his way, he'd be asking for lethal injection, but thank God for this statute and yourself your honor. That's not going to happen to me. I do more work Mr. Menahan (arguing) Well don't paint me as a bad man!" Reynolds "You are a risk to our community because you do not recognize the effects of alcohol on your ability to drive or to have proper judgment." WE'VE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THIS WAS HORTON'S 12TH D-U-I -- BUT THAT NUMBER WAS QUESTIONED IN COURT TODAY.

CRIME/FAIR ASSULT

0: 25

A YOUNG WOMAN ACCUSED OF ATTACKING A LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY -- WHO WAS HANDCUFFING HER SISTER -- MADE AN INITIAL APPEARANCE IN JUDGE REYNOLDS' COURT .EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD AMBER FREDRICK IS CHARGED WITH FELONY ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFFICER AND OBSTRUCTING AND RESISTING ARREST. FREDRICK AND HER YOUNGER SISTER ALLEGEDLY RAN AWAY FROM SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES WHO APPROACHED THEM AT THE FAIR LAST MONTH.SHE'S ACCUSED OF TACKLING THE DEPUTY AFTER HER YOUNGER SISTER WAS CAUGHT. THE MINOR'S CASE IS GOING THROUGH THE JUVENILE PROBATION SYSTEM.

AUGUST 19, 2011

LIFESTYLES/CONCERT FOR HUNGER

0: 35

A LOCAL BAND ROCKED OUT FOR A CAUSE AT MEMORIAL PARK THIS EVENING TO TAKE A "BITE OUT OF HUNGER." YOU'RE LISTENING TO THE SOUNDS OF THE **DAWGHOUSE**-- A CLASSIC AND CURRENT ROCK BAND THAT PLAYED TO HELP SUPPORT HELENA FOOD SHARE'S KID BACKPACK PACKS PROGRAM. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANN WAICKMAN ((WAKE-MAN)) SAYS THE PROGRAM TARGETS KIDS AT RISK OF GOING HUNGRY OVER THE WEEKEND. PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS GIVES KIDS A BAG OF FOOD SO THEY KEEP ALERT AND LEARNING OVER THE WEEKEND AND COME BACK OT SCHOOL READY TO LEARN MORE. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HELENA FOOD SHARE JUST GO TO OUR WEBSITE, BEARTOOTH N-B-C DOTCOM.

LIFESTYLES/BOOK SIGNING

0: 45

A HELENA NATIVE IS EXCITED TO BE BACK IN HIS HOMETOWN FOR A VERY SPECIAL BOOK-SIGNING THIS WEEKEND. DOCTOR JAMES LENHART ((LEN-HEART)) IS BACK IN HIS HOME STATE - AND TOWN - TO SIGN COPIES OF HIS NEWEST BOOK: **CONVERSATIONS FOR PACO**. THE BOOK ADDRESSES CURRENT ISSUES IN OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM. DOCTOR LENHART SAYS HE DOES NOT EXPECT EVERYONE TO LOVE HIS BOOK THE WAY HE DOES, BUT THAT READERS WILL BE ENRICHED BY ITS MESSAGE. "So, we're the richest country and we have some of the poorest health outcomes and I hope that when people read Paco--Conversations for Paco--that they come away with a different perspective about healthcare and about what we need to do to make it better." THE BOOK SIGNING IS TOMORROW -- AT THE WINGATE HOTEL. IT RUNS FROM 10-30 UNTIL 12-30.

CRIME/ARKANSAS KIDNAPPING/MURDER

1: 45

THERE'S BEEN A DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTROVERSIAL CASE OF THREE ARKANSAS MEN KNOWN AS THE WEST MEMPHIS THREE. AS TEENAGERS TWO DECADES AGO, THE THREE WERE CONVICTED OF KILLING THREE CUB SCOUTS IN WHAT POLICE AND PROSECUTORS DESCRIBED WAS PART OF A BRUTAL, SATANIC RITUAL. BUT AFIER THEIR LAWYERS PRESENTED SOME NEW D-N-A EVIDENCE, THE THREE MEN WERE SET FREE TODAY. NBC'S CHRIS CLACKUM HAS MORE ON THE STORY. FREE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 18 YEARS...THE WEST MEMPHIS THREE MET WITH THE MEDIA JUST MOMENTS AFTER THEIR RELEASE AS DEFIANT AS EVER OVER THEIR INNOCENCE. "This was NOT justice." "We can still try to clear our names." DAMIEN ECHOLS...JASON BALDWIN...JESSIE MISSELLEY JR... WERE CONVICTED OF MURDERING AND MUTILATING THREE EIGHT YEAR OLD CUB SCOUTS IN WEST MEMPHIS, ARKANSAS IN 1993.POLICE AND PROSECUTORS AT THE TIME CALLED THE KILLINGS PART OF A SATANIC RITUAL LED BY ECHOLS...WHO WAS PUT ON DEATH ROW.....AND MEEKLY FOLLOWED BY BALDWIN AND MISSELLEY WHO RECEIVED LIFE SENTENCES.BUT DOCUMENTARIES OVER THE TWO DECADES DESCRIBED THREE NOT AS MURDERERS..BUT AS MISFITS. CELEBRITIES LIKE ACTOR JOHNNY DEPP TOOK UP THEIR CAUSE.. ...AS WELL AS EDDIE VEDDER OF PEARL JAM AND NATALIE MAINES FROM THE DIXIE CHICKS' WHO WERE IN THE COURTROOM FRIDAY IN JONESBORO.....WHEN THE THREE AGREED TO A LEGAL MANEUVER THAT LETS THEM MAINTAIN THEIR INNOCENCE WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING PROSECUTORS LIKELY HAVE ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO CONVICT THEM. THE LOCAL PROSECUTOR, THOUGH, IS DEFIANT, TOO...AND STANDS BY THE ORIGINAL CONVICTION. "I have no reason to believe that anyone else was involved in these murders except the 3 who plead guilty today." OUTSIDE THE COURTHOUSE, THE THREE WERE GREETED BY SUPPORTERS... EVEN TO INCLUDE SOME OF THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES. "There are no winners here. My son is still dead" THE PROSECUTOR SAID THE STATE CONSIDERS THE CASE CLOSED. BUT THE WEST MEMPHIS THREE DISAGREE.

ECONOMY/HOUSING

0: 13

THE MONTANA BOARD OF HOUSING REPORTS RATES HAVE HIT A HISTORIC LOW FOR ITS 30-YEAR FIXED RATE MORTGAGES. THE RATE DROPPED A FULL POINT - DOWN TO 3.875-PERCENT - THE LOWEST IT'S BEEN IN 33 YEARS. THE RATE IS ONLY AVAILABLE TO FIRST TIME BUYERS OR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T OWNED A HOME IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. MAXIMUM INCOME AND PURCHASE LIMITS ALSO APPLY. THE BOARD OF HOUSING SAYS MARKET CONDITIONS ARE APPEALING FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS. Bruce Brensdal "The rate is definitely attractive for them to do that. the housing market, you know prices, are at a good level right now, they're steady and remaining steady, so I think just getting into home ownership at this time is a good deal." TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEW RATE - VISIT OUR WEBSITE - BEARTOOTH N-B-C DOT COM.

EDUCATION/NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

0: 36

ONLY FIVE HELENA SCHOOLS WERE RATED PROFICIENT IN READING AND MATH UNDER THE NEW NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ANNUAL YEARLY PROGRESS REQUIREMENTS. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT KEITH MEYER SAYS THE DISTRICT WON'T IGNORE THE DATA. Keith Meyer "I want our staff and I want all of us to be able to examine and then use it to the best benefit that will, in the end, help kids learn." BUT HE SAYS WHILE MEETING WASHINGTON D-C's GUIDELINE IS IDEAL, IT'S NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT MARK OF SUCCESS. Keith Meyer "Our goal is to show that each student has made growth year after year after year. The growth may not be at the percentage that's been expected by the federal government, but I'm more concerned about making sure students are showing growth year after year." STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION DENISE JUNEAU SAYS WHILE MONTANA DOES VERY WELL IN OTHER MEASURES OF PROGRESS, THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND SCORE MAKES PEOPLE LOSE FAITH IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM. Denise Juneau "It's hurtful to the public education community, it's hurtful to schools, it's hurtful to the people that work in those schools and that's why we really need to see a change." JUNEAU AND MEYER BOTH SAY A BETTER INDICATOR OF PROGRESS IN MONTANA WOULD BE A GROWTH OVER TIME MODEL - RATHER THAN A SCORE BASED ON ONE ANNUAL TEST.

EDUCATION/CHILD SAFETY SEAT CHECKS

0: 40

TROOPERS WITH THE MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL WERE OUT AT MURDOCH'S TODAY -- TO HELP PARENTS KEEP THEIR KIDS SAFE IN CAR SEATS. THE SAFETY CHECKPOINT IS ONE WAY RECENT GRADUATES OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY GET OUT TO MEET AND SERVE THE PUBLIC. THEY INSTALLED MORE THAN A DOZEN SEATS IN FRONT OF THE STORE ON NORTH MONTANA. SERGEANT JOHN SPENCER SAYS NOT HAVING A CHILD PROPERLY SECURED IS A VIOLATION -- AND COULD GET YOU PULLED OVER. "It's important that we know how to properly restrain them and make sure that our kids are traveling safe. There's new things out, there's ever changing child seats and child restraints and we just have to make sure we're doing it right." AND JUST AS A REMINDER--KIDS MUST BE IN A CAR SEAT UNTIL THEY ARE BOTH SIX YEARS OLD AND 60 POUNDS. IT'S NOW RECOMMENDED THAT INFANTS FACE THE BACK OF A VEHICLE -- UNTIL THE AGE OF TWO -- TO LESSEN THE IMPACT OF A CRASH.

DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS BEARTOOTH NBC NO LONGER CARRIES NEWS ON THE WEEKENDS, HOWEVER THE **DUNWELL REPORT**, A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM DEALING WITH THE CURRENTS ISSUES OF OUR COMMUNITY IS AIREID ON SATURDAY EVENING AND REPEATED AGAIN AT 10PM ON SUNDAY EVENINGS. THIS WEEKS DUNWELL REPORT FOCUSED ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT OF UGANDA. ALMOST HALF A WORLD AWAY ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT IN THE COUNTRY OF UGANDA, A CATHOLIC PRIEST WAGES A DAILY STRUGGLE FOR HIS PARISHIONERS AGAINST POVERTY, DISEASE, FAMINE AND HARDSHIPS THAT ARE TOTALLY FOREIGN TO MOST AMERICANS. FATHER JULIUS BWOWE IS NOT TOTALLY ALONE, HOWEVER. A GROUP OF HELENANS HAVE REACHED OUT TO SUPPORT FATHER JULIUS' EFFORTS TO HELP HIS PEOPLE. IT IS A TRULY REMARKABLE STORY OF ECUMENICAL COOPERATION, AND GENEROSITY. HERE TO TALK ABOUT THIS UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP AND WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT ARE FATHER JULIUS BWOWE, THE PASTOR AND SPIRITUAL LEADER OF A TWO HUGE PARISHES IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF KAMPALA, UGANDA. WE ARE ALSO JOINED BY DAWN BARNES, A MEMBER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONGREGATION HERE IN HELENA. AND MARTY HELLER IS MEMBER OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA PARISH HERE IN HELENA.