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ACROSS the BIG SKY

Life of cowboys subject of TV show

HELENA — The cameras are rolling on a new reality series set in Montana about the lives of ranchers.

The series, tentatively titled "American Cowboy," will be filming in multiple locations over the next seven months, according to the Montana Film Office in **Helena**.

One of the ranchers featured in the series is from northcentral Montana, but officials declined to identify the rancher or location.

Eight episodes are planned, and the series will air on network television next year. A network has been chosen, but officials again declined to identify it.

This is Montana's first full series on national television and is set to bring hundreds of thousands of dollars in economic impact to multiple locations in the state, the film office said.

Cut Bank to name interim mayor

CUT BANK — An interim **Cut Bank** mayor is expected to be named Monday by the City Council.

Joni Stewart stepped down as mayor in February. Her resignation is effective April 25, the Cut Bank Pioneer Press reported. The interim mayor will serve the remainder of Stewart's term, which ends Dec. 31.

Council members interviewed Floyd Ray, Doug Embody and J.W. Eaton for the position.

Billings business robbed at knifepoint

BILLINGS — **Billings** police are investigating the knifepoint robbery of an adult bookstore.

Police say a man entered Ball Adult Books and Video around midnight, left, returned and then wielded a knife in front of a store employee, who opened the cash register. The investigators say a second man showed up and waited with the first one until the employee handed over cash.

Both men left the scene in a small vehicle.

Man killed in crash near Noxon

MISSOULA — A 51-year-old **Thompson Falls** man has died in a one-car rollover near **Noxon**.

The Montana Highway Patrol says the crash happened on Montana Highway 200 at about 7 p.m. Wednesday.

The patrol says the man was westbound when he drifted off the road on a curve. He overcorrected, crossed the roadway, went off the opposite side of the highway and hit a snowbank.

The man was ejected from the vehicle. His name hasn't been released.

Man gets 7 years for assault on 83-year-old man

BUTTE — A 45-year-old **Butt**eman has been sentenced to seven years in prison for an assault on an 83-year-old man.

Billy Clift was sentenced Thursday to 10 years in prison with three suspended by District Judge Kurt Krueger. Clift earlier pleaded guilty to assault with a weapon.

Court records say Clift punched and kicked the elderly man in a vacant lot on Aug. 30, 2008. Under state law, the steel-toed boots Clift was wearing are considered a weapon.

The victim said he was returning a bicycle to some juveniles when Clift accused him of stealing it, leading to the assault.

The elderly man was treated at the hospital for bruises and scrapes.
