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CUSTER COUNTRY

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Quarterly E-Newsletter July 2009

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Sample the wonders of Custer Country. Plan your dream vacation. Please visit our website at www.CusterCountry.com



CUSTER COUNTRY IN FOCUS

1

July is a great month for summer fun. In addition to the festivities of July 4th, there are lots of summertime activities to engage in. How about spending some time on one of our rivers, lakes or reservoirs? Whether you're a fisherman, a boater or a floater, you'll find activities to suit your tastes.

The Yellowstone River is known for its large variety of fish species, while the Bighorn is known mostly for the lunker trout that are pulled out of it each year. In both cases, it is usually better to cast your line in the early morning or late evening to avoid the July heat. These two rivers are best navigated with smaller boats or with some sort of raft if just being out on the river is what you prefer.

For those of you who want to ski or go "tubing," I suggest either Bighorn Reservoir near Fort Smith or Tongue River Reservoir State Park just north of Decker. These two facilities have excellent boat landing facilities and will accommodate larger horsepower boats. Of course the fishing is great in both places, as well.

For more information, go to www.CusterCountry.com, click on

THE TYPE RIDER

Review & Trip Planner

The TypeRider website is up and running! We hope you make TypeRider your go-to site for planning the perfect trip to Montana and Wyoming. This website is about real people – couples, families, and friends – who've had unique experiences on the roads and in the cities, on the water and in the saddle as they spent 2-5 days in this amazing area of the country. Bookmark this website, watch for what's new, and let us hear from you. Please visit our website at www.thetyperider.com



NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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What's not to love about summer in Custer Country? Fishing, boating, festivals, fairs and beautiful scenery.

From Wibaux to Laurel to the Bighorn Canyon to Alzada, the region has something for everyone. Rodeos, wildlife watching and photography offer endless possibilities to fit whatever you enjoy doing. Biking, motorcycling or RVing are great ways to see and enjoy Custer Country.

How about enjoying one of Custer Country's Loop Tours? Most of them only take a day, but some will give you the opportunity to spend some time in one of Montana's smaller towns like Terry, Miles City or Forsyth. No matter where you go, you'll find friendly folks, fun food and a full slate of things to do.

Here are some examples for July:

Are you a baseball fan? Travel to Miles City and catch the action at the Newhouse Baseball Tournament from the 1st to the 5th.

Fireworks more your style? Laurel is known to have one of the best fireworks displays in the state, but Roundup, Baker, Forsyth, Lame Deer and Billings offer great displays to celebrate our Nation's birthday and they all have their own "wow" factor.

There are also several fairs in July, including

"Adventures" at the top of the page, then choose either "Fishing" or "Boating" from the menu. You'll find links to each of the four summer fun sites above.

Get out there and get wet! And don't forget boating safety. We want you back!



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

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As our fiscal year winds down and the nomination committee is diligently working to prepare for the election of new officers, I am excited about the year that has passed. Many milestones have been achieved, establishing groundwork for years to come. All this coupled with some great press and publications that have been produced, generating lots of interests in our great region. As I retire my position and hand the wand to the next president of Custer Country, I must say it's been great, with many thanks to the fellow directors, board members, contractors, advertisers, and all those who ensure tourism remains a strong industry within the State of Montana. We have many great places to see and lots of wonderful people to show off their piece of heaven. If you haven't traveled through Custer Country yet, I encourage you take some time and enjoy the wonders our area has to offer. Not sure what to see and do? Many cities/towns offer loop tour maps to help you along the way. I was going to close with a joke, but I realized the shortest distance between two jokes was a straight line! Enjoy your remainder of summer, and have a wonderful upcoming year. It's been truly a pleasure working with all.

the Rosebud/Treasure County Fair July 16-19 in Forsyth, Terry Yippee Day on the 25th and Summerfair in Billings, July 19 – 20.

Golf? Custer Country has some great 9- and 18-hole courses where you'll find tournaments and open golf in some beautiful surroundings.

Let's not forget you history buffs. Clark Days, commemorating the day back in 1805 when Captain William Clark stopped 28 miles east of present-day Billings at a place he dubbed Pomp's Tower. Now known as Pompeys Pillar National Monument, it bears the only evidence of the Lewis and Clark expedition still visible in its original form and place along the route. July 25 and 26 are filled with demonstrations of methods used by the members of the expedition, examples of the food they ate and exhibits of some of the tools and equipment they used. Plus, admission is free from 5 p.m. July 25 until 5 p.m. July 26. Not enough? It's also the only time the Bureau of Land Management allows overnight dry camping.

These and many other activities are listed on our website events calendar. You're sure to find something to interest, entertain and enlighten you.

CHUGGING INTO A **THOMAS & FRIENDS** STATION NEAR YOU!

A DAY OF FAMILY FUN!
Take a 25 minute ride with a full size Thomas the Tank Engine™
Meet Sir Topham Hatt
Enjoy Storytelling, Live Music,
Build With LEGO® DUPLO® Bricks
and Much More!

GETAWAY

4

If you're under the age of 10, you might not know who or what "Thomas the Tank Engine" is. But ask your kids, your grandkids or any pre-schooler in your neighborhood and you'll find out how wildly popular the PBS children's TV show called, "Thomas and Friends" is. Thomas chugs his way into the lives of children everywhere, offering fun, entertainment and education.

Thomas will steam into Billings on July 10 and will be there until July 12. There's lots of fun to be had, even if you're not a kid. After all, what's more fun than watching kids have fun.

For information on tickets and a list of events, go to http://www.billingsdepot.org/dowt/dowt_main.html
ALLLLL ABOOOOARD!!

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