



# MSU Extension Education & Research Improving the Quality of Life

## In Dawson County

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### Horizon Leadership Program

Glendive, Sidney, and Circle received a cluster grant of \$382,000 through the Northwest Area Foundation (NWF) for their Horizon Leadership Development Program. The County Agent wrote the Glendive portion of the grant and facilitated the process in the other two communities. Originally, the Montana Community Foundation had originally been retained to administer the grant, but soon determined they were not the best vehicle to deliver the training needed. Bruce Smith then took a leadership role to insure the success of the program. Bruce received training to become a certified deliverer of the Leadership Plenty Program and is helping to deliver four warm up programs to each of the three communities and will begin the full nine module community-wide programs after the first of the year.

### Montana Cooperative Development Center

The County Agent continued to provide services to eastern Montana as a Technical Assistance Provider through the Montana Cooperative Development Center. Technical Assistance Providers help entrepreneurs interested in developing their business ideas through the cooperative form of business. Due to the time and effort involved with the Horizon Leadership Program, my level of involvement with this program will be limited in 2005.

### Recycling Center

The County Agent has continued to be involved with the Yellowstone Recycling Center in Glendive. The recycling center is a 501c-3, non-profit organization organized through the Gaining Access Towards Employment (GATE) committee. Community GATE was designed to help local clientele develop work and life skills to help them gain employment. A recent arson fire destroyed the facility and all its equipment. As a one of the founding members of the Recycling Board, Bruce has been helping to determine the direction the Board will take get the recycling center up and running again.

### Gateway to Opportunity (GTO)

GTO is a regional economic development forum held in cooperation with economic development groups in western North Dakota and eastern Montana. The programs have been held in Glendive the last two years. This year's program was held in Dickinson, ND, and is scheduled to be held there again in 2005. The forum consists of a series of 50-minute classes designed to help clientele develop their business ideas in a variety of topics that include value-added ag, energy development, the Internet, business plans, marketing, labeling, and a host of other subjects.

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Dawson County Extension Office is located at 207 West Bell St in Glendive Phone: 406-377-4277



An educational resource dedicated to improving the quality of people's lives by providing research-based knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of families, communities and agricultural enterprises.