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Contact: January 2019 Locally Produced Programming
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KBGS-TV Ch. 16 Billings KUSM-TV Ch. 9 Bozeman & Butte KUGF-TV Ch. 21 Great Falls
KUHM-TV Ch. 10 Helena KUKL-TV Ch. 46 Kalispell KUFM-TV Ch. 11 Missoula

4-H: Six Montana Stories

Follow six young Montanans as they learn that 4-H is about having fun--but being responsible about it. It's about refusing to give up on the runt of the litter, staying up all night to bottle feed a sick calf while knowing someday you'll have to say goodbye. It's about knowing where you're headed but never forgetting where you've been. And it's about pledging your head, your heart, your hands, and your health--not for yourself, but to help others.

Airs Thursday, 1/3 at 7pm, Sunday, 1/6 at 9:30am

Backroads of Montana: Comin' Round the Mountain (No. 130)

The 30th episode introduces us to a man who's returned to Glacier National Park to sign on for a new job. We'll watch spring warmth transform a mountain snowpack, trace the history of Chinese immigrants in small-town Montana and more. William Marcus hosts the program from historic Stevensville.

Airs Saturday, 1/5 at 5pm

Montana AG Live: Where Would We Be Without Forage in Montana? (No. 5006)

Feeding the two and a half million cows in Montana is a huge undertaking and the task falls to individual ranchers to find that feed. Forage production is the backbone of the livestock industry and Emily Mccage, the forage specialist at MSU, helps us learn how all the pieces fit.

Airs Sunday, 1/6 at 11am

11th & Grant with Eric Funk: Basement Jazz (No. 905)

Four talented young musicians carry the jazz legacy forward by featuring their own original music, and compositions of Montana jazz veterans. Basement Jazz features Caroline Janssen on guitar, Claire Young on Saxophone, Colleen Schmidt on bass, and Amy Giullian on drums. Joining these talented young adults are Bob Nell and Eric Funk, well known around Montana for their original jazz compositions and performances.

Airs Thursday, 1/10 at 7pm, Saturday, 1/12 at 9:55pm, Monday, 1/14 at 2am

Backroads of Montana: Cakes and Cowboys (No. 131)

This episode of Backroads travels first to Park City, where everyone will tell you that the best angel food for miles around comes from "The Cake Ladies." In Great Falls, we'll visit a special site that honors fallen soldiers and pays tribute to living veterans. We stop in the central Montana town of Winifred to see what may be the world's largest Tonka toy collection. Finally, we visit a working cowboy singer on his ranch south of Wibaux. William Marcus hosts the program from Malta.

Airs Saturday, 1/12 at 5pm

A Copper Opera: The Butte Miner's Strike of 1917

"A Copper Opera" chronicles the Butte miner's strike of 1917. Using historical photographs and film clips, it tells a tale of murder, politics and intrigue as workers fight for better working conditions. Former Montana Congressman and Butte native Pat Williams narrates the program.

Airs Sunday, 1/13 at 10am

An Alien Place: The Fort Missoula Detention Camp 1941-1944

"An Alien Place" chronicles the history and experiences of the 1,200 Italian and 1,000 Japanese nationals held at Fort Missoula by the Department of Justice from 1941-1944. As foreign nationals and not US citizens, these men were arrested and sent to Fort Missoula. Japanese internees were subject to loyalty hearings conducted by the Department of Justice.

Airs Sunday, 1/13 at 10:30am

Montana AG Live: MSU President Cruzado on Ag's Role at University (No. 5007)

Montana State University President Waded Cruzado discusses MSU's 125th Anniversary and the role that agriculture has played in those years.

Airs Sunday, 1/13 at 11am

Mary Rose

Explore the life of Mary Rose Moyer. At age 91, she is clinically blind yet perseveres every day through her physical limitations as well as her storied past.

Airs Sunday, 1/13 at 2:55pm

Safe Enough?: Seatbelts in School Busses

Fifty years after the Federal Government mandated seatbelts in all passenger cars, seatbelts are still not required on all school buses. Why? Would school buses be safer with them? "Safe Enough?" explores the answers to these questions. Interviews with crash experts, lawmakers and school officials takes viewers through the evolving debate over seatbelts on buses. "Safe Enough?" mines public record, testimony and crash investigations. It details how a great safety record and concerns over cost have deterred efforts to add seatbelts year after year in legislatures all across the nation. The documentary also follows a movement for change rising from parents and lawmakers, punctuated by recent surprising moves from the federal agencies that have always tiptoed around the issue. In the end, "Safe Enough?" reveals decades of well-meaning opposition and complacency and their tragic consequences.

Airs Thursday, 1/17 at 7pm, Saturday, 1/19 at 4:30pm, Sunday, 1/20 at 10am

Montana AG Live: Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Potatoes (No. 5008)

Our fall special this year falls at the end of the season so we can wrap it up by talking taters! Viewers frequently have questions about their own potato patch, but this is a huge industry in Montana ... and one we haven't spent too much time talking about. We spent the summer documenting the potato industry, from planting to selling, and are ready for Nina Zidack to lead us as we focus on potatoes!

Airs Sunday, 1/20 at 11am

11th & Grant with Eric Funk: Laney Lou & the Bird Dogs (No. 1306)

Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs is a relentlessly energetic bluegrass-Americana band combining soaring four-part harmony and rock 'n' roll drive. This Bozeman, Montana, based group gets people dancing and singing along to original tunes and covers alike. With a combined 30 years of experience in blues, rock, country, metal, folk, and indie bands, the members of Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs found their common ground in bluegrass and country music, bringing a truly unique sound to the folk scene. This award-winning band has been taking their infectious sound on the road since 2013, sharing stages with the likes of Keb Mo', The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, The Jeff Austin Band, Amy Helm, Leftover Salmon, The Infamous Stringdusters, Corb Lund, The Mavericks, Mark Chesnutt and many more. The Bird Dogs released a live self-titled studio album in 2016, recorded at Basecamp Studio in Bozeman. Their follow-up album, titled The Vigilante Session, was recorded live at a forest service cabin in the Ruby mountains. Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs features Lena Schiffer on vocals, guitar, & percussion, Matt Demarais on vocals, banjo & dobro, Ethan Demarais on bass, Brian Kassay on fiddle, mandolin & harmonica, and Josh Moore on vocals & guitar.

Airs Thursday, 1/24 at 7pm, Saturday, 1/26 at 10pm, Monday, 1/28 at 2am

Backroads of Montana: Reaching Goals (No. 132)

This edition of Backroads starts at an exciting amateur skjoring event in the Big Hole Valley, then meets up with some senior weight lifters in Ronan, visits an ice cave in the Pryor Mountains, and spends time with two women who have formed a fast friendship through their community work in Lame Deer. William Marcus hosts the program from Fort Missoula.

Airs Saturday, 1/26 at 5pm

Paradise and Purgatory: Hemingway of the L Bar T and St. V's

Ernest Hemingway spent the summer and fall of 1930 hunting and fishing at the L Bar T, a dude ranch twelve miles south of Cooke City, MT. Although his vacation was initially a great success, it nearly ended in tragedy.

Airs Sunday, 1/27 at 10am

Odyssey: The Montana Centennial Train, 1964-1965

Created by state boosters, the Montana Territorial Centennial Train of 1964-1965 became the focal point of the entire state's centennial celebration. With its 16-city tour and two-season stay at the New York World's Fair the train provided the state with media exposure and publicity that would be felt for many years. Organizer Howard Kelsey wanted to promote awareness of Montana by taking the state to the people via a train loaded with 300 Montanans who would serve as ambassadors for the state. The project soon grew in complexity such that it required state government involvement of administrative and financial assistance. To add to Kelsey's frustration of organization, the train became a political issue during the gubernatorial election year of 1964. But as each problem was solved, and the train rolled across the country, it came to be seen as a controversial promotion for the state.

Airs Sunday, 1/27 at 10:30am

Montana AG Live: Truck Farms in Montana (No. 4901)

Mac Burgess, small farm specialist at Montana State University, talks about the booming truck farm industry in Montana.

Airs Sunday, 1/27 at 11am

Montana PBS Coverage "State of the State Address": January 2019: Governor Bullock (No. 801)

MontanaPBS provides live coverage and analysis of Governor Steve Bullock's State of the State Address. This speech, delivered before the joint chambers of the Montana Legislature, comes at the mid-point of the Governor's second term. The live coverage will include a response from the Montana Republican Party, interviews with lawmakers and analysis.

Airs Tuesday, 1/29 at 6:59pm

Business: Made in Montana: (No. 2501)

This episode introduces viewers to Bitterroot Cycles in Hamilton, Eco-Built Homes in Billings, Red Ants Pants in White Sulphur Springs, Tandem Doughnuts in Missoula and The R.L. Winston Rod Company in Twin Bridges.

Airs Thursday, 1/31 at 7pm

Never Too Late

Shad Blair, a 36-year-old plumber living in Stevensville, Montana, has always dreamed of playing professional basketball. Against all odds, Shad receives an invitation to the Las Vegas Overseas Combine and his pipe dream might just become a reality. Local coach and one-time Montana basketball standout Ryan Wetzel thinks Shad has what it takes and agrees to help train the 6'11" inch Blair for the upcoming combine. With the support of his family, and all of his savings, Shad lays it all on the line to see once and for all if he has what it takes to play professional basketball. A story about always giving it your all and pursuing your dreams till the very end.

Airs Thursday, 1/31 at 7:30pm

* Quality television has the power to elevate our understanding of the world, encourage respect for one another, and influence our lives in a positive way. MontanaPBS shares diverse stories; connects our citizens; discovers common ground; and celebrates the independent spirit and beauty of Montana. *

A service of

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