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# CUSTER COUNTRY

M O N T A N A

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E-Newsletter November 2010

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## IN THIS ISSUE

1. A Guy's Idea for Shopping in Custer Country
2. Take a Tour in Custer Country
3. Ekalaka – Take a Ride!
4. What's **Really** Hot in Custer Country

Sample the wonders of Custer Country. Plan your dream vacation. Please visit our website at [www.CusterCountry.com](http://www.CusterCountry.com)



The Copper Moon

### A GUY'S IDEA FOR SHOPPING IN CUSTER COUNTRY

1

The holidays are coming and the thought always brings a little tremor . . . it's the shopping. Holiday shopping is serious—not a run to the hardware store and get-it-done guy-kind of shopping. It requires thought, and that can be intimidating. But, I've traveled around Custer Country quite a bit lately, and I have an idea.

I'll call it my guys' get-it-done holiday shopping adventure, and it takes the whole family on a mini-overnight vacation. Begin in Glendive with a late breakfast at the *Yellowstone River Inn*! Then, shop at *Hell Creek Music & More*—clothes, jewelry, and *Made in Montana* for her: musical instruments, scientific toys, dinosaurs, and . . . comic books!—X-Men, The Hulk, and Spidey—for the boys. Also visit the *Enchanted Room*—recognized as one of the top 10 quilt shops in the nation, and *Your Beauty Shop*—a distinctive women's boutique. Then, be a hero and treat everyone to the *Makoshika Dinosaur Museum*—open by appointment only in the fall and winter—406-377-1637.

Leave Glendive on I-94 to Miles City with a stop in Terry at *Prairie Unique*. Here you will find everything from *Made in*



Check out the TypeRider website! 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](http://www.thetyperider.com)



## TAKE A TOUR IN CUSTER COUNTRY 2

The [Little Bighorn Battlefield](#), [Makoshika State Park](#), and museums in Glendive, Montana, are popular sites for tours that extend far beyond the boundaries of Custer Country. Tour operators like Lily Tatafu Moore of Group Destination Planners, a member of the National Tour Association, acknowledge that these sites which include the [Makoshika Dinosaur Museum](#), the [Glendive Dinosaur and Fossil Museum](#), and the [Frontier Gateway Museum](#) are a fascinating draw for tour groups like the one Lily took in September to the annual Norsk Hostfest in Minot, North Dakota. Enroute, the group overnighted in Glendive; stayed at the [Yellowstone River Inn](#) where they were treated with the best in Montana hospitality, and spent time eating, shopping, and touring in this fascinating southeastern Montana town. Dinosaurs, badlands, and history are at the top of Glendive's list of amenities, with no shortage of adventure by day and relaxing hospitality by night. To learn more about available scenic and tour loops in Custer Country, go to the website <http://www.custercountry.com/alltourloops.html> or visit [The TypeRider](#) at <http://www.thetyperider.com/>

Montana candles, gift baskets and agates to eastern Montana's largest collection of radio control hobbies for sale.

In Miles City, have a chimichanga at *Mexico Lindo* or lunch at the famous *Montana Bar*. If you go to the *Bar*, built in 1908, note a memorable bit of historical significance—the bar which came to Miles City by steamboat in 1912! Ready to shop! For authentic Montana, buy a custom hat from Ken at the *Kickin' Ass Hat Co.* on Main Street. He's an artist and a gentleman. Bring a bone for the pooch when you visit. Try to schedule this trip November 26 or 27 and you'll hit the shopping bonanza—the AAUW Christmas Market. Over 100 vendors and artists from Montana and surrounding states come to Miles City to sell pottery, wood carvings, artwork, and more. Enjoy late hors d'oeuvres and a glass of fine wine at the *Club 519*, a historic bar and supper club on the second floor of the old bank building. Miles City offers a number of hotel options.

After breakfast at the *600 Café* on Main Street, take Hwy 59 from Miles City to Broadus. In about an hour, you're in the middle of the historic Warrior Trail, where between 1865 and 1877, American Indian Tribes fought desperately with soldiers of the U.S. Army to retain their lands and culture. In Broadus, stop first at the *Silver Sage* for fine women's clothing and unique holiday embroidery. Then, surprise the kids with a visit to *Powder River Taxidermy* that houses a free wildlife museum with amazing specimens in natural settings. Casually point out the sporting goods for sale. Visit the *Buffalo Land and Antiques*, and while your wife is absorbed in the large array of fabrics, take the kids through the antique tools. Finally, cross the street to the *Copper Moon*—a great destination full of fantasy Christmas displays and jewelry, antiques, candles, florals, and beautiful art. Laura Lee tells me that one of the hottest selling items in her shop right now is a T-shirt—*Shopping with your husband is like hunting with the game warden*. I suggest focusing the family on the soda fountain, where a guy can wrap this adventure as the hero who bought everyone one of the world's best home made milkshakes.



Medicine Rocks State Park

### EKALAKA – TAKE A RIDE!

# 3

There is a new paved road in southeast Montana! Why is this big news? This paved road in Montana has been in the planning stages since the 1920s. It was completed within the last 3 weeks—not quite 100 years in the works, but close. Residents of this friendly small town in southeastern Montana can no longer claim to be the only county seat in the United States without a paved road running through it. Now an entire 72-mile stretch is open for business all the way from Ekalaka to Alzada. The last piece finished this month was 16 miles long.

The new road will undoubtedly boost tourism in the area, particularly during the annual motorcycle rally in Sturgis, S.D. And, the Carter County Museum in Ekalaka is on the Montana Dinosaur Trail and displays a huge, nearly complete skeleton of a hadrosaur. This treasure alone makes Ekalaka a special family destination that is now easier to reach any time of the year.

Ekalaka is just 7 miles south of the stunning Medicine Rocks State Park. The newly-paved road from Ekalaka to Alzada then winds through the beautiful pine-covered hills of the Custer National Forest on the northern end, and drops down into wide-open prairies and badlands on the way to Alzada. To add to an incredible loop, we recommend that 2- and 4-wheeled folks turn onto Hwy 212 – The Warrior Trail – and cruise from Alzada to Garryowen following the historic route of the greatest Indian wars in the history of the



Cowboy Gatherin'

### WHAT'S REALLY HOT IN CUSTER COUNTRY

# 4

**Nov. 26-27**

**AAUW Christmas Market - Miles City** is the largest event of its type in Eastern Montana. Over 100 vendors and artists come from Montana and surrounding states to sell pottery, wood carvings, artwork, and more. Kick into high holiday gear the weekend after Thanksgiving at Miles City Community College.

**Dec. 17-18**

**Chase Hawks Cowboy Gatherin' and Rodeo, MetraPark in Billings** – follow the cowboys and the stock from the NFR in Las Vegas to the Chase Hawks Rough Stock Rodeo in Billings—Saturday night at 7:30pm! Come on Friday for the live Calcutta Auction, World Champion Cowboys, and dancing and dancing to a live band. Doors open at 4:30, dinner at 6:30, Calcutta at 7:30pm, and dancing starts at 9:00pm.

*Want to know more about the haps in Custer Country? Especially this time of year, check out the Christmas Strolls and holiday events throughout the region --[Click here](#):*

## Contact Information

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United States culminating in the [Battle of the Little Bighorn](#)—Custer's Last Stand.

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