

April 15, 2015 SH

Alcohol awareness month recognized

BY THE RICHLAND COUNTY DUI TASK FORCE

During the Alcohol Awareness Month the DUI Task Force is challenging the community to raise their awareness regarding issues pertaining to alcohol. We are asking you to educate yourself and others on:

- Safe/Healthy Limits: Zero drinks for those under 21 — One standard sized drink per day for women — two standard sized drinks per day for men

- Size of a "standard drink": 12 ounces of beer or wine cooler — 8/9 ounces of craft or micro-brews — 5 ounces of table wine — 1.5 ounces of 80-proof liquor

Keep yourself and the community safe. There is no excuse to drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs Richland County has 24/7 public transportation.

The task force encourages you to put Sidney Shuttle's number in your cell phone, 433-3636, and remember all alcohol establishments also have their number. Encourage others to ride not drive if they have been drinking. If you see impaired drivers on our roadways, law enforcement, the task force and your community encourage you to be RADD (Report a Drunk Driver) and

These are just small changes you can personally make and help others make. These small changes will have an enormous effect on creating a safe and healthy community. For more information contact Mary Sundheim, DUI Task Force Coordinator at the Richland County Health Department 406-433-2207. call 911.



Editorial

City should change Sunday's drinking law

Last week, the Sidney City Council was presented with a proposal to change the time that businesses can serve alcohol from noon to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. The topic was sent to the Fire and Police Commission for further review. Although some people will not be happy with the idea, we feel it's time to make that change. Many of our businesses are now struggling and changing this law would benefit them some. If wedding parties or other celebrations wish to have a toast using champagne at a brunch that shouldn't be that big of a deal. We rather have those groups spending their money in Sidney establishments than heading to Williston or Watford City.

The council should also consider an even earlier starting time during the summer when people are taking off for a day of fishing. Again, we rather see customers buying their reasonable amount of alcohol supplies in Sidney than stopping at another town on the way to their favorite fishing hole. We don't feel bars are going to be packed if the law is changed. Not many people have drinking on their minds on Sunday mornings, but a change could help businesses especially for these special occasions.