



LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

July 20, 2020

Motorcycle Fatality Hwy 35 MM28:

On July 16, 2020, at about 9pm, it was reported to Lake County 911 that a motorcyclist had crashed after hitting a deer near MM28 on Hwy 35. First responders determined that the motorcyclist, who was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash, had died. The Lake County Coroner's Office identified the deceased motorcyclist as Samuel Keirle, 26 years old, of Bigfork. Montana Highway Patrol is conducting the crash investigation.

Buffalo Cliffs jumping incident:

On July 18, 2020, at about 5:15 pm, Lake County 911 took a report of a male who had been swept away in the Flathead River, west of Polson, after jumping from cliffs near Buffalo Rapids. This is a popular jumping spot on the river. It was reported at this time that 21 year old, Dayton Conrad, of Ronan, was with a friend and the two were jumping into the river from the cliffs. When Dayton jumped from the cliffs, he was unable to swim to shore and was witnessed by his friend being pulled under by the current. The friend left the area to obtain cellular service to contact 911. The Lake County Sheriff's Office, Lake County Search and Rescue, Two Bear Air Rescue, and Finley Point Fire all assisted in a weekend long search for Dayton, but he has not been located.

Don Bell

Sheriff