

SPONSORED BY
THE
ASSOCIATION OF
MONTANA
TROOPERS

Montana Hope Project

Trooper David DeLaittre

1987 – 2010

THIS ISSUE DEDICATED
TO THE
MEMORY OF TROOPER
DAVID JAMES DELAITTRE

David James DeLaittre was born in Billings on March 3, 1987, to Dennis and Nancy DeLaittre. He was taken tragically from his family on Dec. 1, 2010, during a traffic stop in Three Forks.

David was raised in Three Forks, graduating in 2005. He attended college in Billings for a short time before being accepted into the Montana Highway Patrol Academy. This was his lifelong dream to follow in his father's footsteps. He was a fifth-generation law-enforcement agent who loved his job and cared for each and every person that he met along his journey.

There will forever be an enormous hole in our hearts. He was deeply loved by his family and friends and they all loved him equally. David was kind and caring, and offered whatever was needed.



Picture by Helmbrecht Studio, Havre

DAVID JAMES DELAITTRE CONTINUED

He leaves behind his parents, Dennis and Nancy; his sisters, Rebecca and Hannah, who were his pride and joy; stepsister Jennifer Amundsen (Jeff); grandparents, Jim and Helen Fergus of Billings, and Virginia Nelson of Wells, Minn.; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and cherished friends. David also leaves behind his love Brianna Harbolt, and best friend Levi Ewan.

He was met at the Heavenly Gates by his "papa," James A. DeLaittre and aunt Stephanie Larson.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2010, at the Three Forks School in the gymnasium.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Montana Hope Project or First Security Bank of Three Forks.



Sergeant Jay Nelson, MHP 120, carries the ashes of Trooper David DeLaittre

"There will forever be an enormous hole in our hearts."



Pictures by the Bozeman Chronicle

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Letter	4-5
Going the Extra Mile	
Trooper David James DeLaittre	6-7
Sponsors	8-9
Bears that Care	
Wishes Granted	10-11
Michael's Wish	12-13
Summer Reunion	
Missoula Car Show	
Hike for Heros	14-15
Kruz 4 Kidz	
Ride for Hope	
Bozeman Dart Tournament	
Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally	16-17
Mike: NASCAR Grand Marshall	
Billings Benefit	18-19
Lake Mary Ronan ATV Ride	
Blue Knights	
Hot Rods & Hogs for Hope	20-21
Fairmont Winter Reunion	
Follow Us on the Web	
"Twas the Night Before ..."	22-23
Photo Gallery	24-27

**Montana Hope Project Officers
and Coordinators**

- President: Richard Hader
- Vice President/Secretary: Cal Janes
- Treasurer: Deborah Butler
- Bears: Audrey Collins
- Wishes: Tiana Hader
- Ride for Hope: Mark Tome
- Media Coordinator: Kathy Sangray
- Chaplain: Chuck Lee
- Merchandise: Darlene Lee
- Billings/East: Dawn White
- Bozeman: Derek Brown
- Butte/Anaconda: Alice O'Donnell
- Great Falls: Tom Taylor
- Kalispell: Steve Lavin
- Missoula: Tiana Hader

Newsletter Editor/Layout/Design:

Kathy Sangray

Contributing Authors:

Richard Hader, Kathy Sangray, Jodi Hausen & Samantha Booth (Bozeman Chronicle), Tiana Hader, Steve Lavin, Mark Tome, Derek Brown, Sandy Laumeyer, Glen Barcus, Dawn White, Dave Evans, Tony Patrick, & Gayle Tom

Contributing Photographers:

Helmbrecht Photography, Bozeman Chronicle, Sandy Laumeyer, Dawn White, Tom Gress, Richard & Tiana Hader, Creative Vision, Peck Family, Nulliner Family, Glen Barcus, Dave Evans



A Message from our President

For the 4th year in a row, the cover of our newsletter honors a MHP Trooper who gave his life in the line of duty. Trooper David DeLaitre was 23 and the youngest trooper to die protecting his community. David followed his father Dennis and his own dream when he joined the Montana Highway Patrol. Dennis and Nancy DeLaitre were long time supporters of the Montana Hope Project and handled the bear duties for many years. David was stationed in his home town of Three Forks at the time of his death.

May you rest in peace David, you are a true hero.



The Hope Project will finish another successful year in 2010 only because of the great individuals and businesses that gave of their time and financial support so we may continue to provide wishes to these awesome children and their families.

We will hit the ground running in 2011, as we already have 11 children on the wish list. Everyone committed to the Hope Project will see that each wish is fulfilled.

Once again our fund-raisers exceeded all of our expectations, even with the economy still struggling. I believe this is one reason that Montana is the last best place. We Montanans are raised on the time honored tradition of helping our neighbors in their time of need.

To all of our sponsors, thank you for all your help, we are proud of our relationship with you. To our new families, welcome to the Montana Hope Project.

God bless everyone,

Trooper Richard Hader MHP 160, Superior

Hope Project Facts:

- 90 cents of every dollar raised directly benefits Montana children.
- The Montana Hope Project is NOT affiliated with any national organization. It is funded entirely by your donations and local fund-raising events.
- Every year, wish recipients and their families are invited to spend the weekend at the Izaak Walton Inn, located in Essex, MT at the edge of Glacier Park.
- The Montana Hope Project has granted 318 wishes to date since 1984.

Going the Extra Mile

Event Coordinators

Hike 4 Heros: *Jim & Lacy Schneider, Cyndy Deist, and Becky Sturdevant*

Kruz 4 Kidz: *Tom Gress, Bonnie Saxton, and Richard Hader*

Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally: *Carl & Justine Laumeyer, Patty Sibley, Rick Ost, Ron Ost, Greg Speer, and Ron & Margaret Kemp*

Summer and Winter Hope Project Reunion: *Tiana Hader*

Missoula Car Show: *Tom Gress, Bonnie Saxton and Richard Hader*

Ride for Hope: *Mark Tome and Cal Janes*

Lake Mary Ronan ATV Ride: *Royce Bird*

Billings Hope Project Benefit: *Dawn White*

Hot Rods and Hogs for Hope: *Tony & Marilyn Patrick and Frank Fleming*

Blue Knights: *Dave Evans*

Bozeman Eagles Dart Tournament: *Bozeman Eagles Club, Becky Matthews, Chris and Connie Howell, and Trooper Josh Giddings*

“A Life Lived for Others”

THREE FORKS -- Montana Highway Patrol Trooper David DeLaittre's law enforcement career started when he was in second grade, his father told the crowd of about 2,000 who attended the 23-year-old's memorial service here Tuesday.

The father and son were walking down the street and the then 7-year-old pointed to a vehicle's license plate, showing his dad, then a trooper himself, that its registration had expired, Dennis DeLaittre said. Dennis DeLaittre, in a Three Forks police uniform, said he was sad he'd never be able to fulfill David's dream of rejoining the Highway Patrol to work side by side with his son. "But we don't always get what we want," he said more than once during his eulogy. He finished with, "I love you and I miss you," to which the crowd stood and applauded.

More than 500 law enforcement officers from throughout Montana and as far away as Florida, New Jersey, Canada and Arizona attended the funeral for the man who joined the highway patrol just two years ago. Prior to a memorial service, a procession of hundreds of law enforcement vehicles from agencies across the state and the nation wound through the town.

DeLaittre was gunned down Dec. 1 on Montana Highway 2 just southwest of Three Forks when he stopped to check on a pickup truck that was left running in the middle of the road. The driver, Errol Brent Bouldin, 56, of Three Forks, exchanged fire with the trooper. Bouldin was found in his truck several hours later in Broadwater County, dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

A somber crowd filed into Three Forks High School gymnasium around 12:30 p.m. and within a half hour the bleachers, set aside for the general public, were filled nearly to capacity. The bleacher throngs stood as a long line of officers filled the approximately 500 seats set up on the basketball court. A sea of green shirts of the Montana Highway Patrol filled seven of the rows.

Time and again during the ceremony, people spoke of DeLaittre's compassion. Photos showed David as a child nose to nose with a kitten and carrying a tub full of puppies. Another photo, of David as an adult relaxing with a hand behind his head and a large bulldog sitting on his belly, elicited chuckles from the assembly.

Toward the end of the memorial service, 13 Montana Highway Patrol troopers marched through the gym. One pressed a folded American flag to his chest; others carried rifles. As the flag was unfurled and held up by four troopers, twenty-one shots were fired outside the gym. Afterwards, an officer played taps on a silver trumpet, as many in the crowd bowed their heads while others held hands over their hearts.

After the flag was refolded, MHP Col.



Michael Tooley knelt before the family and presented it to them while uttering words only they could hear.

A lone bagpiper played "Amazing Grace," and as the drone of the bagpipes faded, a Montana trooper picked up the wooden box containing David DeLaittre's ashes and carried it out.

In opening the service, Gallatin County Sheriff's Office Chaplain Warren Hiebert evoked the 23rd Psalm -- appropriate not only for its sentiment but because David "was 23, is 23," Hiebert said.

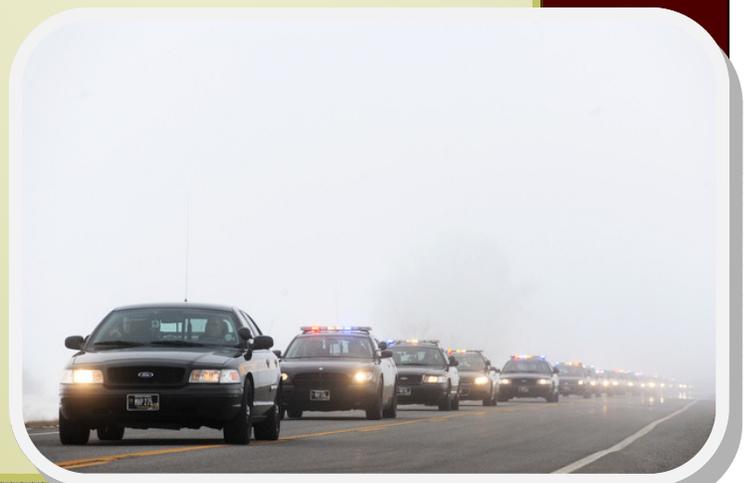
Gallatin Airport Authority police officer Bryan Adams' tenor voice floated over the throngs, singing "I Can Only Imagine" as a black-clad, white-gloved sign language interpreter's hands danced gracefully in front of her face. Adams, a former Bozeman police officer and Montana Highway Patrol trooper, also spoke of knowing David from the beginning of his short life. He recalled David as smart, mechanically inclined and always there to help out. Adams met Dennis DeLaittre 23 years ago when the elder DeLaittre was a dispatcher, Adams said. The two eventually ended up working together on the Highway Patrol. "Dennis was there for me, always backing everybody up," Adams said. "And David did the same thing. "He was the only kid I knew that was 7 or 8 years old who could go out and change a tire without any instructions and do it better than Dennis or I could."

David's former Three Forks high school teachers spoke fondly of the boy who gained National Honor Society status but who was also a mischievous prankster. "It was fun to see that little smile start after he had said or done something that might get him into trouble," science teacher Sheryl Lehr said. David was a leader with a strong work ethic bestowed upon him by his family, Lehr added. "Having high standards was part of David's character," she said. "He was fun-loving. He was friendly, respectful, thoughtful, compassionate, self-sacrificing and had very high moral principles. ... He touched many lives in his short time here on Earth, giving pieces of who he was to everyone. David is gone, but he is not forgotten."

Teacher Steve Hamilton said David's enthusiasm was contagious and he "had a great sense of humor and was always glad to share it with all of us, even when it was at his own expense." David, a fifth generation law enforcement agent, was also proud of his family. "His dad inspired him, and his family gave him a wonderful sense of justice and the desire to make the world a better place," Hamilton said. David once called Hamilton after a particularly difficult day working as a trooper. "He continued to say that the most rewarding part of what I do is when someone says thank you and that doesn't happen very often," Hamilton said. "So now here we are saying thank you, David, and celebrating a life lived for others."

By Jodi Hausen, Bozeman Chronicle Staff Writer

Pictures by the Bozeman Chronicle



2010 Hope Project Sponsors

Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally:

Town & Country Furniture (Glasgow), D&G Sports & Western (Glasgow), Pamida (Glasgow), Farm Equipment Sales, Gordan Foods, Rick & Ron Ost, Traci Ost, & Jeri Frisley

Hike for Heros:

Gold medal Sponsors: Sems Carwash, Kalispell Taxi, Sound Solutions, Gold Rush Shirt Co., Whitefish Mountain Resort, Curves, Kila School

Silver medal Sponsors: Brass and Bullets, Plum Creek, First Interstate Bank, Tele-Tech, Triple "D", Howie Tires of Whitefish, Able Body Collision Repair, Les Schwab Tires of the Flathead Valley, Flathead Fitness, Silver Tip Engraving, Snappy's Sports, Western Business & Tax Service, Evergreen Pharmacy, Hammer Nutrition

Lunch Sponsors: Subway, Super 1, Costco, Rosauers, Gresko's Bakery, Perkins, Wheat Montana, Safeway of Whitefish

Ride for Hope:

Action Print, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Yellowstone Harley Davidson (Belgrade), Helena Outdoor Motorsports, Redline Sports (Butte), 5 Valley Honda (Missoula), Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation, Creative Vision Photography (Kalispell), AAA Montana, Lewistown Honda, Beartooth Harley Davidson (Billings), Montana Harley Davidson (Missoula), The Leather Store, Thunderbolt Harley (Butte), and in West Yellowstone: Grey Wolf Inn, Clubhouse Inn, Yellowstone Lodge, and Holiday Inn

Billings Benefit: Bear Tooth Harley, Big Horn Art Gallery, Big Sky Resort, Billings Towing, Carol Reimann (Shepherd), Chassis Works, City Brew, Cold Water Creek, Denver Nuggets, Frame Hut Art Gallery, Gateway Simmental (Lewistown), Hansers Automotive, High Mountain Recreation, Joe Goggin (Shepherd), Masterpiece Investments (Wilsonville, OR), Merchants Trading, Mia DeLode (Big Timber), Mitchell Golf, Montagues Jewelers, Reiters Kawasaki, Rick Justice, Rock Creek Resort

(Red Lodge), Russell Chatham (Livingston), Scotta Anderson, Seattle SeaHawks, The Fireplace Center, White Heating and Air Conditioning, Whitefish Mountain

Hot Rods & Hogs for Hope:

Hampton Inn, Greenfield Printing, Stix & Stones Carpet, American Car Care Center, Comfort Inn, Town Pump, Thompson Distributing, J & C Body Shop, 5 Mile Bar, Eddy's Motel, US Bank, Silver Bow Trophy, Copper Canyon Harley Davidson

Event Donors: Butte Tavern Association, Summit Beverage, Shawn Ori Insurance, McGree Trucking, Sparkey's Garage, Big Sky Rental, M & L Supply, Interstate Body, Frank Fleming, Taylor Made Motorcycles, Leo McCarthy Insurance, Hawe Steel, Quilici Glass, RockAuto.com, Walmart, Mike Tillo Graphics, Hunter Brothers, Tony & Marilyn Patrick, Pepsi Cola Bottling, Norris Bar, Ace Hardware, Silver Bow Hearth & Home

Hope Project Sponsors:

Jensen Jewelers, Jim's Bar, Kleen King, Cardinal Distributing of Bozeman, Rocky Mountain Credit Union, Missoula Federal Credit Union, Town Pump, Montana Tow Truck Association, Wingate Inn (Missoula), Neomesh Microsystems, Minuteman Aviation, Glacier Heli Tours, Hellgate Corvette Club, Garden City Rods & Customs, Wingate by Wyndham, 406 Motoring Automotive Specialists, Glacier Haven Inn, Walmart, Exchange Clubs of Montana, Robert Hawkins Oil & Gas, Clausen Distributing of Helena, Action Print of Helena, Albertsons, "Knight, Dahood, Everett & Sievers," Subway of Anaconda, Skakles & Gallagher Law Firm, Big Sky Radiology, "Klinger, Russell & Helen", Summit Beverage, Dee Motor Company, Dick Irvin Trucking, Thriftway, Sutey Oil, Yellowstone Club, Grizzly Marathon & Half-Marathon, The Rebekah's of Montana, Warrior Auto Works, GSK Biological Lab (Hamilton), Blue Knights

See event stories for more sponsors of the Kruz 4 Kidz, Missoula Car Show, and Dart Tournament

The Bears that Care

"Hope Quotes"

"Melina was called
"Princess Melina" where
ever we went and felt so
special."

Melina, Cliff, Neil,
Marie & Micaela

"We have never seen
our son so filled
with joy."

Cody, Butch and Amy

"...the Hope Project will
see that each wish is
fulfilled..." Richard,
Hope Project President



Why we do what we do.

318 wishes granted (*and counting*), since the Montana Hope Project began back in 1984. It only takes one look at a child's smile to know, without a doubt, the effort is worth it. Volunteers across the state continue to contribute their time and energy to see to it that wishes are granted to our Montana children facing a critical illness. This year Hike for Heros and Kruz 4 Kidz were new events added to the line-up of fund-raisers. We also were the recipients of benefits organized by the Blue Knights of Billings and the Bozeman Eagles Club.

Volunteers
make it
happen...

The pay
isn't so
great,
but the
benefits
are
first
rate!

"We all worked so very hard and we are so pleased to see that all that work really paid off! Hopefully, we plan to be able to do our hike again next year and donate our proceeds to the most wonderful organization, the Montana Hope Project." Lacy Schneider, Hike for Heros

"Well, we made it through the 1st Annual Montana Hope "Kruz 4 Kidz", with a few disruptions and speed bumps. We are looking forward to next year's event in Livingston, MT"

Tom Gress & Bonnie Saxton, Kruz 4 Kidz

"It is nice to raise money for someone who shows so much appreciation for the hard work it takes. We at the Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally Committee truly enjoy the feeling of giving back to a charity that has given so much to the families that have benefitted from it's work across the "Hi-Line" and the state of Montana. Your work does not go unnoticed and the families I have talked to are eternally grateful for everything you do."

Carl Laumeyer, Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally

Wishes Granted in 2010



- Cody from Missoula: Disney World
- Natasha from Kalispell: Disney World
- Melina from Lolo: Disney World
- Aaron from Superior: Disney World
- Michael from Bozeman: Disney Cruise
- Krista from Missoula: Disney World
- Trevor from Columbia Falls: Disney World
- Andrew from Antelope: Disney World

2011 Dreams in the Works...

Cassandra from Billings: Disney World
 Dylan from Missoula: San Diego Zoo
 Miriam from Hamilton: Ride Horses on the Beach
 Kennar from Helena: Pending
 Kellan from Livingston: Disney World
 Clint from Big Sandy: Disney World
 Aspen from Clinton: Pending
 Austin from East Helena: Texas Longhorns Game
 Jasmine from Lolo: Disney World
 Brent from Billings: Pending
 Jase from Charlo: Pending



Cody's Story

"Cody loved every minute of this vacation, from the plane rides to getting a special bedtime tuck-in by Mayor Clayton. His joy was a sight to behold. It was very cold when we went, but it didn't affect us Montanans, we just bundled him in his Hope Project blanket and "Disney, here we come!"

Cody, Butch & Amy

Melina's Story

Thank you so much for the wonderful once in a life time trip to Disney World. Melina was called "Princess Melina" wherever we went and felt so special. Give Kids the World was icing on the cake. What a wonderful place! Thanks again for such a great experience and awesome memories.

Melina, Cliff, Neil, Marie & Micaela



A Wish Granted

Michael thought that he was going to get ice cream at Dairy Queen with his parents and sister on Tuesday night, but instead found four Montana Highway Patrol Troopers waiting to present him with an all-expense paid trip to Disney World.

Michael, age 13, has Shwachman-Diamond Syndrome (SDS), a congenital disorder that causes digestion problems, pancreatic failure and bone marrow dysfunction. It can also lead to leukemia.

Nine months ago his mother, Michelle, applied for a trip to Disney World with a wish-granting organization called the Montana Hope Project.

Michael was not alone in his wish to go to Disney World. A trip to the happiest place on earth is the most common wish that the Montana Hope Project grants.

"First he said he wanted to meet the cast of High School Musical, but then he changed his mind and decided on Disney World," his mother Michelle said.

"It's also nice that the Montana Hope Project lets the kids receive their wishes before they get too sick to enjoy it," Michael's father, Dan, added.

It was Officer Derek Brown's first time presenting a recipient with their wish. Officers Dave Oliverson, Brett Charvat and Michael Walrath also attended the event.

"This is an excellent opportunity for young people who are having some troubles to step out of that sadness for a minute and just have some fun," Oliverson said.

Michael's parents found out that they had been approved for the trip months before, but they kept it a secret from Michael.

"It was hard. I'm not any good at keeping secrets," Michelle said, "But he will be over the moon when we get home tonight."

Story in part by Samantha Booth, Bozeman Chronicle

Michael's picture is on page 9.

*"But he
will be
over
the moon
when we
get
home
tonight."*

Summer Reunion



The Issac Walton Inn and Glacier Haven Inn deserve a heartfelt thank you for hosting yet another Montana Hope Project Summer Reunion. The Children of Hope and their families enjoyed a myriad of fun activities, like motorcycle rides, semi rides, horse and buggy rides, face painting, and a Red Jammer Bus tour of Glacier Park.

A special guest this year was musician Jack Gladstone, who is from the Flathead Valley. This was Jack's first year entertaining for the reunion and he was well received.

We also were entertained by Gwhiz, a chemistry professor from the University of Montana, who showed us some great magic tricks and introduced us to freeze-dried Cheetos!

A special treat were the helicopter tours over Glacier Park, provided by Glacier Helicopters, and the boat tour on Lake McDonald. We also en-

joyed ice cream at Eddy's, which is always a hit with the kids!

While we all enjoyed ourselves and the beauty of Glacier Park, the Cut Bank Fire Department prepared a wonderful barbeque dinner for us to end the weekend.

We want to express our gratitude to all those that contribute to this reunion weekend. The special memories that are created are only possible because of the generous support of many, many people. Thank you to all who help put some smiles on the faces of our Hope Project families.

Story by Tiana Hader

Missoula Car Show

The 3rd annual Montana Hope Car Show was held on June 12th at Karl Tyler Chevrolet. It was a beautiful day and a great success with 278 cars showing up. Thank you Karl Tyler Chevrolet for hosting our event. We also received great support from Ranch Radio, Allegra Printing, The Living Room, Pepsi, Cold Stone Creamery, Fuddruckers and many other individuals who helped out. What was initially started three years ago as a car cruise, became a car show the last two years. Next year we will return to our car cruise, the Kruz 4 Kidz, with the run ending in Livingston, MT at the Yellowstone Inn on June 10-11th. For more information, please contact Tom Gress at 406-544-3207 or Bonnie Saxton at 406-396-8177 or email carcruise@montanahope.org.

Story by Trooper Richard Hader MHP 160, Superior

"It was a beautiful day and a great success with 278 cars showing up."

Hike For Heros

This event was organized to honor the sacrifices of all the fallen Montana Highway Patrol Troopers and to benefit the Montana Hope Project. Trooper Jim Schneider's wife, Lacy Schneider, organized and worked hard to make this event a great success, with the help of her husband and her mother, Cyndy Deist, along with Becky Sturdevant.

Over 100 people made the scenic 3.8 mile hike up the Danny On Trail. Even a few celebrities hiked, including Colonel Tooley. After the wonderful lunch on top, some hiked down, while most took a relaxing ride down the mountain on the chairs and gondolas. Thanks to all the volun-

teers and sponsors, the Montana Hope Project cleared \$4,225 cash in this event after expenses!

*Story by Sergeant Steve Lavin
MHP 125, Kalispell*



Lacy Schneider, Cyndy Deist, Renee Sturdevant, Becky & Dawn Sturdevant



Jim Schneider MHP 337, Pat Herman MHP 197, Tyler Reed MHP 271, Rick Mehring MHP 272, and Steve Herman MHP 352.

“Even a few celebrities hiked, including Colonel Tooley.”

1st Annual Kruz 4 Kidz

Despite the best laid plans, there are always a few speed bumps to get over in organizing an event. All the effort was worthwhile when the car cruise boasted 30 registered cars, grossed around \$1500, and even recruited some car enthusiasts from around the state to help with next year's cruise!

The event began with the Friday Night Mixer at Paradise Falls in Missoula. Hope Project President, Richard Hader, had the Highway Patrol 1935 and 1977 cruisers on display. On Saturday the car cruise made its way to Dillon for a parade and car show held at Beaverhead

Motors. First annual Montana Hope Project “Kruz 4 Kidz” pins were given out to attendees and were well received. Those that attended felt the event was a success and are looking forward to next year's run.

A special thanks goes out to Karl Tyler and Ed Luoma for providing a venue to park the hot rods at Beaverhead Motors; Sparky's Restaurant in Dillon for their kind donation and outstanding food and service; Rick Bice at Allegra Printing in Missoula; Comfort Inn in Dillon; Gary Lorenza for the awesome pulled pork sandwiches and to all the registrants for their

donations and support of this event.

The 2nd Annual MHP Kruz 4 Kidz will be held June 10-11, 2011 in Livingston, MT. Watch the MHP website for further details.



Event Coordinators: Bonnie Saxton & Tom Gress, aka “Bonnie & Clyde”

21st Annual Ride for Hope



On July 24, 2010, the Ride for Hope 500 kicked off its 21st Annual ride with the usual starting points of Kalispell, Missoula, Great Falls, Havre, Three Forks, and Billings. This year's ride sported a final destination of West Yellowstone Montana with the festivities being held at

the Holiday Inn Conference Hotel.

Despite the troubling economy, once again the citizens and businesses of Montana turned out in great fashion to contribute to the many children with life threatening illnesses. With over 100 riders and 150 meals served, approximately \$96,000.00 was raised for the Hope Project.

Once again the top 3 pledge earners remained the same, with Royce Bird from Polson claiming the first place prize for the top pledge earner. Second place went to Dave McCormack from Victor, and third place went to Wes Matson of Hamilton.

Michael O'Hara, one of our "Children of Hope", was in at-

tendance for the festivities and was a great help with the activities throughout the evening.

The 27th Hope Project Anniversary and 22nd year for the Ride for Hope will be next year with the final destination being Missoula. The ride is scheduled for July and the colors will be maroon & white. As for the 2012 Ride for Hope, it was decided to return to Havre with the colors being purple & white.

Thanks again to the many riders, organizers and businesses that make the Ride for Hope possible and we look forward to seeing you in Missoula.

*Story by Trooper
Mark Tome MHP 345, Billings*

Dart Tournament

The Bozeman Eagles Club Steel Tip Dart League sponsors a fundraising tournament each spring and fall, with the entire proceeds of the tournament dedicated to a charity of its choice. This fall, the League chose the Montana Hope Project as its charity!

On November 21st, twelve players braved the frigid temperatures and horrendous driving conditions to throw darts in the name of the Hope Project. In a "301 Single In/ Double Out" best of two out of three tournament, the husband and wife team of John and Kerry Winslow took 1st and 2nd Place, respectively. Sharon Zeiters claimed 3rd Place.

In between the action, the players and assembled fans gorged on a baked potato bar and perused and bid upon raffle baskets and silent auction items donated by thirty-three local area businesses. Among the coveted items, an eagle print by artist Alli Klotz and a Hope Project stuffed bear.

On December 15, the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Aerie #326 Officers presented the Hope Project with a check in the amount of \$410, totaling the proceeds of the tournament.

Special thanks to the Bozeman Eagles Club, Becky Matthews, Chris and Connie Howell, and Trooper Josh Giddings for making the event a rousing success! The Hope Project looks forward to our partnership with the Eagles for the benefit of Montana's children!

Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally

Rick and Ron Ost, owners of the Wagon Wheel Bar in Nashua, hosted their Sixth Annual Bike Rally and Bike and Car Show August 19-21. All proceeds from the event went to the Montana Hope Project.

On Tuesday, Aug. 31, the Osts, along with committee members Carl and Justine Laumeyer, Patty Sibley, Ron and Margaret Kemp and Greg Speer presented Montana Highway Trooper Mitch Willett a check for \$3,554.09.

As he accepted the check, Willett commented on the amount the rally raised the past several years.

“Over the past three years, \$9027.39 has been raised for the Hope Project,” said Carl Laumeyer, president of the all-volunteer committee that plans and conducts the event. “In 2008, we raised \$2,185.10 and in 2009, \$3,228.20.”

“The average wish costs around \$6,000,” said Willett.

In the Valley County area, three children have had a wish granted. They are Tucker Dees, Michaela Hoffman, who has passed away, and Dwayne Anderson.

Each year raffle tickets are sold to help raise funds for the Hope Project. This year the prizes for the raffle were a Toshiba 52-inch flat panel television, won by Christi Meland of Glasgow; a limited edition Savage 17 Cal. Distributor Rifle with a Konus Pro stainless steel 4x32 scope, won by Wendy DeWitt of Wolf Point; and \$500 cash, which was taken home by Gary Robinson of Wolf Point.

This event also includes an auction of Hope Project merchandise, a 50/50 drawing, and T-shirts and patches were available for purchase.

Winners in the bike and car show were Ted Toavs of Wolf Point, first place, with his 1969 Mach I Mustang; Troy Barnett of Wolf Point, 1963 Chevy Nova II; Jerry Phelps, Redstone, 1936 four door Dodge; People’s Choice, Bobby Heland, Assiniboine, Saskatchewan, Canada, 1932 five-window Ford coupe; and Carl Laumeyer, Nashua, 1968 Yamaha motorcycle.

The poker run for cars and motorcycles was very successful. A huge hit with everyone attending the rally was the tricycle races.

“Next year,” said Laumeyer, “we plan to extend the trike races to team, as well as individual, competition.”

Story in part by Sandy Laumeyer, River Run Printing

“The committee wishes to extend their deep appreciation to everyone who attended and supported this worthwhile cause.”



Walker Laumeyer, along with his parents Justine & Carl, present a check to Trooper Mitch Willett MHP 324.

Photo by Sandy Laumeyer

NASCAR Grand Marshall

Mike and his
family with
Trooper
Barcus



We stood in the pits with the wife and crew of Jonathan Gomez in the number 22 car, who was nice enough to give Mike a t-shirt and hat along with posing for pictures. He was 4th in the NASCAR PRO SERIES race. It was 150 laps on the 1/4 mile Montana Raceway park track in Kalispell and was televised on SPEED. We also saw a 125

lap Super Late Model Best of the West race which had several local drivers and included drivers from WA, ID, OR, and BC. Mike was the Grand Marshal of both races and he and I were part of the opening ceremony. My patrol car sat in the center of the opening ceremony. Mike was presented with a checkered flag autographed by the 20 NASCAR drivers that he held out the window of the Toyota pickup he rode in to lead both races. We were so close to the wall the noise and stench of fuel propelled an incredible headache in yours truly, but it wasn't enough to stop an ear to ear grin on the happy kid! A chunk of rubber flew off a tire and landed right on Mike's wheelchair tray. He was so proud he held it tightly and rolled it in his fingers the rest of the night. A great time was had by all.

*Story by Trooper Glen
Barcus MHP 245
Kalispell*



"A chunk of
rubber flew
off a tire and
landed right
on Mike's
wheelchair
tray."

Billings Dinner and Auction

The annual Billings Dinner and Auction was held at the Holiday Inn Grand in Billings on November 13, 2010. During the event we were able to set up a live conversation with Kimber and Kenna Emmons. Kenna has been at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital for 298 days and counting. Kenna was able to raise her little bandaged hand and wave "Hi" to all of us. It was a very emotional time spent with them. Kenna has Combined Immune Deficiency Disorder and had to have a bone transplant by the time she was 11. She received that transplant but will face many other battles. Along with the care of her doctors, she needs your prayers as she fights for her life. About 140 people attended this year's benefit and approximately \$11,000 was made for the Hope Project.

Story by Dawn White

“I would like to add that the Montana Hope Project donated the auction items to the rally and without it's support and the people that help run it, we could not be as successful. What the Montana Hope Project does is pretty great and after being exposed to several people who have benefitted from it, I would say it is a "God sent" organization and we who help raise money are just glad to be part of that.”

Carl Laumeyer, Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally



ATV RIDE

The 5th annual Lake Mary Ronan ATV ride was held on June 19th. Thanks to the efforts of the event organizer, Royce Bird, this year's ride was a success with 254 ATVs and motorcycles riding in the event. About \$7100.00 was raised this year for the Hope Project.



Blue Knights

The Montana I Chapter of the Blue Knights chose the Montana Hope Project as their primary charity for 2010, with the Annual Multiple Sclerosis bicycle ride as a secondary recipient of their efforts. The 36th International Convention was held in July in Billings, Montana with a total of close to 900 attendees. At the final banquet, John and Cynthia Knapp and Rob Lehm sold 50/50 tickets relentlessly, telling all the Blue Knights that the pot would be split between the winner and the Hope Project. Over \$5000 was raised on the ticket sales and half the proceeds were presented to the Hope Project at the Ride for Hope in West Yellowstone this year.

The Blue Knights is a non-profit fraternal organization consisting of active

and retired law enforcement men & women who enjoy riding motorcycles. As of June 2009, there were 599 chapters and almost 20,000 members in 29 countries. Many Blue Knights work long and hard to raise money for various charities, and especially near to their hearts is helping children. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Toys for Tots, D.A.R.E., and Concerns of Police Survivors are some examples of their favorite charities. As of February 2010, Blue Knights have donated to numerous charities and have contributed time and monetary donations in excess of \$13,037,303 (USD).

As the Montana I Chapter President, I attended the 2010 Summer Reunion at Essex where I had the opportunity to meet and interact with the kids, their families and supporters of the Project. Other Blue

Knights have an even longer history with the Montana Hope Project; Sam Woodruff, Chapter Secretary, along with Perry Brown, Bill Yiengst and John and Cynthia Knapp have been familiar faces at many Montana Hope Project gatherings over the years. Bruce and Sarah Coccoli, Nick and Vickie Reyna and Dave Munson also put in long hours and a lot of effort during the Blue Knight's Convention in Billings. And the Blue Knights help Dawn White with the organization and ticket sales for the Hope Project's Annual Banquet and Auction held in Billings. Along with the Blue Knights contribution to the Hope Project, they have also worked to secure financial assistance from other sources, including the Yellowstone County Deputies Association which has pledged an annual gift of \$2000 to the Montana Hope Project.

Story by Dave Evans, Blue Knights Chapter President

Hot Rods & Hogs for Hope

The Pioneer Street Rod Association of Butte, Montana, hosted the "Hot Rods and Hogs for Hope" on September 10 and 11, 2010 in Historic Uptown Butte. The event kicked off on Friday evening with a show and shine event, food, beverages and music by the John Andrews Band from Anaconda. On Saturday participants toured the surrounding area on a Poker Run, returning for another show and shine, raffles, awards, and ending

the evening with a concert by the Bop-A-Dips. There were 100 participants, including hot rods, customs and bikes. The event chairman was Frank Fleming, who is the Vice-President of the Pioneer Street Rod Association. Numerous other club members assisted with this event that raised \$2,500 for the Hope Project.

*Story by Tony Patrick, President,
Pioneer Street Rod Association*

Fairmont Winter Reunion

Hazardous winter road conditions cleared up just in time for the 2010 Winter Reunion at Fairmont Hot Springs. It was a special time to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. The "Children of Hope" were welcomed to Fairmont with a plate of Christmas cookies and gift baskets donated by GSK Biological Lab in Hamilton. Thanks to the efforts and generosity of GSK and Mountain of Giving toy drive, this year's reunion made the Season brighter for over 40 families. Two hundred plus people enjoyed a dinner together and even a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. All the children serenaded Santa with 'Here Comes Santa Claus', and he joyfully made his appearance. While the neglected ice cream cake melted, kids lined up to give their requests to Santa and to receive a bag of treats. Families enjoyed themselves in the hot spring pools and made the most of a cold December day. Happy laughter echoed through the indoor pool and even down the gigantic water slide. Everyone waved good-bye to each other, with a promise to meet up again at Essex in June.

Story by Kathy Sangray

Follow Us on the Web

Please go to www.montanahope.org for more information. Find stories on events, wishes granted, and a calendar of upcoming events. Contact information is also available for all the coordinators. If you would like to help with an event or organize your own, please contact the coordinator in your area to get involved.

Please submit website & newsletter stories, letters, photos, ideas, information and updates to the editor:

Montana Hope Project
C/O Kathy Sangray
1375 18th Street
Havre, MT 59501
Or email to ksangray@montanahope.org

In an effort to save printing and mailing costs, we would like to send your newsletter to you by email.

Please send your email address to ksangray@montanahope.org.

We will not sell your address or use it for any purpose other than to contact you regarding the Montana Hope Project.

Give the Gift of Hope

Help make a wish come true for a critically ill Montana child. Make a donation to the Montana Hope Project in the name of a family member, friend or recipient. A donation to the Montana Hope Project directly benefits Montana children.

This gift is made in **honor/memory** of : _____

It is being given by: _____
(your name)

Send confirmation card to: _____
(name)

(mailing address) (city) (state) (zip)

Complete and send to:
The Montana Hope Project, P.O. Box 5927, Helena, MT 59604

A special "Thank You" written by Gayle Tom
to the Montana Hope Project
and to the "Families of Hope"
to commemorate the Winter Reunion

*'Twas the night before Christmas,
when all through the house,
Not a creature was stirring,
not even a mouse.
The stockings were hung
by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas
soon would be there.*

*The children were nestled
all snug in their beds.
While visions of ipods
now danced in their heads.
And papa in his flannels,
and I, mine at last,
Began to recall
the ten years now past.*

*For out of our lives
there arose such a clatter,
We thought, "Heaven help us –
What could be the matter?!"
Away to the doctors
we flew with a blast,
"What's wrong with our wee one?
Please fix her up fast!"*

*With questions, no answers,
and 'calls' behind doors,
We held a bit tighter
and stared at the floor.
When what to our wondering ears
should we hear,
But, "We'll fly to Seattle"
not using reindeer.*

*With a nice little doctor,
so lively and quick,
We knew in a moment*

*that of course they could fix.
More rapid than eagles
the fellows did come,
They followed her orders
while we sat there numb.*

*"Now, Doctors! Now, Nurses!
Now, Lab-Techs! Let's see?...
"Sign this and sign that
and make sure there are three.
You now have your orders,
make haste and don't stall!
Now dash away! Dash away!
Dash away all!"*

*It just wasn't easy
with treatments and stuff.
We lived in two places
and that was just tough.
At times it was hard
not to feel all alone,
As we grappled and fought
with so much unknown.*

*The kids, how they struggled
as they tried to be big.
So helpful, yet missing
that whole family gig.
But then, out of nowhere
we heard from Rich Hader,
"Remember the 'Project'
sooner or later!"*

*Their eyes, how they twinkled!
Their dimples how merry!
'Twas Disney and dolphins,
and Kid's World with dairy!
Ice-cream before breakfast,
Ice-cream before lunch,*

*Ice-cream before dinner
and after, my hunch.*

*From the jousting of knights,
to the visits from Mickey,
We hated to leave
as our time flew so quickly.
But this wonderful gift
did not stop, it was clear.
Invites from Tiana
did come twice a year!*

*To Fairmont, then Essex,
then Fairmont again,
We got to know many
and see you as kin.
And when we're together
encouragement reigns;
Trials and toughness
just seem to wane.*

*So to the Highway Patrol
and the many around,
There's a family of six
in a small 'tana town
Who wants to say thanks
for these times that we've shared.
We'll cherish them all
for they truly are rare.*

*And to everyone here,
may your season be bright.
Happy Christmas to all,
and to all a good-night!*





Heli-Tours of Glacier Park

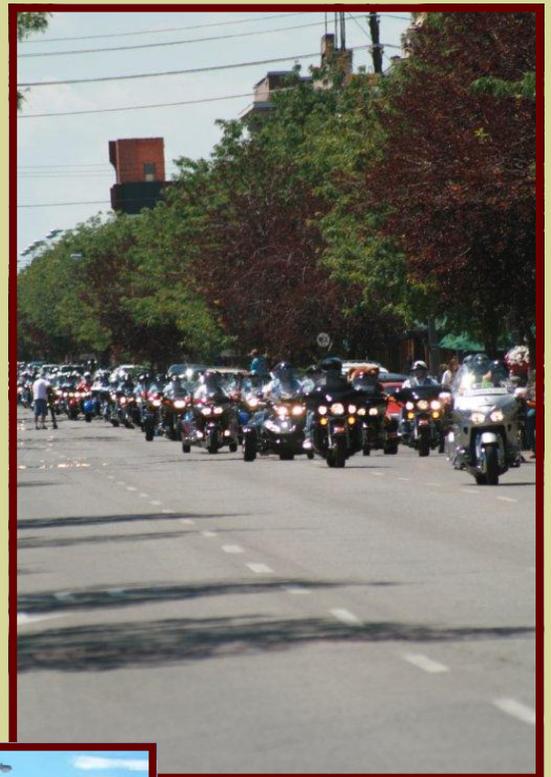


Summer Reunion at Essex

HIKE FOR HEROES 2010



Honoring Fallen MHP



Blue Knights Parade



Kruz 4 Kidz





Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally



Melina in Disney World



Cody in Disney World



Essex Summer Reunion



Winter Reunion at Fairmont



Hot Rods & Hogs for Hope



Winter Reunion



Hot Rods & Hogs for Hope



Wagon Wheel Bar Bike Rally



Winter Reunion at Fairmont

Dart Tournament organizers Becky Matthews & Chris Howell with MHP Trooper Derek Brown



Essex Reunion

Red Jammer Bus at Essex Reunion

Please see our website for more pictures

www.montanahope.org



Hot Rods & Hogs for Hope



Michael O'Hara with his parents Michelle & Dan

Montana Hope Project

PO Box 5927

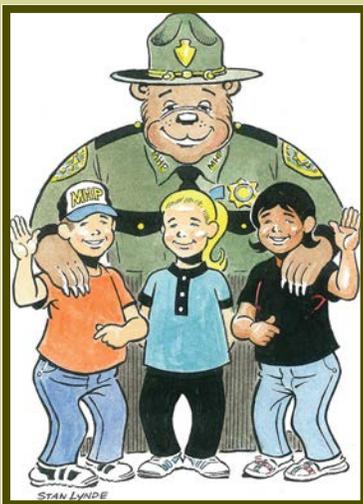
Helena, MT 59604

Non-Profit

US Postage Paid

Helena, MT

Permit #243



The Montana Hope Project is a non-profit organization registered with the Secretary of State. It is a 501(c)(3) organization and it follows all federal guidelines to maintain its status.

Change Address

Add a Subscriber

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone # _____ Email Address: _____

Mail to: Montana Hope Project PO Box 5927 Helena, MT 59604