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Sheridan narrowly approves football co-op with Twin

Discussion to continue before proposal submitted to MT High School Assn.

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SHERIDAN—The Sheridan school board continued deliberations on a potential football co-op with Twin Bridges Schools at its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 8, ending with a vote that approved moving forward on the proposal in a split on the board of 4-3.

The board began with a recap of the co-op committee meeting the previous evening, which focused primarily on the topics of bus driver availability to take student athletes to and from practice between the two schools, and payment for those drivers. Superintendent Mike Wetherbee said it would cost around \$2,300 to transport players to and from practice, a cost that did not include fuel and which would be split between the two schools.

They also discussed the practice schedule, since Sheridan has a four-day week as opposed to Twin Bridges' five-day week. Wetherbee noted that students would get bussed to whichever school was hosting practice after school was released and would be dropped back off at their own school by 7 p.m. each evening.

Another hot issue in co-op discussions has been the possibility of a junior varsity (JV) schedule, which would likely include six games if it were pursued. A junior varsity team could be playing the JV squads of larger teams as well, including Anaconda and Dillon.

Wetherbee noted that a "sticking point" has been maintaining a high standard for student athlete eligibility; he said that to him, that was the most important element of the co-op, noting that both proponents and opponents of the idea have given similar feedback.

"The one thing they've all said to me is that we need to maintain an eligibility status that's as stringent as what we have now," Wetherbee said. Sheridan currently checks student athlete grades every Monday, and any student with a failing grade in any class becomes ineligible for that week's competition.

The co-op would be a three-year commitment by both schools, though the Montana High School Association (MHSA) would be within its power to cut it short if it chose to do so. The termination of the agreement would be the prerogative of the MHSA, not the schools.

Wetherbee presented the board and visitors from the public with some additional numbers on Tuesday evening, sharing the annual expenses from the past several years for Sheridan's football program. After an expensive year in 2015 of \$11,195—spiked by new uniforms for the team that year—football costs have stayed relatively consistent, between \$6,000 and \$7,000 per year.

CO-OP continued on A2

Twin Bridges will get Special Improvement District

Council approves storm water effort, will cost parcel owners \$155 each

JOHN D. TAYLOR
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TWIN BRIDGES—Twin Bridges town council unanimously approved a resolution to create a storm water Special Improvement District in the town and proceed with \$600,000 plans for collecting and moving storm water from city streets at their January 8 meeting.

The vote came despite the objections of some town residents, several who attended the meeting.

Two former council members, David Smith and Annette McLean had some questions about the effort.

Smith wanted to know what the resolution to create the district would entail and if the \$600,000 price tag was the total cost or what it would cost to do 6th Avenue only.

McLean wanted to know the school district's involvement also, more breakdowns on the costs of the individual segments of the project, how the town would cost-share labor and expenses by doing work in-house, and a time frame for completion.

Councilman Matt Greemore told them that the project included Madison St., Sixth St., Third St. and land behind the school. All of these areas are included in the project. However, Greemore said, there was not set schedule for completion of the project, the focus was the highest priority areas first; then move on to other parts of the plan as money became available.

DISTRICT continued on A2



Above - Twin Bridges town council approved a resolution to create a Special Improvement District to handle stormwater runoff in the town at its Tuesday, January 8 meeting. (J. TAYLOR)



Ennis commissioners review Riverside project

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ENNIS—The Ennis town commission reviewed a plan for an extensive project at the east end of Ennis's Main Street at its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 11.

The plan, presented to the commissioners by Michael Casey, included a schematic from Bozeman-based Faure Halvorsen Architects. The project would be an expansion of the Riverside Motel property, which includes four lots abutting the Ennis Lions' Park.

The project is proposed to involve an addition to one of the buildings on East Main Street that will be transitioned into a steakhouse, as well as the transformation of another building into a creamery—a site for continental breakfast, coffee drinking and newspaper reading, Casey said.

There are also plans to build a small bathhouse for guests of the Riverside RV Park, which Casey would like to expand with additional RV sites. Casey said the multifaceted project is out for bid, but that nothing has been started yet.

ENNIS continued on A2

Leave it to beavers

Coexisting with Montana's largest rodent

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MADISON COUNTY—Beavers may not be the primary animal that visitors to Big Sky Country come to see, but perhaps they deserve a little more attention. After being hunted and trapped to a small fraction of their initially 60-million-strong population in the United States, beavers are making a comeback in Montana, and serving some important ecological purposes as they do.

Best known for their characteristic dams, beavers are often seen as a nuisance by many landowners. However, reports Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP), they can also be instrumental in maintaining healthy habitat, wildlife populations and water quality.

Beaver dams can vary hugely in size and can be built anywhere from creekside road crossings to culverts and spanning large waterways. The largest beaver dam in the world was measured at nearly 2,700 feet across.

But the vast majority are just large enough to span the width of a creek, and over time the hydrology of the American West has changed significantly because of the dramatic drop in beaver populations.

Beaver benefits

Torrey Ritter, an FWP beaver specialist, says the streams and rivers in the West look very different than they did before Europeans settled the west and brought grazing animals with them. Once the beaver fur trade took off and trapping and shooting beavers became an integral economic puzzle piece, what were once winding, interconnected waterways with wide floodplains gradually turned into straighter, narrower and faster streams.

"Beavers created this really diverse riparian habitat that all these different species could live in," says Ritter. "What beavers do is spread



Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks says while their activities can be a nuisance, beavers present some large ecological benefits to the state's waterways and habitats. (FWP)

water out over a much larger part of a floodplain. It seeps through the system much slower and not only benefits wildlife but also agricultural producers and fishermen. Just having those dams in place slows that water down a lot."

Beaver dams create wetlands in redirecting the flow of streams, providing healthy habitats for wetland-dwelling species like birds, amphibians and insects. While they've been known to use a variety of different tree types to build their

BEAVERS continued on A3

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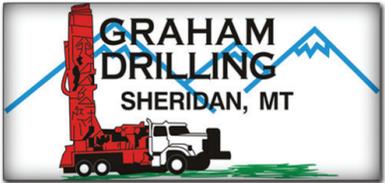
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ENNIS continued from A1: Town commissioners review Riverside project plans

Commissioner Lisa Roberts noted a state statute that required additional RV spots to undergo the subdivision process, and an irregular lot line was also pointed out between two of the projects parcels: something that may have to be adjusted later in order to avoid creating a problem for future landowners, as the addition to the steakhouse building may cross over that lot line.

"I like the overall plan; it's great," said commissioner Brian Vincent. "It fits well with what's there." Other commission members, along with Mayor Blake Leavitt, agreed.

To address the questions of the lot line and the subdivision process, the commission recommended that Casey present the project to the Madison County planning board before giving the official sign-off to the plan. Once the planning board has reviewed the proposal and offered its recommendations, the project will come back before the town commission for approval.

Vincent then presented to the commission a request from Great Falls-based nonprofit NeighborWorks Montana asking for a letter of support from the commission.

NeighborWorks administrates a housing program around the state of Montana using funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the state Department of Commerce. It provides up to \$25,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance to applicants who are first-time home buyers and

who meet a certain income threshold.

The letter of support requested by the nonprofit would allow them to add Ennis to their network of considered towns. So, if someone from Ennis wanted to apply for NeighborWorks assistance, they could do so.

Once the letter of support is given, the commission is required to certify that the home in question is not in a floodplain, an airport zone or another unsuitable or high-risk area. Vincent said the role of the town is minimal beyond that assurance, and the decision to write a support letter for NeighborWorks was approved unanimously by the commission.

The meeting ended with reports from various departments, including the library and Leavitt's mayor's report.

Karen Ketchu, director of the Madison Valley Public Library, offered some great news and some less-than-great news, the latter concerning a small fire in the library.

"It was a very small fire," Ketchu said. "It barely even qualified as a fire."

Ketchu said that during an inspection of the library furnace system, a loose wire was found that had emitted some sparks. There were no live flames, and the wire was immediately fixed before the rest of the system was examined and deemed safe and secure.

On a much happier note, Ketchu reported that for the second year in a row, Madison Valley Public Library



Michael Casey presented the schematic for a project at the east end of Ennis's Main Street to the town commission on Thursday, January 10. The project would expand services at the Riverside Motel and RV Park. Commissioners recommended the project be reviewed by the county planning board. (R. COLYER)

was recognized as the second busiest library in the nation for its budget category. Events like Ennis's Christmas Stroll showed just how many people visit the library—around 500 that evening alone.

"In a town this size, that's a lot of people," Ketchu said. "It's very impressive."

Leavitt wrapped up the meeting with his mayor's report, which focused on the Main Street Montana grant that Ennis received for funding toward its master plan.

The Main Street grant will provide \$10,000 in funding, with the town matching \$6,000 of that.

The Ennis Chamber of Commerce also contributed \$500 and the town hopes to piggyback on a Madison County grant that could provide up to \$18,000 in additional funding.

Leavitt also reported that he met with new sheriff Phil Fortner and Madison County dispatch regarding ambulance services, communications and radio. He was hopeful that progress can continue to be made to ensure that communication and ambulance services occur as quickly as possible in emergency responses.

The Ennis commission's next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 14.

DISTRICT continued from A1: Twin Bridges gets Special Improvement District for storm water

A large part of the work would be installing 15 infiltration systems, cisterns to catch and hold storm water, on Madison St. and this street's intersections. Each of these cisterns would cost about \$10,000 - \$15,000.

Greemore and Councilman Nolan Frandsen noted that the first priority was Sixth St., at a cost of about \$200,000, a third of the \$600,000 price tag. The overall storm water project was estimated to be \$1.2 million as initially proposed, but council decided to scale things back to what was affordable, what was priority, and this was the \$600,000 price tag items.

To pay for the project Greemore noted that each parcel within the district would be assessed \$155, this to be paid over a period of the next 20 years, at a rate of \$23.10 per year.

The time frame for the project to begin, Greemore and Mayor Tom Hyndman said, was to begin the priority items this summer, laying pipe on Sixth St., at the school, then in 2020 work on lower priority items.

Jeremiah Theys, PE, project manager for the storm water effort from Great West Engineering, told Smith that the three school and town parcels would be treated the same as any other

parcels and assessed the \$155 fee.

Resident Leslie Adams told council she didn't think she'd been notified properly about the project and how it would impact the 62 parcels she owned within the special district. She hoped council would reconsider voting on the project until more information could be gathered.

"I'm going to get hit 62 times for \$155, and I'm one of the 81 businesses in town," Adams said. "I feel like there was not adequate communication on the tax increase (special district)."

Greemore and town clerk/treasurer Kristi Millhouse explained to Adams that the town had been discussing this issue for months, that legal notices had been published pertaining to the plans, that all of the parcel owners impacted by the district had been sent a mid-December letter advising them of what was intended, that the public was invited to share their ideas about the project, and other means were used to communicate what was intended.

Adams didn't understand why this information and updated minutes of council meetings were not on the town's website.

Council members told her that the town had looked into updates for the website as well as software to codify town resolutions, but the

\$4,000 cost for this was too much, also that council meeting minutes were not available until they were formally approved by council, a month after the original meeting.

Adams wondered about the vested interests of council members.

Greemore told her that several council members were also impacted by the decision. He had two lots to cover, another had four lots, another two lots.

"We want to make the community better in the areas we're talking about," Greemore said.

Millhouse and Greemore also pointed out that of the 259 parcel owners the council had received just 14 complaints about the project, representing about 5 percent of the property that would be assessed. This meant, Greemore said, that 245 parcel owners or 95 percent of those affected by the special district either approved of the project or at least understood why it was being done.

On a motion by Greemore and Councilman Joe Willauer, the special district was created.

In other business:

- Maintenance Supervisor Sam Novich told council that he would visit with Energy Lab to test and monitor the town's water supply, a requirement, during January. Since these tests resulted

in a sizeable bill, and Energy Lab often ran specials in January, he could save the town some money in this way.

- Novich also told council that disposable toilet wipes were clogging up the sewer system, and couldn't go through the pumps. Every couple weeks, Novich said, the maintenance department was forced to lift a heavy pump out, clean it and discard the balled up wipes. He wanted to install a lift to make this operation safer for the maintenance crew.

- Hyndman said he intended to talk to State House District 71 Representative Ray Shaw at a meeting of Montana Mayors about how House Bill 124, dealing with cuts to the "Entitlement Fund," would result in a \$40,000 loss for the town. "We badly need this," he said.

- Millhouse looked into an alternative website program that would cost the town about \$1,200 - \$2,000 and would be able to create and codify the town's resolutions - required every five years - saving the town money. She wanted to council to think about this and would bring more information in the future. Willauer said if this could eliminate the \$2,500 - \$3,000 the town pays to have its resolutions codified, it would be a "no brainer."

CO-OP continued from A1: Sheridan approves forming football co-op with Twin Bridges

Beau Decker, who sat on the co-op committee and attended previous board meetings to stay up-to-date on deliberations, expressed disappointment on Tuesday with how the proceedings had gone.

"I thought it was our job to have a proposal and have questions answered," Decker told the board. "I feel rushed about this. I knew almost exactly the same amount before I got on the committee as I did last night."

Board member Kendra Horn, who also sat on the co-op committee, felt that the committee had made progress toward its goal.

"I felt like a lot of questions got answered," Horn said. "There's a lot of details, but I think those are to come."

The tenor of the board was one of uncertainty, with topics like ensuring students get enough playing time on a larger team, the possibility of the team becoming so large

it nears the Class B threshold and the lack of certainty on bus drivers coming up again before the board prepared to vote. Board member Will Fabel made the suggestion of trying a similar co-op with a lower-profile student group that may lower the politics that the football co-op has drawn, like drama or cross country. Other board members also expressed a lack of confidence due to unknown factors.

The co-op committee had voted in favor of the co-op 5-1 the previous evening, but things were much more split on Tuesday night.

Board chairman Bill Wood offered last comments before calling for a vote, drawing on the plight of many of Sheridan's student athletes, including his own children.

"I'm sick and tired of watching our kids get their asses kicked year in and year out," Wood said. "Number one, it's about what's best for our kids."

In the end, the board voted 4-3 to approve moving forward with efforts for the co-op. The next step will be to wait for the Twin Bridges school board to approve the move as well, and then a proposal will be drawn up and submitted to the MHSAA, which makes the final decision on approving or denying the co-op. The deadline for that proposal is February 1.

Other business at Sheridan's January school board meeting:

- The board's monthly review of one of its board goals, this month the goal of "facilitating communication between the district and all stakeholders by using all available sources of media with the intention of promoting the school." Wetherbee noted that it was one of the only goals where he felt Sheridan could do better.

"I would really like to see us spend time on this," Wetherbee said. "We need to do some tweak-

ing of strategies." At the December board meeting, members of the public noted they felt out of the loop in the football co-op discussion and felt they hadn't received adequate information from the school or the board.

- An update from Wetherbee on Sheridan's upcoming solar panel installation. Wetherbee said that the panels have been ordered and are on their way, but installation won't begin until springtime when weather is more amenable to the installation.

- Two board video trainings, which happen periodically for the board to brush up on different aspects of its members' roles as administrators. This month's training covered some legal basics for school boards and the collective bargaining process. The board will hold a retreat in March focusing on strategic planning and preparing the district's 2019-2020 budget.

Montana Chamber 2018 Business-Base poll shows priorities

HELENA - According to the 2018 Business Base (B-Base) poll commissioned by the Montana Chamber of Commerce, Montana voters' priorities for the next legislative session include improving access to healthcare, controlling government spending and increasing education funding.

Twenty-three percent of Montanans polled said improving access to healthcare was a top legislative priority for them, 19 percent said controlling govern-

ment spending and 14 percent prioritized increases in education funding.

The B-Base is an annual scientific survey of 800 Montana voters on a variety of business and political issues. The project is conducted by Moore Information, a leading U.S. public opinion research firm.

The 2018 poll also confirmed many trends the Montana Chamber has seen over previous years.

Business organizations like the Montana Chamber of Commerce

continued to be well-regarded by voters with a 67 percent favorable rating. Additionally, 64 percent of Montanans polled said the state's business community deserves the most credit for economic growth. Also, 56 percent believe that "businesses can be trusted to take good care of the state's natural resources and the government should intervene only in the worst cases."

A total of 800 telephone interviews were conducted Nov. 17-19, among a representative sample of

registered voters in Montana. Interviews were conducted using live interviewers and included landline and cell phones. The sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent at a 95 percent confidence level. It has been commissioned by the Montana Chamber of Commerce since 1992 to determine what Montanans think about the business community and important economic issues facing our state.

– BASKETBALL ROUNDUP –

Madison County teams continue strong seasons

MADISON COUNTY – Local high school basketball teams played eight games last week, with more wins than losses for Madison County representatives, including a few impressive wins.

Ennis and Harrison kicked off the weekend on Thursday, January 10, facing off in Harrison. The Wildcats held Ennis to a six-point victory of 56-53, but on the girls side the lady Mustangs galloped away with things, notching a 57-12 win.

The Mustangs returned home on Friday, January 11, where they hosted Drummond and scored another pair of wins, both in high scoring games. Ennis claimed an 11-point victory on the boys' side 75-64, while the lady Mustangs proved to be on a roll with a 17-point win, 58-41. The Ennis girls' team hasn't lost a game since December 8, so they'll seek to keep that momentum going into their upcoming game against Twin Bridges this week.

Also on Friday, the Sheridan Panthers traveled to Lima to take on the Bears. The lady Panthers notched their second win of the season, running away with things to win by 23 points, 51-28. The boys continued to fight hard and kept the pressure on Lima the whole game, falling by just nine points, 45-36.

Whitehall played the Broadwater Bulldogs on Friday, suffering a couple of painful defeats. The boys fell 46-32, while the girls struggled in a painful 52-34 defeat. But the Trojans would come back strong later in the weekend, when they traveled to Missoula to play Loyola-Sacred Heart, one of the top-ranked Class B schools in the state.

Loyola-Sacred Heart is ranked ten spots above Whitehall, claiming the fifth spot in the rankings to the Trojans' 15th. But Whitehall kept both games to only two points, with the girls eking out an impressive win 59-57. The boys also fought hard, falling 44-42, but the games should be a confidence booster for the Trojans heading into the rest of their season.

Twin Bridges also had a confidence-boosting weekend, moving up to number six in the Class C rankings after defeating Philipsburg in an 80-43 rout on Friday. The Falcons had five players in the double digits, with Nate Konen notching 15, Bryce Nye, Charlie Kruer and Daniel Kruer adding 13 points each and Ethan Kneeland adding 11. The Falcons were also seven for 19 from the three-point line.

On the girls' side, Anna Kaiser and Blu Keim led the scorers with eight points apiece,



but 20 points from Granite's Emma Grange was impossible to match, and the Lady Falcons fell 45-30.

But the girls got their mojo back on Saturday, January 12, when the Falcons hosted Harrison for their final game of the week. The girls went on a scoring spree, with 16 from Keim and 14 from Bailey Stockett for half of the Falcons' 60 points. They would hold the Wildcats to only 20.

On the boys' side, the Falcons remain impressively undefeated. They roared to victory over the Wildcats, and eyes will be on them as one of the teams to watch in state-title contention come February.

In the week's final game, Sheridan traveled to Lone Peak to take on the Big Horns. The lady Panthers made it a double-win weekend in a low-scoring game, holding on to defeat Lone Peak 28-16, while the boys kept things close once again, falling again by nine points—the same margin as their loss to Lima earlier in the week—in 51-40.

Action continues this week with another handful of games around the state: Ennis will travel to Twin Bridges on Thursday, January 17 and to Lone Peak Friday, January 18; Harrison will host Drummond on Friday and travel to Sheridan on Saturday; Sheridan will host Philipsburg on Friday before hosting Harrison and Twin Bridges will travel to Lima on Saturday. Eyes are already toward the post season, which will begin Valentine's Day weekend with district championships hosted by Dillon's Beaverhead High School.

BEAVERS continued from A1: Beavers do many good things for waterways

dams, they usually focus on quick-growing trees like poplars and cottonwoods. Those types of trees often sprout multiple seedlings from the spot the beaver chops off, meaning that beaver activity can facilitate the growth of new sprouts.

That means healthier soil, more environment-cleaning photosynthesis and better habitat for other animals, including greater green cover for large game like elk, deer and wetland-loving moose.

In addition to helping out native plant species and facilitating regrowth, beaver dams also help preserve water quality and quantity.

The dams, which are porous, act as natural water filters, slowing down streams and helping to remove sediments from fast-moving water. Since the whole point of the dam is to provide a beaver family with a still pool in which to live and hunt for food, slower water means the flow from the other side is cleaner as a result.

Slower-moving water also provides greater recharge for nearby groundwater sources. Since the dammed stream takes less sediment with it and meanders more, it allows for greater absorption into the water table and reduces erosion along nearby banks.

What's more, Ritter says, is that the sediment-catching properties of beaver dams can help streambeds and waterways return to their historical character.

"All that sediment, rather than being flushed down into reservoirs, is caught behind dams and can help rebuild," he says. "You end up with these complex, multi-channeled floodplains that provide resources for a really large number of species."

And, since so much of western Montana's streamflow comes through mountain snowmelt, beaver dams built in mountain streams help to moderate the rate of flow, meaning more water later into the warmer months.

"Dams in the mountains that slow that down ensure that there are longer flows later into the year," says Ritter. "There's more of a buffer between the snow melting off the mountains and droughts later in the year."

Beaver Management

But no matter the benefits, in some situations simply leaving beavers to their own devices isn't the best technique. Trapping is an option for beaver management, but the state of Montana requires a permit to trap, and there are non-lethal ways to protect nearby trees and waterways from the effects of beaver inhabitation.

Beavers are classified as "furbearing" animals and are thus one of the species that can legally be trapped during the open season, which runs from the beginning of November through April 15 in FWP's Region 3, which includes Madison and Gallatin counties as well as several other counties in the southwestern part of the state.

"The problem with trapping or shooting beavers is it's always a temporary solution," says Ritter. "Beavers will travel to find suitable places, and

they're always going to show up again in good habitats."

The best management practices depend on what problems beavers are causing, Ritter says. The two he sees most frequently are flooding and tree damage.

To protect trees, FWP recommends loosely wrapping trunks in wire fencing or hardware cloth. For smaller trunks, slicing a length of PVC pipe and wrapping it around the base of the trunk can help prevent damage.

A more creative option Ritter has seen is to paint the bases of trees with a mixture of latex paint and masonry-grade sand, resulting in a texture that beavers don't like and acting as a repellent. Scented repellents are also an option, but those often need to be reapplied repeatedly.

If downed trees are already present on a property, FWP says leave them there. A beaver, much like a human, will prefer to do as little work as possible and will go for a felled tree before choosing to cut down one that's still standing. A beaver's tree-felling endeavors generally stay within around 50 feet of a water source, so leaving greenery and growth near ponds and streams can help prevent damage to residential trees.

There are also ways to allow the critters to go about their beaver business, while still preventing property damage or flooding. Flow devices can be installed in streams, especially near culverts or road crossings, to help mitigate the backing up of water due to damming. Ritter uses the brand name: Beaver Deceivers.

These involve threading a flexible tube through notches cut in a dam, then placing a cage around the end of the tube that prevents beavers from plugging the hole. Water flows through the dam and, in most cases, the beavers can still use their home as long as the level of the pond created is still deep enough.

Lining the walls of a ditch or streambank can also help. Beavers sometimes burrow through these while building their homes, and mesh wiring can help to discourage that and preserve the structure of the waterway at the same time.

In the future, Ritter says, there's also a possibility of using beavers to aid in restoration of Montana's river drainages. By building small imitation dams, planting willows and releasing beavers into an affected area, allowing them to simply do their job creates a double benefit: helping the beaver population to rebound and providing some relief and healing to damaged waterways.

There are fewer beavers around the Madison Valley than elsewhere in southwest Montana, largely attributable to the rockiness of the area's streams and the lack of the rodents' favorite types of trees. But Ritter says the Alder area, the Ruby Valley and especially Hebgen Lake are much more conducive to happy beaver homes, so for a winter beaver-watching expedition, those are the places to look. If you listen close enough, you might be able to hear the sound of teeth munching through willow trunks.

Montanans candidate contribution limits confirmed by U.S. Supreme Court as constitutional

Court denies request to hear Lair v. Mangan

HELENA — Today the Supreme Court noted without dissent to not hear the Montana campaign contribution case, Lair v. Mangan (SCOTUS Case No. 18-149).

The Supreme Court's decision today denied Mr. Lair's final opportunity to strike down Montana's contribution limits as unconstitutional. Montana's contribution limits have been upheld as a "marginal restriction" on an individual's free speech and right to discuss and associate with candidates.

Montanans candidate contribution limitations were enacted by a 1994 citizen's initiative that created limits on the amount that individuals, political committees

and political parties can contribute directly to candidates. These limits were first challenged and upheld in 2003 in Montana Right to Life Ass'n v. Eddleman.

In 2011, Montana's contribution limits were again challenged in Lair v. Murry. The challenge worked its way up and down the courts, and in May 2016—just prior to the primary elections—Montana's limits were struck down as unconstitutional.

"Montana's limits leave candidates with the ability to conduct an effective campaign for office," said the Commissioner of Political Practices' Chief Legal Counsel, Jaime MacNaughton. "Our limits allow individuals to associate with the candidate of their choice through their own speech, volunteering, discussing their merits with their neighbors, and through making their voice heard at the ballot box. Montana secured a victory today for transparency and accountability in our government and elected officials."



Atty. Jaime MacNaughton

The Commissioner would like to thank the Montana Attorney General's office whose dedicated attorneys who have defended Montanans' rights over the past sixteen years.

The mission of the Commissioner of Political Practices is to promote confidence, transparency, and accountability in Montana's democratic processes. Additional information about campaign finance disclosure requirements are available on the Commissioner of Political Practices' website.



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OPINION

Non-profit credit counseling agency offers money-saving ideas for the New Year

PHOENIX, AZ — It's the time of year when people resolve to change their lives, from getting in shape to improving relationships and achieving work-life balance. Financial goals also top the list of New Year's resolutions — and are easier to attain than you might think.

"It's actually easy to cut expenses and save money — even a few dollars at a time — but many people give up too quickly," said Mike Sullivan, a personal finance consultant with Take Charge America, a national non-profit credit counseling and debt management agency. "The key is to set realistic goals, celebrate small victories and get creative with cost-cutting."

Sullivan offers nine tips for sticking to financial resolutions in

2019.

• **Budget:** It tops the list of every financial to-do list for a reason: it works! Write down your monthly income and expenses or seek out an online program or budgeting app.

• **Pay yourself:** Speaking of budgets, build in a line item for your savings account or emergency fund. Even \$25 a month will make a difference over time.

• **Join the gig economy:** If your budget reveals that you need an income-boost, start earning extra cash by working for Lyft, Postmates or Uber Eats.

• **Make short-term goals:** Instead of resolving to save thousands in 2019, aim to save \$20, \$50 or \$100 a week or month — and celebrate each small victory.

• **Spring cleaning** — in January: Clean out your closets, the garage, and even old furniture or décor. Then, host a yard sale or list your items on eBay, Craigslist, or OfferUp. Decluttering will save you money — and sanity.

• **Sell your gift cards:** Trade your gift cards for cash at Cardpool or CardCash.com — and promptly put that cash into savings.

• **Wait 24 Hours:** To mitigate impulse buying, wait 24 hours before making an unplanned purchase. It's making the impulse will wear off.

• **Drop Cable:** It's a monthly expense that can be replaced painlessly and inexpensively with Hulu, Netflix or Amazon Prime Video.

• **Update your W4:** While many of us look forward to a big tax re-

fund, it's better to adjust your withholding to ensure you're paying the right amount of taxes. This may mean a few extra bucks on each paycheck.

For more financial tips and guidance, check out Take Charge America's Financial Education Center or take its free online debt review.

About Take Charge America, Inc. — Founded in 1987, Take Charge America, Inc. is a nonprofit agency offering financial education and counseling services including credit counseling, debt management, student loan counseling, housing counseling and bankruptcy counseling. To learn more, visit www.takechargeamerica.org or call (888) 822-9193.

'Raise taxes on millionaires like me,' says millionaire

By Ron Guillot

On Sunday's "60 Minutes" interview of Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), she discussed returning to a top marginal income tax rate of 70 percent. Many who heard this, including those who would never have incomes reach anywhere near the proposed 70 percent threshold, were enraged. As a high earner who might see his tax bill go up should anything similar to Rep. Ocasio-Cortez's proposal become a reality, I say "go for it." If the American people were not so woefully misinformed about how our tax brackets work, they would understand just how uncontroversial this idea really is. In fact, many of the enraged might become angry about what the truth really is.

Our current marginal tax rates are woefully inefficient, unfair, and, I believe, not in the best interest of all Americans. Our current wage stagnation, poverty rate, and growing income inequality are examples of this. Therefore, rather than jumping down the throat of a junior congresswoman for soundbites (which are historically sound), we might want to try to understand the details.

First, for those that believe Rep. Ocasio-Cortez's suggested 70 percent highest marginal tax rate is too extreme, history says otherwise: For more than two decades, the top

marginal rate was higher than 80 percent, maxing out at 94 percent for two years in the 1940s. What's more, her proposed 33 point jump wouldn't even be the most drastic, as the highest marginal rate was once increased by more than 50 percent in one year.

In the details that just couldn't fit in headlines or 280 character tweets, Rep. Ocasio-Cortez's suggested higher marginal rates would also not go into effect until a person earns more than \$5 million, \$10 million, etc., a year. So, we're talking higher, tiered marginal rates for annual income, not net worth.

While economists can haggle over an exact threshold and tax rate, the fact remains incomes of \$500,000, \$1 million, and \$10 million a year are vastly different. Only in a fundamentally flawed tax overhaul would they be treated similarly and taxed at a lower rate, and yet that's just what Republicans did in their Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

If anything, it's the writers of that tax bill who need a history lesson, as the richest 1 percent, which includes my wife and I, now own more of the nation's wealth than at any point in the past five decades.

I'm old enough to have parents who distinctly remember the state of our country when millionaires and billionaires paid a greater tax on

their income.

Part of the reason JFK's New Frontier programs were even possible were due to the high marginal tax rates on the nation's top earners. Many Baby Boomers would probably agree that government programs and higher marginal rates helped them receive an education, business loan and more. They were concerned with their current circumstances, not advocating for lower taxes on a class of Americans whose wealth they would never, ever see even in their dreams.

Thanks to a well-funded government, our country's infrastructure was improved, unemployment benefits were expanded so workers could get back on their feet, people could afford college, and urban transportation systems were enhanced. And because of this, I grew up in our country's vast middle class and was able to benefit from the many government programs and social services.

As a business executive and in my wife's case, a business owner, we can say with confidence that higher marginal tax rates will not make us, or most other wealthy Americans, quit earning after reaching a certain threshold.

Rather, we will continue working because 30 percent of any income over, say, \$10 million, is still

worth earning, especially when we consider we would be building on an income less than 1 percent of Americans have the fortune of even earning.

Ultimately, something must be done about the gross income inequality that is making the American dream less of a reality for more citizens. The clearest solution is making our tax code work for the middle class, not millionaires like me. The collective, meaning all of us, will benefit. After all, if it wasn't for the opportunity, safety, and public goods this country provides, many of the 1 percent would not be where they are.

Ron Guillot is a member of the *Patriotic Millionaires*, a coalition of high-net worth Americans concerned about the destabilizing concentration of wealth and power in the U.S.

The mission of *The Patriotic Millionaires* organization is to build a more stable, prosperous, and inclusive nation by promoting public policies based on the "first principles" of equal political representation, a guaranteed living wage for all working citizens, and a fair tax system. Learn more at <http://patriotmillionaires.org/about/>

Road fine bill would improve public access



By Bill Geer

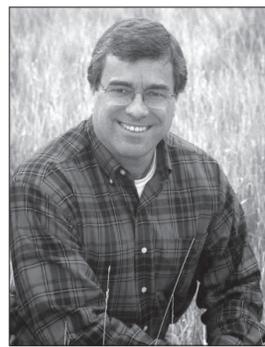
Last fall during the political season, everyone running for the Montana Legislature touted their credentials as being for public access.

But what does that really mean? For Montana's hunters, anglers, hikers, and other outdoors enthusiasts, it means the ability to get to our public lands to enjoy them.

The access to the outdoors that makes Montana such a great place to live also makes it tempting for some people to try to close off public roads. By putting up gates on public roads that lead to public land, they can turn vast swaths of our National Forests, Bureau of Land Management and other public lands into private playgrounds.

Everybody loses when this happens — except for the one person who claims exclusive access to that public land. It harms not only the public who enjoys public land, but also wildlife biologists with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The agency relies on public hunters to manage our public wildlife, and getting hunters on the ground helps get the harvest of deer, elk and antelope needed to meet their management objectives. When someone illegally gates a public road and blocks access for hunting, they are ultimately worsening wildlife concentration problems for neighboring farmers and ranchers.

Under current state law, the fine for gating a county road is \$10 per day. That fine might have had teeth when it was set



Bill Geer

a strong disincentive to gate roads in the first place, and ultimately improve public access to our public lands.

Every legislator says they're for public access. Increasing the fine for illegally blocking a

public road gives them a chance to walk the walk.

Bill Geer is president of the Montana Wildlife Federation.

OBITUARIES

Thomas Collopy
January 8, 2019

Tom Collopy of Ennis, formerly of Lower Gwynedd, PA, died peacefully on Tuesday, January 8. He was 80.

Born in Covington, KY, he was the sixth of eight children of the late Ed and Marie Collopy.

Tom graduated from Holy Cross High School in Latonia, KY, and served our country in the United States Air Force. After discharge, he began a long and successful career with General Electric, working full-time and attending Xavier University at night. Moving from Kentucky to Pennsylvania with GE, he continued his education at Villanova University, graduating with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1970.

After vacationing many times in Montana, Tom chose Ennis for his retirement. He loved hunting, skiing, trail rides on his mule, July Johnson, and reading the Wall Street Journal. He enjoyed hosting many reunions at his log home, where family and friends came to love Ennis and Montana as he did.

Tom is survived by his children: Sharon (Tom Martino) of Doylestown, PA, Glenn (Barb) of New Tripoli, PA, Megan of Salt Lake City, UT, Kelton (Margaret) of North Wales, PA, Travis (Vicki) of Harleysville, PA, and his grandchildren: Max, Alex, Leah,

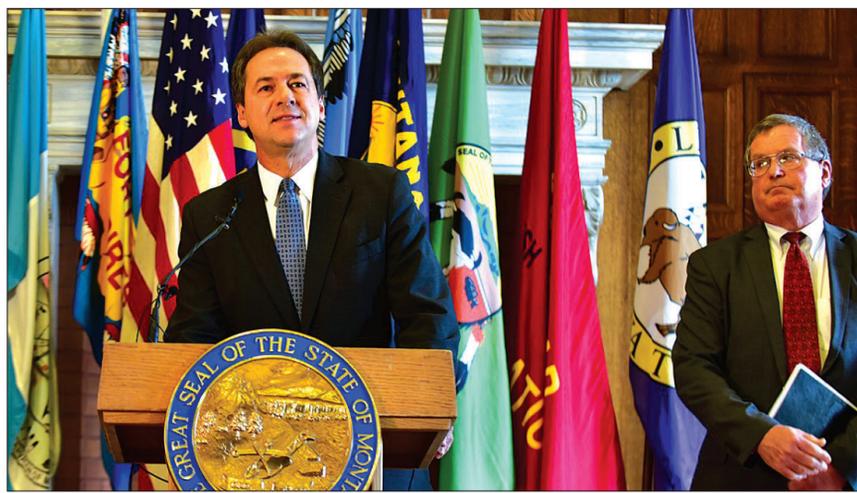


Gina, Nick, Greg, Rob, Spencer, Sarah, Chase, Steve, John, Tara, and his granddog Alice. He is also survived by his five sisters: Sister Andrea Collopy, OSB, Mary Wright (the late Jack), Rita Thaman (the late Ray), Ann Egbers (Tom), and Claire Heringer (Jim), sister-in-law Marty, and scores of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brothers Jim and Ed.

Tom's family thanks the caring staff of the Madison Valley Manor, his home caregiver, Emily, and especially his dear friend and neighbor, Doreen.

Memorial celebrations will be held this summer.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Tom's memory can be made to The Parkinson's Foundation or The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.



Governor Steve Bullock, (left) along with his budget director, Tom Livers, released the governor's budget proposal for the 2021 biennium, on Thursday Nov. 15, 2018 in the Governor's Reception room in the state capitol in Helena, Montana. (ELIZA WILEY/MONTANA FREE PRESS)

As Montana legislators begin budget work, here's what the governor wants to spend

Eric Dietrich, Montana Free Press

HELENA — First and foremost among the tasks facing Montana legislators as they open up the 2019 legislative session is producing a state budget — the set of bills that will ultimately direct how Montana's state agencies spend billions in public money over the next two years.

The Republican-controlled Legislature will start with a proposal published this fall by Gov. Steve Bullock, a Democrat. Bullock wants the authority to spend state dollars on a slate of initiatives, including renewal of the 2015 HELP Act, which expanded Medicaid to make the public health-care program available to more low-income Montanans.

At a total of \$6.6 billion in agency spending in 2020 — plus another \$439 million in infrastructure proposals — there's plenty in Bullock's budget for legislators to work through. Spending on Medicaid, nutrition assistance (SNAP), and other social service programs administered through the Department of Public Health and Human Services constitute the budget's biggest chunk, accounting for approximately \$3 billion, much of which is federal funding routed through state government.

Other sizable portions of Bullock's proposal include \$1.4 billion in education spending and a \$740 million allotment in 2020 for the Montana Department of Transportation. The governor's aviation division — a comparatively small line item, but subject to perennial debate — has a \$310,000 request.

Renewing the expanded Medicaid program, which currently enables health-care coverage for an estimated 95,000 low-income Montanans, will cost about \$704 million, according to an analysis by the Legislative Fiscal Division. All but \$26 million of that would be covered by federal funding.

Bullock's budget also includes \$10.3 million in new funding in 2020 for public preschool programs and \$2.5 million in new spending for need-based university scholarships. To support those and other proposals, he's asking the Montana Legislature to enact tax increases that would raise roughly \$83 million a year, according to the Legislative Fiscal Division, with most of that revenue coming from higher tobacco and liquor taxes.

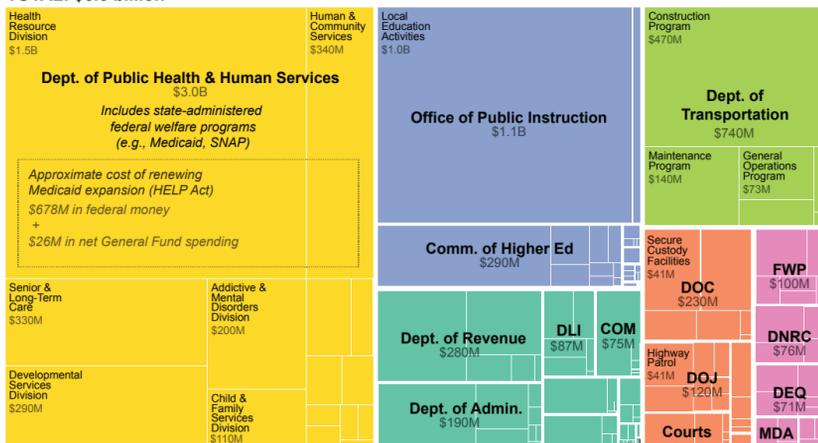
How much of the governor's proposal will remain intact after it passes through the legislative lion's den remains to be seen. In the coming weeks, lawmakers on subcommittees dedicated to particular budget domains will scrutinize agency spending proposals, prepping for debate as the Montana House, and then the Senate vote on their own versions of appropriation bills.

Eric Dietrich is a journalist and data designer based in Helena. He is the lead reporter on the Long Streets Project and also covers state policy for MTFP. He has previously worked for the Great Falls Tribune, Bozeman Daily Chronicle and Solutions Journalism Network. Contact him at edietrich@mtfp.org.

Governor's proposed budget, FY2020

Spending by Montana agencies big and small

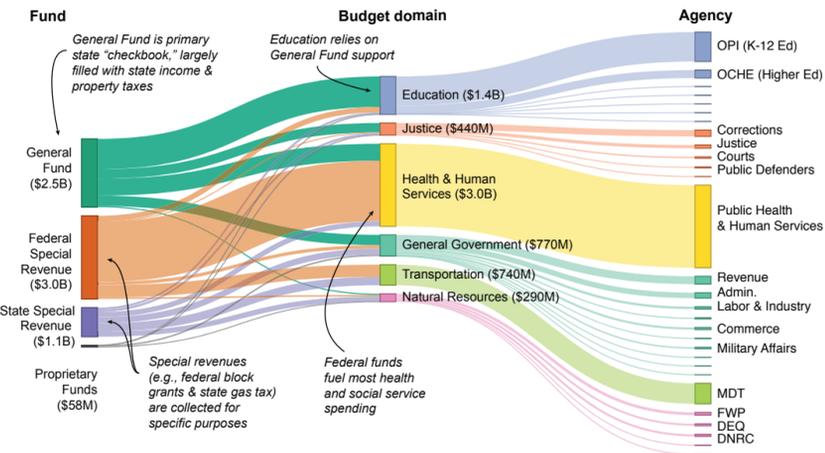
TOTAL: \$6.6 billion



Source: Governor's Office of Budget & Program Planning, Leg. Fiscal Division. Includes proposed House Bill 2 spending and statutory appropriations. Not shown: Infrastructure / Long-Range Planning.

Agency funding by source

Montana Governor's proposed budget, FY2020



Source: MT Gov.'s Office of Budget & Program Planning. Includes proposed House Bill 2 spending and statutory appropriations.

Ruby Valley Healthcare Foundation slates new board



SHERIDAN — The Ruby Valley Healthcare Foundation (RVHF) board of directors is pleased to announce the election of new foundation officers and the addition of a new board

member: Kassie Marsh, will serve as president; Nigel Pashley, M.D., as vice president; and Julienne Todd, as secretary/treasurer. Standing Board members include: Becky Deboer, Billie Jo Rowberry, Ellie Reedy, D.V.M., Jo Ann Darby Stephen and Jim Kaatz, who was recently voted onto the board.

RVHF also thanks past foundation president Les Gilman for 12 years of dedication and service to the foundation.

The Ruby Valley Healthcare Foundation's board members are community volunteers who are nominated by the foundation board and approved by the Ruby Valley Medical Center's Board of Trustees.

Montana Raptor presentation coming to Elling House

VIRGINIA CITY — On Saturday, February 2, at 1:30 p.m., the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center will host the Montana Raptor Conservation Center for a program on an overview of what makes raptors unique in the bird world, the raptors of Montana, and the importance of raptors to our ecosystem.

Join us for a hands-on opportunity to explore and experience raptor characteristics and adaptations through bio-facts (animal artifacts).

Two or three of the MRCC avian ambassadors will be in attendance for an up close look at these amazing birds.

Admission is by donation.

For more information, contact the Elling House at (406) 843-5507, email info@ellinghouse.org, or visit the website at www.ellinghouse.org



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Highway 287N - Ennis - \$559,000
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Gone West Ranch - Ennis - \$695,000
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Medicaid expansion a top priority as state lawmakers brush aside federal judge's Obamacare decision

By Leia Larsen,
Montana Free Press

HELENA — Despite a new hurdle a federal judge in Texas presented to national health care law, key architects of a forthcoming bill to renew Medicaid expansion in Montana said they plan to forge ahead.

In a Dec. 14 ruling, U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor said the Affordable Care Act is unconstitutional. The decision came after 18 Republican state attorneys general and two Republican governors filed a lawsuit challenging key provisions of the ACA, also called Obamacare. The plaintiff states claimed the GOP 2017 tax bill

shatters the law's legal foundation since it eliminates tax penalties for individuals who do not enroll in health care coverage.

The ruling is on hold during the appeals process, which could send former President Barack Obama's signature legislative achievement back to the U.S. Supreme Court. The nation's high court previously upheld Obamacare, ruling the individual mandate penalty was a tax and, therefore, constitutional under the authority of Congress.

While Friday's decision winds its way through the federal appellate courts, the ACA remains in effect.

"As a country, we came together to implement a better —

yet perfect — healthcare system," Gov. Steve Bullock, a Democrat, said in an email statement. "The lawsuit filed by a number of Republican officeholders threatens our healthcare system, threatens the well being [sic] of Americans and a significant part of our economy. I hope the decision is overturned on appeal."

The ACA enables states to expand Medicaid coverage if state lawmakers choose to do so.

Montana's 2015 Medicaid expansion, known as the HELP Act, is set to sunset in 2019.

An estimated 96,000 low-income Montanans currently have health coverage through the HELP Act, but the Montana law sunsets after June 30, 2019. Rep-

elect Ed Buttrey, R-Great Falls, said the Texas judge's decision will have little impact on Montana lawmakers' negotiations this session to renew Medicaid expansion.

"The program has been good to Montana," said Buttrey, who sponsored the HELP Act while serving in the state Senate. "Why would we not want our population to get healthier while the feds work out what they're going to do?"

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals first needs to consider the ACA case before it reaches the U.S. Supreme Court. Buttrey said that will likely happen long after the 2019 legislative session ends — October 2019, at the earliest, according to reporting by the Washington Post.

"If ACA goes away, our [expansion] law would be repealed and replaced with something," Buttrey said.

Buttrey did not indicate what a replacement health care law would look like for Montana, but downplayed concerns that Obamacare would be categorically struck down.

Montana Attorney General Tim Fox did not join the 20 GOP-led states in the ACA suit, citing the case's far-reaching implications.

"Our legal analysis of Texas's lawsuit concluded that, while we believed the individual mandate was unconstitutional, other important provisions of the ACA — such as coverage for pre-existing conditions and coverage for the insured's children up to age



26 — were severable and should survive the lawsuit," Fox's spokesman, John Barnes, said.

A group of moderate GOP lawmakers is currently working with Democrats to make Medicaid expansion permanent in Montana.

Some of those lawmakers said the court decision won't distract them from that goal.

"If we did everything based on instability on the federal level, we'd never get anything done," said House Minority Leader Casey Schreiner, D-Great Falls. "I'm sure the ruling out of Texas will be used as a political tool for those who weren't motivated in coming to the table anyway, but we're going to treat that as white noise."

Senate Majority Leader Fred Thomas, R-Stevensville, said he's not surprised the district judge found the ACA unconstitutional, but added health insurance coverage "is not something you can walk away from."

But the legislature's various factions need to find a workable

compromise.

"Democrats, in general, are seeing healthcare as some sort of a right, so they'd vote to just put [the HELP Act] back in place," Thomas said. "Republicans, some on the conservative side of our caucus, do not want a social program that caters to able-bodied individuals. I see people in the middle of the political spectrum that are pragmatic and trying to figure out how to deal with this issue and come out with the best result."

Thomas said he has yet to take a position on how to resolve future Medicaid expansion in Montana.

While Buttrey said he personally doubts lawmakers on the federal level will abandon the ACA, he argued the "one-size-fits-all" federal solution to the health care law isn't working, and states need the flexibility to rework some of its provisions.

"I think everyone realizes there needs to be a better plan," he said.

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MT Sec. of State Corey Stapleton to run for governor in 2020

HELENA — Montana Secretary of State Corey Stapleton announced today that he is running for Governor in 2020. Stapleton, 51, is a Great Falls native and graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He was elected Secretary of State in November 2016.

"As Secretary of State and Montana's business officer, our Office has made it easier for small businesses to operate in Montana. Not only have we streamlined and simplified the dealings that business owners have with state government, we are leading the nation in modernizing the way businesses file online.

As Montana's Chief Elections Officer, our Office has tackled the most difficult issues in modern Elections. I'm proud to say that we have increased election security, increased the integrity of mail ballots, and increased voter participation. In short, we've made it easier to vote and harder to cheat!" Stapleton said.

In addition to improving elections and business services, Stapleton touted the significant reduction in spending at the Office of the Secretary of State since he

took office two years ago.

Stapleton served eleven years in the navy as a Surface Warfare Officer, deploying overseas aboard the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) and aegis cruiser USS Hue City (CG-68). He holds a bachelor of science degree in General Engineering from the Naval Academy, a master of arts degree in Political Science from Temple University, and a master of science degree in Financial Services from The American College in Pennsylvania.

"As Governor, I'd like to lead the conversation on how we steer towards a Montana that has stronger families and higher wages, lower taxes and smaller government, and how we can lead the nation in having greater freedoms for all of us. I'll work with anyone and everyone to help get us there."

Stapleton is a financial advisor and former state senator from Billings. He and his wife, Terry, have four children.

Daines fights to protect Montanans' 2nd Amendment rights

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Steve Daines today joined his colleagues in supporting the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act, to allow individuals with concealed carry privileges in their home state to exercise those rights in other states that also have concealed carry laws, while abiding by the respective state's laws.

"As a concealed carry permit holder myself,

I will always fight to protect Montanans' Second Amendment rights," Daines said. "This bill is commonsense — it simply allows Montanans to exercise their constitutional freedoms while traveling across state lines."

The legislation is sponsored by U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) and cosponsored by numerous U.S. Senators.

The Board of Trustees has selected the Nominating Committee for the 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. 66th Annual Meeting. These committee members are looking for interested 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. members who live in the listed exchange areas to be candidates for the position of Trustee on the Board of Trustees. This Board manages the business and affairs of 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming an active participant on the Board of Trustees of 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. please call one of the Nomination Committee members listed below for requirements, qualifications and responsibilities by **January 30, 2019**.

At-Large	Committee Member: Linda O'Connor	406-738-4373
Big Sky	Committee Member: Maggie Biggerstaff	406-580-6244
Browning/Heart Butte	Committee Member: Brother Dale Mooney	406-338-5290 ext 150
Fairfield/Augusta/ Fort Shaw/Helena	Committee Member: Marci Shaw	406-467-3366
Lima/Melrose/Sheridan/ Virginia City/Twin Bridges	Committee Member: Dale Giem	406-596-3253

In addition, there are two other ways to be nominated:
 1. Any 15 or more members acting together may make nominations by petition up to 30 days prior to the meeting.
 2. The president of the board will call for additional nominations from the floor at the actual meeting.

For further details on these alternative nomination procedures, please call 1-800-796-4567 ext 4132.
 The election will be held in Fairfield at the Community Hall on Monday, March 18, 2019.
 The business meeting begins at 1:00 p.m.

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School news

Sheridan students of the month

SHERIDAN — Sheridan Schools is very pleased to announce the students of the month. Students are chosen by faculty and staff members based on the following criteria: citizenship, leadership and academic attitude. The following students have earned this recognition. In each grade, the first name is November's student of the month; the second name is December's student of the month.

- Kindergarten - Mackenna

- Wood, Kymber Flanagan
- 1st - Kennedy Decker, Marcus Snow
- 2nd - Dax Dietrich, Bentley Hyndman
- 3rd - Hannah Braaten, Carli Wood
- 4th - Ellen Brown, Titus Horn
- 5th - Ethan Shepard, Haze Hardy
- 6th - Jacob Mann, Molly Gilman
- 7th - Cade Cathey, Koy Mc-

- Dougal
- 8th - Jacob Dvorak, Catherine Gronning
- 9th - Jorien VerHow, Brooke Grow
- 10th - Desaray Tipton, Luke Dvorak
- 11th - Tia Hill, Madison Fabel
- 12th - Isaac Bendon, Jack Gilman
- Congratulations students!



Geography bee winner...
Megan Barsness was the winner of the 4th - 8th Grade Ennis Schools Geography Bee, which took place at the school on January 9. Megan is an 8th grade student at Ennis, and this is the third time she has won the school Geography Bee! Megan will now take a qualifying test to see if she is eligible to compete in the State Geography Bee in April. Congratulations Megan! (SUBMITTED)

Students Make UM Fall Semester Dean's List

MISSOULA — At the University of Montana, 2,520 students made the fall semester 2018 Dean's List or President's 4.0 List. To qualify, students must be undergraduates, earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher and receive grades of A or B in at least nine credits. Students who receive any grade of C+ or below or no credit (NC/NCR) in a course are not eligible. The students on the linked list below made UM's fall semester 2018 Dean's List or the President's 4.0 List:

- Ennis: Alyssa Kimmey, Amanda Kimmey, Kelly Thom.
- Twin Bridges: Spencer Stewart.

Carroll College names students to fall 2018 Dean's List

HELENA — Carroll College listed its 2018 fall semester dean's list. To be included on the dean's list, a student must receive a 3.5 grade point average or higher on a 4.0 scale and take at least 12 graded credits in a semester. The following area students have earned honors:

- Ennis - Shae Bills, Lane Buus, Brigit Croy, Wade Luly
- Three Forks - Anna Christman.

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Paul Juvenas. Photo and story by Reagin Colyer.

Paul Juvenas

Having lived in Dillon in the early 1990s, Paul Juvenas is no stranger to Montana. So, after a couple years working for the Bureau of Land Management in New Mexico, two decades with State Forestry in Wyoming and a few years in southern Colorado, he knew it was time to come back to Big Sky Country. In October 2018, he relocated to McAllister.

A lifelong lover of the outdoors and trained in conservation, forestry and range management, Juvenas was immediately struck by the sheer number of opportunities to get engaged around the Madison Valley.

"You wouldn't expect it in a place as small as this," he says. "But there's just so many ways to get involved."

And get involved he did. In just his first few months back, Juvenas has jumped in with the

Ruby Conservation District, Madison Conservation District, Madison Ranchlands Group and Centennial Valley Association. And that's just to name a few.

He became involved with helping the Madison Conservation District lay out its strategic plan, working toward new public education programs and the implementation of new range management and grazing rotation efforts. In the end, he's just happy to have a place like Montana to call home, where he can indulge his two passions: stewardship of the environment and tinkering with and repairing computers. His self-run business makes him the only computer specialist in the Madison Valley.

"It's such a special place around here," he says. "I'm looking forward to my future here, to be of service to the community in any way I can. I'm glad to be back."



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Madison County DISPATCH

January 6 - 12, 2019

January 6 - Coroner Call, Cameron; Suspicious Circumstances in 100 Blk Ruby St., Sheridan; MIP on Baker Lane, Twin Bridges; Missing Person in 100 Blk Ennis Lake Rd., Ennis.

January 7 - Alarm Complaint in 100 Blk E. Main St., Ennis; Wildlife Complaint on Jack Creek Rd., Ennis; Wildlife Complaint in 200 Blk E. Crofoot St., Sheridan; Fraud Complaint in 100 Blk W. Wallace St., Virginia City; Theft Complaint in 200 Blk N. Main St., Ennis; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 359, MM 11, Harrison; Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 31, Cameron; Disturbance on Blackman St., Silver Star; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 41, MM 44, Twin Bridges.

January 8 - Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 41 S & MT Hwy 41 N, Twin Bridges; Wildlife Complaint on Varney Rd., MM 2, Ennis; Traffic Complaint on US Hwy 287, MM 43, Ennis; Suspicious Circumstances on North Meadow Creek, McAllister.

January 9 - Traffic Complaint on US Hwy 287, MM 69, Norris; Accident on MT Hwy 41 & Fournier Ln., Twin Bridges; Suspicious

Circumstances, Out of County; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 35, Sheridan; Medical Aid in 100 Blk W. Main St., Ennis.

January 10 - Fire Complaint in 800 Blk S. 2nd St., Ennis; Suspicious Circumstances in Wall Creek State Wildlife Mgmt. Area, Cameron; Suspicious Circumstances on Cottontail Run Trail, Ennis; Suspicious Circumstances on Blackman St., Silver Star; Suspicious Circumstances on Carney Ln., Silver Star.

January 11 - Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 41 S, MM 14, Twin Bridges; Accident in 100 Blk Jeffers Loop S, Ennis; Medical Aid in 100 Blk N Main St., Silver Star; Disturbance in 100 Blk Washington St., Sheridan; Accident on MT Hwy 87, MM 1, Cameron; Medical Aid on Warrens Way, Big Sky.

January 12 - Medical Aid in 7600 Blk US Hwy 287 N, Cameron; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 359, MM 10, Harrison; Traffic Complaint in 4900 Blk, US Hwy 287, Ennis.

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The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 74 Calls for Service from Jan 6 - Jan 12, 2019.

DISTRICT COURT ROUNDUP

The Madison County District Court scheduled five hearings for the week of January 14, including one to be adjudicated in Beaverhead County.

- Robert Frank Baker, Jr. is charged with four counts of felony burglary, one count of felony theft, three counts of misdemeanor theft and three counts of misdemeanor criminal mischief after allegedly entering three different properties in March of 2018 and stealing items ranging from rifle ammunition and knives to chainsaws, binoculars and power tools. Baker pleaded not guilty to all 11 charges in June and is scheduled for a change of plea hearing.

- Steven Michael Jones is charged with a fourth or subsequent DUI, a felony, as well as three misdemeanors: driving with a suspended or revoked license, failure to carry or exhibit proof of liability insurance and leaving the scene of an accident without law enforcement permission. Jones was stopped in December after he allegedly hit another vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

- Dustin Dale Bock is charged with three felonies and a misdemeanor stemming from events occurring in September 2017. Bock is charged with sexual intercourse without consent, a charge brought by an acquaintance who alleges that Bock had non-consensual sex with her while she was asleep. Bock also faces two felony charges of tampering with witnesses or informants for allegedly attempting to stop his accuser from calling the police, and to discourage a witness from coming forward, both via text messages. Bock's texts

to the witness allegedly included threats of violence. Bock is also charged with misdemeanor attempted sexual assault. The same acquaintance who accused Bock of raping her alleged that he had touched her and attempted to slide his hand up her leg after she had expressed her lack of consent by moving his hand away. A three-day jury trial is scheduled to begin on January 28.

- Craig Wesley Sibson is charged with assault with a weapon and criminal endangerment—both felonies—as well as a misdemeanor, shooting from across a public road or highway. Sibson allegedly fired a weapon twice in March of 2018, in the direction of a man who was loading fishing gear into his car, which had his two small children in it. Sibson allegedly told law enforcement he didn't know anyone was there when he fired the weapon out of a moving vehicle. He pleaded not guilty to all charges in May of 2018.

- Stanley Gordon Bernardini is scheduled to appear in Beaverhead County for an omnibus hearing to schedule a jury trial in regards to three charges. Bernardini has pleaded not guilty to felony tampering or fabricating evidence, misdemeanor criminal possession of dangerous drugs and possession of drug paraphernalia, also a misdemeanor. Bernardini was arrested in early December after a confidential informant told law enforcement Bernardini could be responsible for the disappearance of Ennis woman Michelle Sorrows, who was last seen in July 2018, and who was in a relationship with Bernardini. Bernardini was released in December on \$100,000 bail.

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MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

Thursday



Rain/snow showers. High 39, low 26. Winds SSW 7 mph, 50 percent chance of precipitation.

Friday



AM snow showers. High 35, low 20. Winds SW 6 mph, 40 percent chance of precipitation.

Saturday



Partly cloudy. High 35, low 25. Winds SSW 6 mph, 10 percent chance of precipitation.

Sunday



Cloudy. High 37, low 21. Winds SSW 9 mph, 20 percent chance of precipitation.

Monday



Mostly cloudy. High 32, low 18. Winds WSW 6 mph, 20 percent chance of precipitation.

Quote of the Week:

"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist."

Indira Gandhi

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PANORAMA



In pursuit of hoppiness

Study finds Montana has second most breweries per capita

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

MADISON COUNTY—A recent study confirmed something most westerners already know: Montanans love their beer.

Chicago-based C+R Research took an in-depth look at trends in craft brewing nationwide, examining which states had the most breweries, regional trends, impact on state economies and volume of beer production, among other metrics. Montana rated highly in several of those categories.

The study dubbed Vermont the “Beer Capital of the U.S.,” with a whopping 11.5 breweries per 100,000 people in the state. But Montana was right behind, with 9.6 breweries per 100,000 people over 21 years old. Montana was followed closely by Maine, Oregon and Colorado rounding out the top five. Just be glad you don’t live in Mississippi, Georgia or Alabama, each of which has fewer than one brewery per 21+ adult.

C+R contributes the lack of hoppy enthusiasm in the Deep South largely to liquor laws that make selling alcohol more difficult and less lucrative. One such law in Alabama and Georgia prohibits breweries from selling their beer directly to consumers.

In 2007, the study reports, there were 1,511 craft breweries in the United States; as of July, there are 6,655. And while that growth might not be happening in the South, the brewery wave has been building in Montana for years.

Bozeman and Missoula each have nearly a dozen craft breweries, several of which—like Missoula’s Kettle House and Bozeman’s Bridger Brewing—are transitioning into breweries, restaurants and concert venues all in one, hugely increasing their guest base.

The Montana Brewer’s Association reported 73 breweries in the state at the beginning of last year, with 12 known breweries planned to open. Those breweries were producing the seventh highest volume of beer per person in the nation at 60 pints per resident of drinking age.

In Madison County, there are currently three breweries in operation: two in Big Sky—Beehive Basin Brewery and Lone Peak Brewery—and one in Sheridan, Ruby Valley Brew, which opened in 2017.

Amanda LaYacona and her husband, after moving to Sheridan from the Midwest, took one look at the main street’s buildings and said to themselves, “it looks like there should be a brewery there.” So, they opened one.

And like many towns around Montana and the nation, the brewery became a meeting place for locals and visitors alike, a place to share a conversation and a brew you can only get in Sheridan, Montana. It shocked LaYacona, who admits she knew little about brewing before this endeavor.

“Beer is fun. It’s a really neat industry,” she says. “But what ended up happening is we fell in love with the Ruby Valley and with Sheridan. We wanted to give people a reason to stop in Sheridan before they move on.” And it hasn’t just been tourists passing through who have fallen in love with it.

“It’s really mindblowing how the community has gathered around it,” says LaYacona. “With this explosion of breweries, it’s neat, because these communities get to call their little brewery their own. They take pride in that.”

And in larger cities with multiple breweries, the focus is becoming less and less on “regional” beers and more and more on “town” or even “neighborhood” brews. Each new brewery captures a bit of the local identity, and the trend is set to continue in Ennis with Burnt Tree Brewery.

The new addition, which is currently being built and will hopefully open this summer, will be a tasting room with a handful of beers available: a collaboration with the Gravel Bar next door and a complement to the hard liquor at Willie’s Distillery across the street.

The growing craft beer industry also, naturally, carries a growing economic impact, something else C+R looked into in its study. They report that Vermont’s 11.5 breweries per 100,000 people rake in a sizeable \$667 per-of-age drinker, but it wasn’t enough to hold off Colorado, whose breweries have an economic impact of \$764 per person.

Montana still ranked highly even with a sparse population for its geographic size: the craft brewery industry brings in \$549 per person in the state, the fifth-highest in the nation behind Colorado, Vermont, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

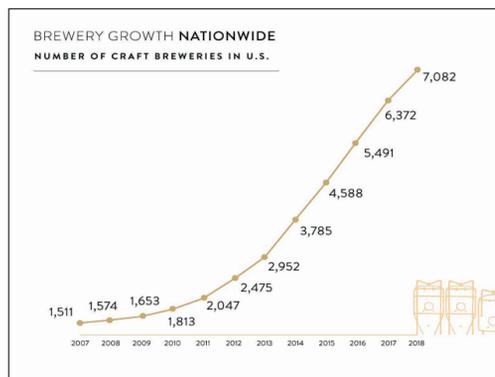
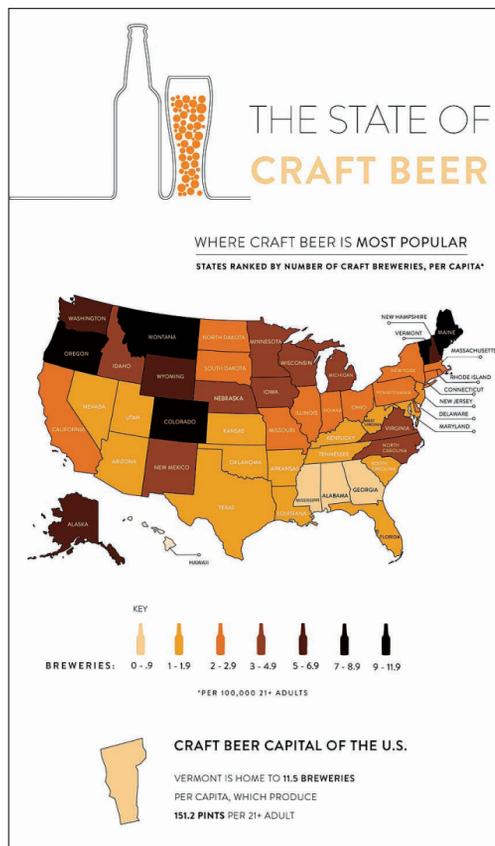
However, the economic impact of local beer is being halted in some areas due to the federal government shutdown, which has stretched into a three-week stalemate. During the shutdown, many federal offices and services, especially “non-essential” ones, have been shuttered and can’t operate as they normally do.

One of those is the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau. While the name may not sound glamorous, the TTB is responsible for approving the labels for new beverages and ensuring producers are meeting compliance requirements, which means new or seasonal beers that have been brewed but not labeled are simply sitting in limbo, waiting to be labeled.

This could mean that consumers see fewer new varieties on shelves in the coming months and that brewers and distillers



Sheridan’s Ruby Valley Brew is currently the only Madison County brewery outside of Big Sky. But there’s soon to be one more: Burnt Tree Brewing in Ennis is currently in construction with hopes to open later this year. (R. COLYER)



are stuck waiting for their new offerings to become available, which won’t happen until the federal government reopens and the TTB can begin processing label applications. Until then, the requests will continue to pile up with no one to evaluate them.

But fear not: Montana still has plenty of beer available. And as the rise of the craft brewery continues, there will still be plenty in the pursuit of hoppiness in Big Sky country.

Guilty of food waste?



HELENA – The bad news: Montana households wasted \$629 worth of food annually, about 15 percent of their food each month, most of this because this food exceeded its expiration date, according to a study. The good news: Treasure State households are significantly less wasteful than most other parts of the country. Broken down by state, the survey found that South Carolinians are the most wasteful, who get rid of \$1,304.68 worth of food every year. The least-wasteful state is West Virginia, whose residents only throw away \$404.90 worth of their annual groceries.

The data for the study was calculated by using the amount spent annually by each American household (figure taken from the Bureau of Labor Statistics), and asking households how much food they throw away at the end of every month.

Winter tends to be a very foodie time of year; we’ve just had Thanksgiving, with all the turkey excesses, and Christmas.

All across the nation, families are filling up the freezer, stocking up the fridges, and getting in supplies for the next food-focused gathering.

But what happens to everything we buy? Are we as good as we could be about using everything up? Or are we guilty of food waste?

Klein Kitchen & Bath, a remodel and design firm, wanted to find out just how wasteful Americans are, and surveyed 3,200 of people to find out how much we threw away during 2018.

The results of this study are available at <https://kleinkitchenandbath.com/2018/12/10/guilty-of-food-waste/>

Why are we wasteful? It seems that the misunderstanding of food labeling might be a huge factor.

The survey found that nearly half of respondents (48.9 percent) won’t eat food that’s marked as past its sell-by date, perhaps because they are misinformed about what the sell-by date actually means.

The sell-by date is the last date by which it must be sold in a store.

However, after that, it’s still good to eat (even if it’s past what’s marked as the use-by date).

Again, the label, the use-by date, has caused confusion.

Only a quarter of all those surveyed knew that it signifies the last date for use of the product at its peak quality. Nearly a third (30.4 percent) believed that it was the last date the product was edible, almost a quarter (22 percent) thought it meant that it was the last date the food product could be displayed and sold in a store, and 21 percent thought it meant the date that the product would be at its best flavor and quality;

when, in fact, this is the ‘best-by’ date.

Interestingly, notes the survey, while these guides are in place, they don’t actually say that this is the last date a product can be eaten by - that part is up to you, the consumer. You can eat something beyond the guidelines, but just give it a check over, or a ‘sniff test’ first before eating.

More than half (51.1 percent) of those surveyed believe that best before dates on fruits and vegetables should be scrapped altogether because they say it’s easy to tell if something has gone off just by touching it. The survey also found that the foods Americans would be most likely throw away are dairy products (46.6 percent); followed by meat (22.3 percent); fish (19.2 percent); bread (5.1 percent) and vegetables (8.5 percent).

Some advice on how to handle foods beyond the printed dates includes:

- Freeze your food. You can actually freeze the food right up till the use-by date, and it will be good to eat months later! (Just double check what you can or can’t freeze - not everything can go in, like soft cheeses).

- Freeze milk into an ice cube tray! As the survey revealed, most people will throw away dairy products first. Now they can use this handy tip instead of wasting. Use the frozen milk cubes in coffee or tea.

- Put your herbs into a glass of water to prevent them from wilting quickly, they will last much longer.

- If yogurts are getting near their use-by date, you can mix them up with some over-ripe fruit for a smoothie or even freeze into ice-lolies.

- Turn stale bread or crusts into breadcrumbs by putting them in a food processor. Fantastic when mixed with herbs or onions as a stuffing for chicken or to top baked fish.

- When cooking with foods such as potatoes, broccoli, or carrots, use it all. You don’t need to remove the peel or cut the stems off, as they often have additional nutrients. And if you don’t like the peel or stem, you can compost what you don’t use.

- Donate the items you might be close to throwing out which aren’t yet out of date. There will be plenty of food kitchens nearby that would really appreciate anything you have which is going spare.

“It seems we need to educate ourselves a little better on what we can eat and when,” says Eric Klein from Klein Bath & Kitchen. “Just being familiar with the difference between, say, sell-by dates and use-by dates can help us be less wasteful.”

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Heart failure...and success

By Dr. Philip B. Adamson

Heart failure is becoming more and more common. Nearly 6 million Americans are suffering from it today. That figure will grow to more than 8 million by 2030.

The condition exerts an enormous toll on patients, their families, and the economy. Fortunately, medical research has yielded new technology that can help people with heart failure live healthier, fuller lives -- and reduce overall healthcare costs. It's time to fully deploy that technology.

Heart failure occurs when a person's heart struggles to pump blood. This deprives the body of oxygen and nutrients, which can make performing even basic daily activities -- like walking or climbing the stairs -- difficult.

Heart failure hospitalizes more

than 1 million Americans annually. About half are back in the hospital within six months of diagnosis; the average stay lasts five days. That's a huge burden for patients -- and for caregivers, who may not live nearby and thus may have to miss work. In total, the condition costs the U.S. more than \$30 billion every year.

The standard treatment regimen for heart failure -- take medication, reduce salt intake, and stay active -- has been in place for years. But it has never been truly effective, largely because it's complicated and difficult for patients to follow.

Consider medication. Some drugs do help patients. But three-quarters of patients don't consistently take their medications as instructed. More than one in four never fill a new prescription. And doctors sometimes don't prescribe all the medication that's recommended.

Advising patients to eat less sodium is ineffective, too. Do you know how much sodium you consume? Neither do patients. Ninety-seven percent of Americans underestimate -- or don't feel confident estimating -- the amount of sodium they eat each day.

As for exercise, many patients don't have the time, resources, or social support to get in recommended workouts.

In other words, the status quo for treatment of heart failure isn't working. But medical researchers are changing that by developing technologies that can help physicians more effectively monitor and treat heart failure -- and improve patients' quality of life.

Consider one device that measures the heart activity of cardiac patients during rehabilitation

training. The smartphone-sized unit helps ensure that workouts are at a safe intensity level and duration. Clinicians can immediately determine if a patient's heart rate is becoming too fast or irregular. The device is demonstrated to improve the health and recovery of heart failure patients.

Researchers at Harvard University are toying with a wearable device that can monitor ankle swelling -- a common symptom of worsening heart failure. That could help ensure patients seek medical attention before a major problem occurs.

Or consider an innovation I helped develop at Abbott. The CardioMEMS HF system enables doctors to proactively monitor patients' pulmonary artery pressure and heart rate remotely. So clinicians can detect worsening heart failure before a patient even feels symptoms and adjust medications accordingly. That helps keep patients out of the hospital.

Indeed, research published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology last year showed that hospitalizations for heart failure declined 46 percent in patients six months after receiving the device. Based on Medicare claims data, average healthcare costs per patient were \$10,500 lower than in the six months before the implant.

Traditional treatment for heart failure is, itself, failing. We can achieve far greater success by embracing new technology that can better monitor and treat heart failure.

Philip B. Adamson, M.D., is a cardiologist, heart failure specialist and medical director at Abbott (www.abbott.com).

'Exercise hormone' tied to bone-strengthening benefits



(GETTYIMAGES/KALI9)

By Dr. Francis Collins

There's no doubt that exercise is good for us—strengthening our muscles, helping us maintain a healthy weight, maybe even boosting our moods and memories. There's also been intriguing evidence that exercise may help build strong bones.

Now, an NIH-funded study is shedding light on the mechanism behind exercise's bone-strengthening benefits. The new work—which may lead to new approaches for treating osteoporosis, a disease that increases the risk of bone fracture—centers on a hormone called irisin that is secreted by muscles during exercise.

In a series of mouse experiments, the researchers found that irisin works directly on a common type of bone cell, stimulating the cells to produce a protein that encourages bones to thicken. However, this chain of molecular events ultimately takes a turn for the better and reverses bone loss.

Bruce Spiegelman's lab at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard University Medical School, Boston, first discovered the irisin hormone in 2012. In the years since, evidence has accumulated suggesting a connection between irisin and many of the benefits that come with regular workouts. For example, delivering low doses of irisin—sometimes called “the exercise hormone”—increase bone density and strength in mice.

But how does irisin act on bones? The answer hasn't been at all clear. A major reason is the protein receptor on our cells

that binds and responds to irisin wasn't known.

In the new study reported in the journal Cell, Spiegelman's team has now identified irisin's protein receptor, called $\alpha\text{V}\beta\text{5}$ integrin. Those receptors are present on the surface of osteocytes, the most common cell type found in mature bone tissue.

The researchers went on to show that irisin helps osteocytes to live longer. It also leads the bone cells to begin secreting a protein called sclerostin, known for its role in preparing bones for remodeling and rebuilding by first breaking them down. Interestingly, previous studies also showed sclerostin levels increase in response to the mechanical stresses that come with exercise.

To further explore the role of irisin in mouse studies, the researchers gave the animals the hormone for six days. And indeed, after the treatment, the animals showed higher levels of sclerostin in their blood.

The findings suggest that irisin could form the basis of a new treatment for osteoporosis, a condition responsible for almost nine million fractures around the world each year. While it might seem strange that a treatment intended to strengthen bone would first encourage them to break down, this may be similar to the steps you have to follow when fixing up a house that has weakened timbers. And Spiegelman notes that there's precedent for such a phenomenon in bone remodeling—treatment for osteoporosis, parathyroid hormone, also works by thinning bones before

they are rebuilt.

That said, it's not yet clear how best to target irisin for strengthening bone. In fact, locking in on the target could be a little complicated. The Spiegelman lab found, for example, that mice prone to osteoporosis following the removal of their ovaries were paradoxically protected from weakening bones by the inability to produce irisin.

This new study fits right in with other promising NIH-funded efforts to explore the benefits of exercise. One that I'm particularly excited about is the Molecular Transducers of Physical Activity Consortium (MoTr-PAC), which aims to develop a comprehensive map of the molecular changes that arise with physical activity, leading to a range of benefits for body and mind.

Indeed, the therapeutic potential for irisin doesn't end with bone. In healthy people, irisin circulates throughout the body. In addition to being produced in muscle, its protein precursor is produced in the heart and brain.

The hormone also has been shown to transform energy-storing white fat into calorie-burning brown fat. In the new study, Spiegelman's team confirms that this effect on fat also depends on the very same integrin receptors present in bone. So, these new findings will no doubt accelerate additional study in Spiegelman's lab and others to explore the many other benefits of irisin—and of exercise—including its potential to improve our moods, memory, and metabolism.

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COLUMNS



Dealing with life after football

That bland time of year is just around the corner. Before long, the last play of the last bowl game will be history. Not long after that, the Super Bowl will have come and gone and (gasp) football season will be over. Sadly, what follows is a lengthy period of televised sports viewing that I refer to as the “Yawning Season.”

Don't get me wrong, I'm not a football fanatic. It's just that I'm too old to participate in all the outdoor winter sports I used to enjoy. As a result, I am forced to be housebound more than I would like which means my television viewing time will increase dramatically.

Obviously, I know basketball and March Madness will follow football on the boob tube. However, I'm not a basketball fan. Maybe it has something to do with the fact that, as a kid, I stunk at playing the game. It seemed as though every time I set foot on a basketball court, a referee was blowing a whistle before I had advanced two steps. Such was my athletic deficiency that running and dribbling, at the

same time, was just too much for me to deal with. Additionally, my occasional stiff arms to an opposing player's mouth, were frowned upon. So, with football no longer available to watch and basketball not to my liking, I will soon be reduced to watching such scintillating action sports as golf, bowling, NASCAR and fishing. Be still my foolish heart!

For the life of me, I cannot fathom why anyone would watch golf on television. Most often, once it's been hit, a viewer can't see the golf ball again until it strikes the ground. After that impressive expenditure of energy, the exhausted golfer jumps on a go-cart and drives for 20 minutes to the ball. Most maddening of all, I'm too deaf to

hear a blasted thing being said because the sportscasters are all whispering. Nothing puts me to sleep faster than watching golf on the boob tube.

Similarly, bowling doesn't send my blood pressure soaring to dangerous levels. I have done a little bowling and found it enjoyable. However, watching others roll successive balls down an alley in order to knock down wooden pins, which a machine promptly replaces in perfect order, seldom causes me to leap from my chair like a successful field-goal.

Additionally, another sport I find mind-numbingly boring to watch is NASCAR. For starters, the racing cars perpetually turn in only one direction—left. They

go around and round for what seems like forever without arriving anywhere. Perhaps that's why I find observing the feverish pitstop activity more enthralling than watching the actual race. As I see it, aside from the occasional wreck, there's not much to work one's self into a lather over.

Though I am an avid fisherman, the sport I find most boring to watch is fishing. The pinnacle of viewing stimulation comes about when a fisherman shouts, “Fish on!” That soul stirring declaration is followed by such thrilling commentary as, “Nice fish, Bubba” and “Thanks, Buck.” With so much titillating action occurring in such a short time, I marvel that more viewers

don't suffer a cardiac arrest.

So, there they are; the winter sports viewing culprits responsible for my current feeling of grim foreboding. Hopefully, I won't die of boredom before football season resumes. Then again, perhaps if there were several cheerleaders, in a three-man boat, jumping around wildly whenever an angler hooked a fish, I wouldn't find the “Yawning Season” quite so bland.

© Art Kehler

Art lives in Harrison, Montana. His essays, stories, and poetry have been published in newspapers, journals, literary magazines, and on-line magazines.

Make 2019 financial goals a stretch: but also keep them realistic

The first few weeks of January are filled with optimism as gym memberships soar and all those New Year's resolutions have yet to be tarnished. When it comes to financial goals for the New Year, people should reach high but it is important that the goals really are attainable.

“Setting unrealistic annual financial goals is a recipe for failure,” says Kathy Longo, a financial professional and author of Flourish Financially – Values, Transitions, and Big Conversations (www.flourishwealthmanagement.com). “At the same time, you want to stretch and do things you haven't tried before if you want to break out of the financial box you are in.”

Longo says when people establish unrealistic goals,

these are the common mistakes:

- Setting goals too aggressive for your lifestyle. If you make a commitment to spend less money, but you have not created a specific plan of action to make it happen, she says the goal is doomed to failure. “Making a New Year's resolution to save money by eating out only once a week probably doesn't work for a family with a lot of after-school commitments for their children,” Longo says. Likewise, a professional who travels frequently or people who haven't prepared all of their own meals in the past may find this goal too much to do on a daily, consistent basis.

- Setting unrealistic goals to track spending. It may sound like a great idea to

track your spending, but Longo says it's important to find a realistic solution for accomplishing that. She says the key is to find a system that works for you without overcommitting to tracking every penny, since that can become overwhelming. Some people work best with an Excel spreadsheet or money-tracking notebook. She also recommends exploring tracking tools like Quicken or an app like mint.com.

- Setting your annual budget without consulting your spouse. In many households, one spouse handles paying the bills and keeping the family on track financially. But when it comes to setting the annual budget, Longo says both spouses should be included regardless of who

writes all the checks. For example, deciding to eliminate a family trip or dropping a gym membership may look good on paper. However, it's possible the family trip is a highlight of the year for your spouse and dropping the gym membership might conflict with your spouse's health-oriented New Year's resolution. All interested parties should discuss the annual budget (and it can be a great teaching tool for older children to be involved as well).

- Setting overly aggressive debt reduction. Longo frequently cautions clients against setting aggressive goals to pay down debt or aspire to save a huge amount of money in the New Year. Although reducing debt or increasing savings should be

part of an annual budget, the goals once again should be realistic. Longo says she encourages her clients to maintain flexibility in their goals so they can live for today while also saving for the future.

“The reality of today and aspirations for the future don't have to be mutually exclusive,” Longo says. “Just remember to set goals that, with a little work and sacrifice, really can be reached.”

About Kathy Longo, CFP®, CAP®, CDFP – Kathy Longo, author of Flourish Financially – Values, Transitions, and Big Conversations, is founder and president of Flourish Wealth Management (www.flourishwealthmanagement.com). For more than

25 years, she has served her clients with extensive knowledge and wisdom as a wealth manager, financial planner, firm manager and business owner. Her many awards include being named one of the top 50 Women in Wealth Management by Wealth Manager Magazine. She has been a wealth manager for 25 years and has held wealth management positions at such firms as Accredited Investors, Family Financial Strategies, American Express Trust Company, KPMG, Deloitte & Touche and CCP Financial Planning. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband and three children.

COMMODITY INSITE: Firmly convinced

BY JERRY WELCH

Several months ago I boldly dubbed 2019, “Annus Mirabilis,” Latin for “wonderful year.” The first full week of trading for commodities this year just ended and all in all, 2019 is off to a good start. Of course, it remains to be seen if such a price positive scenario continues for the next 12 months. But if the first week of the New Year is an omen for what lies ahead, my prediction for the New Year may prove to be right on the money.

Keep in mind that on Christmas Eve 2018, the Dow Jones and the CRB Index (which is to commodities as the Dow is to stocks and equities) both slumped to a 20-month low. In fact, that particular day was the most bearish in history for both markets at the same time on the same day. It was a scenar-

io never before seen in history.

However, the day after Christmas, the Dow and the CRB Index both posted the largest one-day gain in history. In other words, stocks and commodities staged back-to-back history-making performances separated by Christmas day. And the rally off the December 26 low carried into the opening week of 2019.

In 2018, the Dow and other stock indexes lost about 6 percent for the year while the CRB Index fell about 13 percent. Last year was clearly bearish but commodities were twice as bad as stocks. And my forecast this year is clear and simple. Not only do I believe this will be a wonderful year for commodities but they will outperform stocks.

But for commodities per se to enjoy an “Annus Mirabilis

“ and at the same time outperform the Dow, the S&P and so on, one vital scenario must unfold: The US dollar must begin heading south if commodities are going to do well and move north.

“There's normally an inverse relationship between the value of the dollar and commodity prices. The prices of commodities have historically tended to drop when the dollar strengthens against other major currencies, and when the value of the dollar weakens against other major currencies, the prices of commodities generally move higher,” writes Chuck Kowalski in thebalance.com on December 23, 2018. “This is a general rule and the correlation isn't perfect but there's often a significant inverse relationship over time.”

In 2017, Factor-Research

Trading argues that the US dollar tends to perform high or low: The greenback posted either a yearly high or yearly low in 35 of the past 45 Januaries with the gain or loss coming to 20.1 percent. They did, however, state that the high or low during those years has, at times, come as late as the opening days of February.

Read carefully the following ideas and theory I am now touting.

Normally, there is an inverse relationship between commodity prices and the US dollar. When one rises, the other declines. That is a proven fact based on history.

It also seems that there is a very strong tendency for the US dollar to post either a yearly high or yearly low in January or early February.

If one is looking for a sign about what could unfold for

commodity values in 2019, watching how the dollar performs this month may prove to be highly profitable. Of course January has several more weeks to go and there is also the opening days of February to watch carefully.

Here is how the US dollar, the ‘ol greenback, did this week:

But first a bit of history. The greenback posted a 13-year high on January 2, 2017 at 103.85. It then fell and posted a major low on February 12, 2018 at 88.05 before moving back up to 97.70 on December 10, 2018.

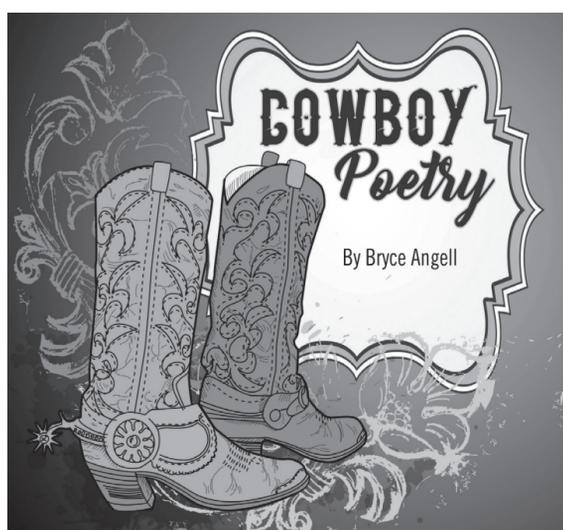
This week, the ‘ol greenback fell to a low of 94.64, the lowest it has been since mid-October of 2018. Note the dollar peaked in January of 2017 with a major low formed in early February of 2018. Those two dates indicate the Fac-

tor-Research Trading research has merit.

Without a doubt, the dollar is showing weakness in the opening days of January but the month is not yet over.

Still, I am betting that the dollar will succumb to more weakness moving forward. If it does, history suggests that commodities per se will head north as the ‘ol greenback weakens further and heads south.

Sticking my neck way out, I remain firmly convinced that commodities will rule but stocks drool in 2019. And the key for that scenario to unfold accurately and reliably is for the US dollar to lose value in the New Year.



My cowboy boots

I grew up wearing cowboy boots. They're all I ever had. And all our neighbors wore them too. It wasn't just a fad.

A necessity is what they were. We wore them every day. They kept us in the saddle, even wore them bucking hay.

When wearing boots for riding, had no reason to complain. But walking was another thing. With that I felt some pain.

The heels were surely made to last, and each step came down hard. The more

I walked, the more I felt my whole foot being jarred.

Well, then one day my dad came home with brand new tennis shoes. I never thought that sneakers would be the kind that he would choose.

Those bright blue sneakers on his feet made me wonder. Is it true? Could my own dad, who ne'er complained, have had some sore feet, too?

The years had taught me dad was close with money that he spent. Now that I'm grown, I heed his words, “Account for every cent.”

Well, Merkle's Store had shoes on sale. The price was two for one. It was a deal. I took the bait. I am my father's son.

I laced the first pair nice and tight. I thought I looked real cool. But then I opened my front door and soon felt like a fool.

When danged old Hap first spotted me, his growl was meant to warn. He promptly bit those brand-new shoes and chewed till they were worn.

I made it through the open door and shut it on old Hap.

He barked and yipped, then ran away. I sure felt like a sap.

My good wife took a look at me. She laughed and then she said, “You're really gonna wear those things?” My face turned crimson red.

Well, now I'm wearing boots again. I took the sneakers back. No matter how the soft shoes felt, they were not worth the flack.

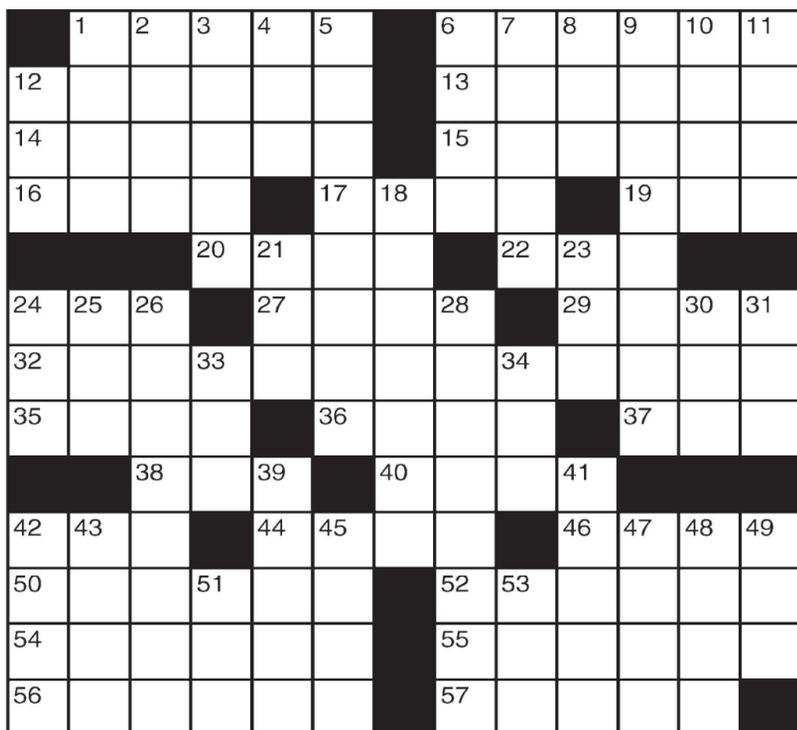
So, if your feet are killing you, go down to Merkle's Store. They've got a pair of tennis shoes I'll swear I never wore.

COMICS & PUZZLES

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 — about (spread the word)
- 6 Utters
- 12 Grads
- 13 Recluse
- 14 ymnosophist's practice
- 15 Incompetent
- 16 Vicinity
- 17 Sicilian spouter
- 19 Tier
- 20 Onetime NYC mayor
- 22 Writer Buscaglia
- 24 Sternward
- 27 Near the treasure
- 29 "Thin Man" dog
- 32 Just one thing after another?
- 35 Deserve
- 36 Arp's movement
- 37 Poehler or Grant
- 38 Panasonic competitor
- 40 Incline
- 42 Slithery squeezer
- 44 Not so much
- 46 Radius neighbor
- 50 German Chancellor

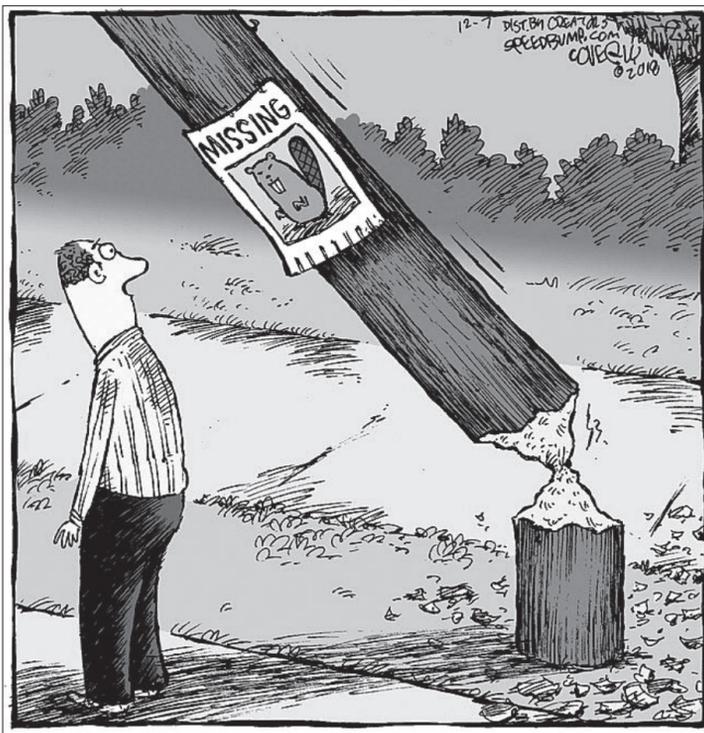


- 7 Punishment-related
- 8 Geological time
- 9 Food of the gods
- 10 Narc's measure
- 11 Crockpot creation
- 12 Literary collection
- 18 Menaces
- 21 Possess
- 23 Chow down
- 24 Expert
- 25 Govt. lender
- 26 Seasoning herb
- 28 Guaranteed
- 30 Male turkey
- 31 One or more
- 33 Business abbr.
- 34 Hoosgow
- 39 Back street
- 41 Disney pachyderm
- 42 Wild party
- 43 Never again?
- 45 41-Down's "wings"
- 47 Noisy
- 48 Schnozz
- 49 Illustrations
- 51 Blunder
- 53 Neither mate

DOWN

- 1 Unclear view
- 2 Discourteous
- 3 Eskimo boat
- 4 Officeholders
- 5 It gets punched
- 6 Avoid
- 20 Onetime NYC mayor
- 22 Writer Buscaglia
- 24 Sternward
- 27 Near the treasure
- 29 "Thin Man" dog
- 32 Just one thing after another?
- 35 Deserve
- 36 Arp's movement
- 37 Poehler or Grant
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ANNOUNCEMENT

Ruby Valley Medical Center

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Board of Trustees of the
Ruby Valley Medical Center
are accepting written proposals
through Monday, January
28th at 5pm for the lease, sale
or community development
of the premises of the Ruby
Valley Hospital located at 220
E. Crofoot Street, Sheridan,
Montana. The property is
offered in strictly "as is"
condition. Proposals should
include information regarding
the potential uses of the facility.
The adjacent premises of the
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REQUEST FOR BIDS

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the following items: 1 2011
Dodge Ram 1500 (White) Vin
#1D7RVICT1B5580361 Approx-
imately 163,000 miles Possible
Electrical Issues Deliver bids
to: Madison County, 103 W.
Wallace, P.O. Box 278, Virginia
City, MT 59755. Bids will be
opened on January 29, 2019, at
1:00 p.m. at the regular Com-
missioners' Conference Room of the
Administrative Office Building in
Virginia City, Montana. This
vehicle can be inspected at the
Madison County Administra-
tive Office Building in Virginia
City, Montana. If you have any
questions or wish to schedule
an inspection, please contact
the Commissioner's Office at
406-843-4277 or via email at
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MORE Marketplace on page B6

more MARKETPLACE

MADISON COUNTY Employment Opportunities

- Madison Valley Manor, Ennis, MT
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time;
 - Registered Nurse-Full-time or Part-time;
 - Dietary Aide/Cook Part-time;
 - Housekeeping Part-time;
- Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center, Sheridan, MT
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time;
 - Director of Nursing-Full-time;
 - Licensed Practical Nurse-Full-time or Part-time;
 - Registered Nurse-Full-time or Part-time;
- Madison County, MT
- Custodian Part-time, Virginia City; and
 - Deputy Director of Emergency Management Part-time.

(Temporary-Grant Funded Position, beginning on or about January 1, 2019, through June 30, 2019).

Please visit Madison County's online employment page at www.madisoncountymt.gov for additional information or contact the Human Resources Department at 406-843-4201. Madison County is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Madison County Employee Benefits

- Public Employees Retirement System – 5 Year Vesting
- 457 (b) Deferred Benefit Plan Option Savings
- Paid Employee Health Insurance-BCBS optional dependent coverage
- 3-Weeks Paid Vacation + 12 days Sick Leave (pro-rated PT Employees)
- 10 Paid Holidays Per Year (11 paid holidays in even numbered years)
- Employer Sponsored Life Insurance \$20,000
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Additional employee benefit information is available online at <https://madisoncountymt.gov/JoinOurTeam/>

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Ad #010

THE BOAT SHOW! "Boat Buying Event of the Year" at the Lewis & Clark Fairgrounds, Helena, MT. January 25th-27th, 2019. The Montana Boat Show's \$3 admission charge gives you a chance at over \$1,500 in door prizes! Children under 12 enter free. For info call (406)443-6400 or 266-5700. Mark Your 2019 Calendar! www.mtboatshow.com

Ad #011

For Sale: Karelian Bear Dog puppies, black/white, ready for new homes March 15. Registered parents, good farm/ranch protection/companion dogs. Sire chases bears. \$500, call Cheryl (406) 562-3670.

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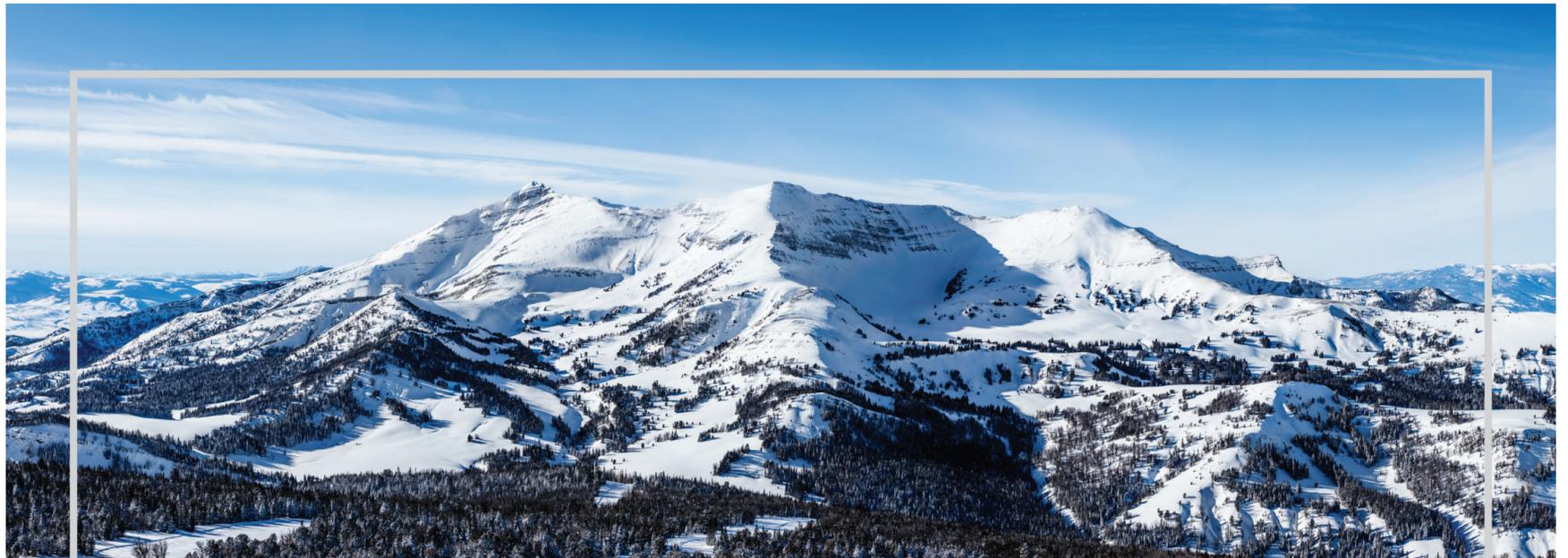
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PUBLIC NOTICES JANUARY 17, 2019

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:
GROWTH POLICY REVISION**

MADISON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING GROWTH POLICY REVISION – BIG SKY MASTER TRAILS PLAN The Madison County Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 6:15 pm in the public meeting room of the Madison County Administrative Office Building, 103 W Wallace, Virginia City, Montana. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comment on amending the Madison County Growth Policy to adopt by reference the BSCO Big Sky Master Trails Plan. Written comments should be received by 3:00 p.m. on January 28, 2019, and may be sent to the Madison County Planning Board by: Mail to P.O. Box 278, Virginia City, Montana, 59755; Fax to (406) 843-5229; or E-mail to planning@madisoncountymt.gov. Oral or written comments may also be given at the public hearing. Copies of the Big Sky Master Trails Plan is available for review at: Madison County Administration Building in the Commissioners' Office, Planning Office and Clerk & Records Office, 103 W. Wallace, Virginia City; Thompson-Hickman County Library (217 Idaho Street, Virginia City); Madison Valley Library (210 East Main Street, Ennis); Big Sky Community Organization (32 Town Center Avenue, Unit B1, Big Sky); Madison County website (www.madisoncountymt.gov) Call (406) 843-5250 for more information. John Fountain, President, Madison County Planning Board (Pub. Jan. 10, 17 2019) MCPB MNAXLP

Crusher Montana Air Quality Permit # 2691 to Sec 6-T55-R5W Madison County 3.8 miles SE of Sheridan, MT The AQB must review the permit transfer within 30 days of receipt of a complete notice of intent. If AQB does not approve, conditionally approve or deny a permit transfer within 30 days after receipt of a complete notice of intent to transfer, the transfer is deemed approved. Any member of the public with questions or who wishes to review a copy of the permit and the analysis of it, or to submit comments on the change of location must contact the AQB at 1520 E 6th Ave, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 or (406)444-3490. Any comments on the location transfer must be submitted to the AQB within 15 days after the date of this publication. (Pub. Jan. 17 2019) AMW MNAXLP

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF LICENSE AND SOLICITING COMMENTS, MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND PROTESTS

(December 19, 2018) On September 12, 2018, Gerald Ohs (transferor) and Pony Hydro Energy, LLC (transferee) filed an application for the transfer of license for the North Willow Creek Project No. 7804. The project is located on North Willow Creek in Madison County, Montana. The applicants seek Commission approval to transfer the license for the North Willow Creek Project from the transferor to transferee. Applicant's Contacts: For Transferor: Mr. Gerald Ohs, P.O. Box 625, 63 North Willow Creek Road, Pony, Montana 59747, Phone: 406-431-5450, Email: klazysranch@yahoo.com. For Transferee: Mr. Gary L. Perry, Managing Member, Pony Hydro Energy, LLC, 3325 W. Cedar Meadows Lane, Manhattan, MT 59741, and Mr. Eric Lee Christensen, Esq., Cairncross & Hempelmann, P.S., 524 Second Ave., Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104, Phone: 206-254-4451, Email: EChristensen@Cairncross.com. FERC Contact: Patricia W. Gillis, (202) 502-8735, patricia.gillis@ferc.gov. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests: 30 days from the date that the Commission issues this notice. The Commission strongly encourages

electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, and protests using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-7804-030, Kimberly D. Bose Secretary. (Pub. Jan. 17 2019) FERC MNAXLP

INVITATION FOR BIDS:

Sealed bids will be accepted at the Madison County Commissioners' Office, P.O. Box 278, 103 W. Wallace, Virginia City, Montana, until 1:00 PM on January 29, 2019, for acquisition and delivery of up to three (3) 2018 or newer Snow Plow Trucks to Madison County. Please contact the Commissioners' Office at (406) 843-4277 or email madco@madisoncountymt.gov for bid specifications and terms. Bids will be opened at the regular Commissioners' meeting in Virginia City on January 29, 2019, at 1:00 PM. (Pub. Jan. 17, 24, 2019) MCC MNAXLP

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ESTABLISH A NEW BANKING BRANCH

Madison Valley Bank, with its headquarters located at 213 East Main Street, Ennis, MT 59729, has submitted an application to establish a new branch at the following location: University Square Shopping Center, 200 South 23rd, Unit E5, Bozeman, MT 59718. The new branch will function under the name of Madison Valley Bank. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the regional director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square Suite 2300, San Francisco, CA 94104, or to the Commissioner of Banking and Financial Institutions, Department of Administration, 301 South Park, P.O. Box 200546, Helena, MT 59620-0546 not later than February 15, 2019. The application may be reviewed during the comment period, at the above address by calling the commissioner's office at (406) 841-2920 and requesting an appointment. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file at the appropriate FDIC office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application will be made available upon request. (Pub. Jan. 17, 2019) MVB MNAXLP

TRUSTEE POSITIONS FOR ENNIS SCHOOLS

Ennis School District 52 is currently seeking two trustees for three year terms. Anyone qualified for and interested in running for these positions may pick up a petition from Ginger Martello at Ennis High School. Petitions must be turned in at the School District Clerk's office prior to 4 p.m. March 28, 2019. No candidate may appear on the ballot unless he or she meets this deadline. If you have any questions about the trustee positions, please call Superintendent Casey Klasna at 682-4258. (Pub. Jan. 17, 24, Feb. 7, 14, Mar. 7, 14, 2019) MCPB MNAXLP

NOTICE CHANGE OF LOCATION

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF INTENT TO TRANSFER LOCATION OF AIR QUALITY PERMIT (PURSUANT TO SECTION 75-2-211, MCA AND ARM TITLE 17, CHAPTER 8, SUBCHAPTER 7, PERMIT, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF AIR CONTAMINANT SOURCES). A. M. Welles will file on or about 1/9/2019 a notification of intent to transfer to location of an air quality permit with Air, Energy & Mining Division/Air Quality Bureau of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. Applicant seeks approval of its transfer of location of Gravel

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1-800-551-3191

Montana SMP is a program coordinated by Missoula Aging Services and partnered with local Area Agencies on Aging. This project was supported, in part by grant number 90MPPG0052, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official Administration for Community Living policy.

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Daines co-sponsors bipartisan public lands package: LWCF, Yellowstone Gateway Act

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Steve Daines today co-sponsored a bipartisan legislative package that benefits Montana including permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Yellowstone Gateway Protection Act.

“This would be one of the biggest accomplishments for conservation and protection of our public lands in Montana and across our country in decades,” Daines said. “Last month I secured commitment for a vote on this package, and I’m pleased to see it is closer to becoming a reality. I look forward to getting these bills signed into law to help protect our public lands, expand sportsman access, and wildlife habitat.”

After pushing hard for the lands package at the end of last year, Daines secured commitment from bipartisan Senate Leadership for a vote on the package this Congress. Among several other wins, the public lands package:

- Permanently authorizes LWCF
- Includes the Yellowstone Gateway Protection Act protecting the Paradise Valley and Gardiner Basin from development
- Includes the WILD Act which strengthens wildlife conservation by reauthorizing sportsmen’s wildlife conservation programs, assists in the management of invasive species, and promotes anti-poaching programs
- Enacts long-awaited provisions supporting Sportsmen’s access and heritage
- Allows the permitting or leasing of public land for shooting ranges and target ranges
- Strengthens partnerships with our national parks by authorizing the Every Kid Outdoors program and the 21st Century Conservation Corps
- Requires federal agencies to manage and enhance wildlife species and habitats that respects state-management authority and private property.

Law Enforcement Academy graduates 55 new officers

HELENA – At a ceremony on December 7, the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA) graduated 55 new officers who will serve various agencies across the state. The Academy is operated by the Montana Department of Justice; it provides basic and advanced training for state, county, city and tribal law enforcement officers throughout the state.

The ceremony took place at the Civic Center in Helena, and included remarks from Bryan Lockerby, Administrator of the Montana Department of Justice’s Division of Criminal Investigation, MLEA Administrator Glen Stinar, MLEA Training Officer Jeff Wilson, and class representative Jake Barzen of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Montana Supreme Court Justice James Rice administered the oath of office.

In addressing the class, Bryan Lockerby, whose own law enforcement career spans 36 years, highlighted advancements in training and equipment available to today’s graduates. “You enter the law enforcement world with higher levels of education, more intensive police academy training, and resources at your fingertips we could never have imagined just a few decades ago,” Lockerby said. “You are entering a complicated world that is expecting much of you, and I commend your willingness to do something so extraordinary,” Lockerby added.

Several of the graduates received awards for their performance during training:

- Jake Barzen received the Don Williams Award, which is given to the officer elected by the class as Class Representative. The award is given in memory of Thompson Falls Police Chief Don Williams, who was killed in the line of duty in 1974. He also received the Health and Physical Fitness Award, which is given to the officer who participates and excels in the Hard Rock Challenge and achieves the class’s best score in the Montana Physical Abilities Test; plus the Paul Williams Award, which is given to the officer who provided inspiration to the staff and students through a display of unwavering dedication and determination. The award is given in memory of the late Chouteau County Sheriff Paul Williams.

- Christopher Duke received the Jack Wiseman Award, which is given to the officer selected by his/her peers as the most outstanding officer. The officers of each class select the recipient by considering two questions:

The award is given in tribute to Jack Wiseman, who served as a training officer and commander at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy for more than 22 years.

- Christopher Benson received the Joe May Award, which is given to the officer who displays exceptional leadership and motivation. The award is given in honor of the late Joe May, one of the people credited with the conception and creation of the Montana Law Enforcement Academy.

- Tyler Woods received the Glenn Janes Award, which is given to the student who demonstrates the highest level of proficiency in the Police Vehicle Operation Course. The award is given in memory of the late Montana Highway Patrol Trooper Glenn Janes, who served as a driving instructor at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy.

- Christopher Benson also received the Jimmy Kaaro award, which is given to the officer who achieves the highest level of academic standing in each class. The award is given in honor of retired Fergus County Sheriff Jimmy Kaaro.

- Kilee Bartschi received the Josh Rutherford Award, which is given to the officer who achieves the highest scores in defensive tactics. The award is given in memory of Blaine County Deputy Sheriff Josh Rutherford, who was a defensive tactics instructor with the Montana Law Enforcement Academy when he lost his life in the line of duty in 2003. Also, Bartschi received the Alex Mavity Award, which is given to the student who achieves the highest accumulated score on all academic and skills-based training. The award is given in honor of Billings Police Department Detective Alex Mavity, who was killed in the line of duty in 1989.

- T’Elle Evans received the Hal Vogelsang Award, which is given to the officer who displays the highest degree of fidelity as determined by Academy staff. The recipient has demonstrated exceptional qualities of honor, pride, integrity, duty, loyalty, and service to not only the class, but the staff and entire profession. The award is given in honor of Hal Vogelsang, who served as an FBI special agent for more than 36 years, and as a training officer at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy for more than 25 years.

- Christopher Duke also received the Allen Kimery Award, which is given in recognition of outstanding marksmanship and the class’s highest ranking in firearms training through marksmanship, safety, and tactical proficiency. The award is given in memory of Missoula County Sheriff Deputy Allen Kimery, who was killed in the line of duty in 1984.

Student of the Week

Harrison’s Student of the week is 8th grader, Sage Buus. Sage gives more than 100% in and out of the classroom. He maintains excellent grades and has a positive attitude even when facing a difficult task. Sage was recently brought up to help out the high school basketball team and is active in football, wrestling and track as well. Sage is polite, cheerful, a peer mentor, and an excellent role model for our younger elementary students. We are very pleased to recognize Sage Buus are our student of the week!

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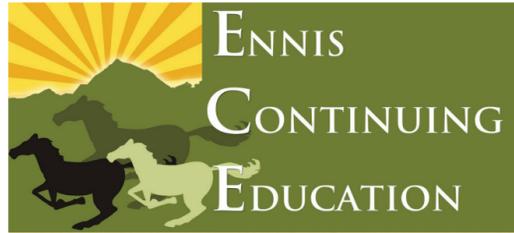
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<p>Women’s Archery Workshop Saturday, January 19th 8am-12pm Tanya Engle Elementary Gym \$20</p>	<p>So you want to be a Beekeeper Workshop Monday, February 11th 6-8pm Steve Thorson HS Rm #3 \$20</p>
<p>Facebook for Beginners Monday, January 21st 5:30-8pm Halley Perry HS Rm #10 \$20</p>	<p>Social Media Marketing Plans for Small Businesses Monday, February 11th 5:30-8pm Halley Perry HS Rm #10 \$20</p>
<p>Feed A Bird: A Guide to Bird Feeding and Bird Feeders Tuesday, January 22nd 6:30-8:30pm Marc Elser HS Rm # 5 \$10</p>	<p>Needle Felt Workshop Saturday, February 16th 9am-5pm Gail Barndt & Jenn Doney HS Art Room \$30</p>
<p>Basic Budgeting for Beginners Thursday, January 24th 6-8pm Lori Jones HS Room #3 \$20</p>	<p>Beekeeping Workshop Monday, February 25th 6-8pm Steve Thorson HS Rm #3 \$20</p>
<p>Jelly Roll Rug or Place-mats Saturday, January 26th 9am-4pm Kathy Olkowski & Lexie Brundin Commons Room \$20</p>	<p>Fly Fishing Entomology Workshop Saturday, March 2nd 9am-4pm Mike Bias HS RM #3 & Field \$20</p>
<p>Fun and Easy Food Fermentation Saturday, February 2nd 9am-1pm Amanda Nelsen HS Room #6 \$45</p>	<p>Avalanche Safety Workshop and Field Day with Friends of the Gallatin National Forest Thursday, February 28th 6-8pm & Sunday, March 3rd 10am-2pm Jack Creek Preserve \$20</p>
<p>Facebook for Business Owners Monday, February 4th 5:30-8pm Halley Perry HS Rm #10 \$20</p>	

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Dept. of Commerce awards grants to Ennis, Big Sky

MADISON COUNTY – Two Madison County communities, Ennis and Big Sky, were awarded several big grants from the Department of Commerce recently.

Ennis

Ennis received two grants. The first grant, a \$10,000 grant for a downtown master plan was part of \$105,000 of grant funding through the Department of Commerce's Montana Main Street Program to support the planning of economic development, urban revitalization, and historic preservation projects. Seven other towns – Boulder, Deer Lodge, Great Falls, Hamilton, Hardin, Roundup and Thompson Falls will also receive grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

"These planning grants are the foundation for developing future Main Street projects," Montana Department of Commerce Community Development Division Administrator Jennifer Olson said. "Montana's Main Streets are at the heart of our

vibrant communities which attract millions of visitors to the state each year and support thriving local economies year-round."

The second grant, for \$1,717, will allow the Ennis Area Chamber of Commerce to redesign and upgrade its website.

This grant is designed to help them attract visitors to their communities.

Ennis, along with 25 other communities, received a total of \$829,644 through the Tourism Grant Program at the Department of Commerce, Office of Tourism and Business Development.

"In Montana, you're never far from world-class recreation and visitor experiences," said Jenny Pelej, interim division administrator for the Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development at Commerce. "Tourism is an industry with a statewide impact, and these grants help communities both large and small maximize their ability to bring customers into Main Street

businesses and support jobs."

The Tourism Grant Program awards funds to projects that strengthen Montana's economy through the development and enhancement of the state's tourism and recreation industry. Eligible projects include arts, culture and heritage preservation; visitor facility upgrades and construction; and niche product development.

Big Sky

Big Sky received two grants, also through the Tourism Grant Program at the Department of Commerce, Office of Tourism and Business Development.

Town Center of Big Sky was awarded \$65,000 to purchase and install refrigeration upgrades for its ice arena. Also, the Big Sky Visitor Center was awarded \$21,333 to purchase an executive restroom on a portable trailer that will supply three additional restrooms for guests.

Montana Hunter Advancement Program

BOZEMAN – The Montana Hunter Advancement Program (MHAP) is now accepting applications for our 2019 courses from qualified hunters. In 2018, the MHAP successfully graduated 25 certified hunters who were able to hunt on 13 ranches this past fall. Building from last year's success, we are offering three courses in 2019 in Billings, Bozeman and Missoula.

The Montana Hunter Advancement Program is a 50-hour course which generally takes place over a six-week period. The program is landowner-driven and is supported by major landowner associations and major conservation nonprofit organizations such as the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Boone & Crockett Club, Montana Stockgrowers Association and Montana Grain Growers Association. This deep partnership with Montana's landowner community is what makes our program unique. This program offers applicants skills mastery combined with agriculture, conservation and stewardship education, and specialized ballistics and marksmanship training. Instructors include ranchers, farmers, landowners, university faculty, professional shooting instructors, private land wildlife managers, wildlife biologists, first aid personnel, as well as backcountry survival and

equipment experts. Each curriculum element includes either written, oral or field tests that assess student competence.

The cost of the program is \$200 per participant and need-based scholarships are available upon request. Program fees partially off-set facility use fees and other similar costs. Each participant has the opportunity to become a certified "Master Hunter", receiving a Montana Master Hunter Certificate upon successful completion of the course that is valid for five years. Certificate renewal will be available through additional in-person and online coursework, and testing.

The class schedules are as follows, and more detail is provided on our website:

- Bozeman: five successive Saturdays beginning the first week of April 2019.
- Missoula: one evening each week on successive weeks beginning in March 2019 and one Saturday to be scheduled during April 2019.
- Billings: five successive Saturdays beginning the first week of May 2019.

All classes will attend an end of session two day rendezvous in June where shooting instruction and qualification will occur along with field work with OnX Maps and GPS.

Find Fellowship With Us



Christian Science Services

Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m.

ALL WELCOME

Each week a Bible lesson full of healing Christian concepts is read aloud in our Sunday service.

4983 US Hwy 287 N. • Ennis, Montana

www.ChristianScience.com

Rocky Mountain Baptist Church

Will Stevens, Pastor
682-4949

Sunday School 9:45am
Morning Service 11am
Afternoon Service 1:30pm
Tuesday Womens Bible Study 6pm
Wednesday Night Prayer Group 6pm

6 Blocks South of City Complex
Located in the heart of Madison Valley for the Hearts of Madison Valley

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Sheridan Ward - Visitors Welcome

Sacrament Meeting
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School
11:20 a.m.

R S & Priesthood
12:10 p.m.

Mutual (Youth Group)
Wed. 7:00p.m.

3560 | MT State Hwy 287
Sheridan 842-5860

Bishop Shaw 684-5255

HARRISON COMMUNITY CHURCH

Harrison, Montana

Adult Bible Study ~ 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Church Services ~ 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Joe Miller
Come Worship & Sing Praises To Our God. Spread the Word!

Madison Valley Presbyterian Church

Worship
September - April ~ 11 a.m.
May - August ~ 9 a.m.

Everyone Welcome, Fully Accessible
In communion with ELCA, UCC, RCA

Rev. Jean M. Johnson
682-4355 ~ Ennis
Corner of S. Charles & W. Hugel

Valley Assembly

114 N. Main, Sheridan
842-5845

Pastor Duane B. Deshner
Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Valley Kids - after school to 6:45 p.m.

Ruby Valley Food Pantry - Saturdays 10 a.m.-Noon

Our mission is to Love Jesus, Love People, and Reach the Valley.

Ruby Valley Baptist Church

Tony Shaw, Pastor
842-5602

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Eve 7 p.m.

One block behind IGA, Sheridan



MADISON COUNTY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY'S MASS SCHEDULE

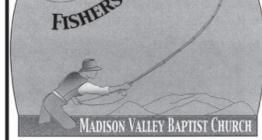
MASS AT ST. JOSEPH'S IN SHERIDAN AT 4PM ON SATURDAYS.
MASS AT NOTRE DAME IN TWIN BRIDGES AT 8AM ON SUNDAYS.
MASS AT ST. MARY'S IN LAURIN AT 9:30AM ON SUNDAYS.
MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S IN ENNIS AT 11AM ON SUNDAYS.

MASS DURING THE WEEK:
7:30AM TUESDAY'S AND THURSDAY'S AT ST. JOSEPH'S IN SHERIDAN.

9AM AT ST. PATRICK'S IN ENNIS.

Please call the Rectory for the daily Mass schedule at 842-5588

Father John Crutchfield, Pastor



Phil 2:16
Holding forth the word of life:

Dr. Ray Teston

Pastor
Sunday School ~ 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ~ 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Nights:
(dinner provided)
Kids Club (K-6): 5:30-7:30pm
Youth Group (7-12): 6-8pm

5050 Hwy 287, PO Box 668, Ennis, MT
Phone 682-4244 SBC
MADISON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
Aides for the hearing impaired

Ruby Valley United Methodist Parish

Invites You To Worship With Us

Reverend Susan DeBree
Office: (406) 842-5934
Home: (406) 842-7732

Church of the Valley
Twin Bridges
Worship & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Bethel UMC
Sheridan
Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Ready Set Grow Preschool
Contact Julie Russell 842-5876

Dayspring Church

Worship 10 a.m.
Sunday School/Nursery 9 a.m.
Non-Denominational Christ Centered, Spirit Led Worship

Check website for ministries:
dayspringsheridan.com

596-0847 • 3648 Hwy 287
Between Sheridan & Twin Bridges

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

The Church of Word and Sacrament
Visitors Welcome

Pastor Ken Stensrud

- Sunday Service 9:00 am
- Bible Study 10:15 am
- Sunday School 10:15 am

Corner of Madison and Armitage St.
Ennis, Montana 406-682-4910

THE BAHAI FAITH

Its only army is the love of God, its only joy the clear wine of His knowledge, its only battle the expounding of the Truth; its one crusade is against the insistent self, the evil promptings of the human heart, its victory is to submit and yield, and to be selfless is its everlasting glory. In brief, it is spirit upon spirit.

www.bahai.org | 406-451-3923
Bahá'ís of Madison County

ENNIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Loving God, Loving People

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
Wednesday Ministries
Kids Club Submerge (K-6) 3:15 PM
Family Dinner 5:30 PM
Youth and Adult Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 6:30 PM

Pastor Greg Ledgerwood
402 Madison Ave - Ennis, MT
682-4197

Madison County Episcopal Churches

In full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Join Us for Sunday Worship!

Trinity	St. Paul's	Christ Church
Jeffers/Ennis	Virginia City	Sheridan
10 a.m. adult forum	Sunday	Sunday
11:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
www.rvec.org		
Prayer requests:		
682-4199	843-5296	842-7713

GET RESULTS.

advertise in The Madisonian.
call 682-7755 to make a plan.

Grace Community Fellowship

WEARING AND SHARING

SUNDAY SERVICES
10 a.m. at the Alder School
Alder, Montana
Sunday School, 9 a.m.

Christ Centered
Bible Based

Tel. 406-842-5915
Pastor Tom Luksha

Solution time: 24 mins.

B	R	U	I	T	S	P	E	A	K	S		
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— King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

ENNIS FAMILY and FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP

100 Prairie Way, Ennis (599-3659)

For those who have a loved one struggling with any type of addiction

Tuesdays ~ 5 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meeting Every Thurs. at 8 p.m., Church of the Valley, Twin Bridges

ALANON

Twin Bridges • Church of the Valley
Thursdays, 8 pm

ALANON

Pony School House • Weds. 7 pm
Suzy 685-3692

"Keep it Simple."
A.A. MEETING
Bethany Hall, Sheridan
(behind Methodist Church)
Wednesdays ~ 8 p.m.

Get Results.

Call 682-7755

AREA SENIOR MEALS

Ennis Senior Center

315 W Main Street; Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Reservations 682-4422 To help us plan, please call at least 24 hours in advance for meal delivery or if you plan to dine in.

- Thursday, January 17 – Pork roast, mashers, veggies, dessert, Happy Birthday
- Friday, January 18 – Burger, potato salad, dessert, pinochle at 12:45 p.m.
- Monday, January 21 – Beef stroganoff, salad, roll dessert, mahjong at 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 22 – Ham & cheesny potatoes, veggies, dessert, pan at 12:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 23 – Chicken tetrazzini, veggies, garlic bread, dessert, mahjong at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, January 24 – Breakfast croissant, potatoes, fruit, dessert.
- Friday, January 25 – Fish sandwich, fries, veggies, dessert, pinochle at 12:45 p.m.

Ruby Valley Food Pantry, Sheridan

Open Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Located at 114 N. Main St., in Valley Assembly (formerly New Beginnings). Serving the Ruby Valley from Silver Star to Virginia City. Contact Doug 842-5587 or Jim 842-5573 for more information.

Meals on Wheels, Sheridan

The Sheridan Senior Center offers meals for seniors 60 years and older, Monday - Friday. Seniors may choose to eat at the Senior Center, family style for \$3.50, or have their meals delivered for \$4. Delivered meals are within the city limits of Sheridan and should be called in by 10 a.m. Contact Shirley Sand at 842-5966.

Virginia City Café

Senior meals for Madison County Seniors 60 and over will be served at the Virginia City Cafe on Tuesday & Thursdays from 11 am to 3 pm for \$4.00.

- Thursday, January 17 – Spaghetti with meatballs, garlic toast, dessert.
- Tuesday, January 22 – French dip, fries, dessert
- Thursday, January 24 – Cheesy broccoli chicken casserole, roll, dessert.

Twin Bridges Senior Center

The Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center provides meals for seniors every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon at the Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center. Meals are for seniors 60 years and up (spouses and caregivers are invited). Donations for meals are appreciated. Activities include bingo each Monday, cards on Wednesday. The Senior Center Group meets the first Monday of each month at 6 p.m.

Vennis Over The Hill Unity Group

Faced with a drinking problem? Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help.

SUN. - 10 a.m., No Smoking, Virginia City Library

MON. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking

WED. - 7:30 p.m., Trinity Church in Jeffers

FRI. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking

682-3490, 682-7023 Ennis
843-5352 Virginia City

OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

Go to **outpostevents.net**
for a complete listing of events

**Saturday
January 19**

Women's Archery Workshop, Ennis
Join Ennis Continuing Education and Tanya Engle for a chance to work on your shot! Bring your own bow, or if you've never shot before there will be some bows available to learn. 8 a.m., ages 18+, must register beforehand. Call 682-4258.

The Informed Citizen, Ennis
David McCumber, editor of the Montana Standard, presents "The Informed Citizen: Fake News, Preaching to the Choir and Enemy of the People," at the Madison Valley Public Library, open to all ages. 11 a.m. at 210 E. Main Street.

Chautauqua, Virginia City
The Chautauqua is hailed as a sharing of entertainment and knowledge, and today the tradition continues with a variety of writers, musicians and special topic speakers taking center stage. Performances highlight 10 reserved spots with two swing spots for impromptu appearances. For information or to partic-

ipate contact Toni James at 843-5454. Potluck 6:30 p.m., performances at 7:30 p.m. at the Elling House.

Eighth Blackbird, Big Sky
Four-time Grammy winning ensemble Eighth Blackbird brings their vibrant, cutting-edge take on classical music to the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 7:30 p.m.

**Monday
January 21**
Facebook For Beginners, Ennis
An Ennis Continuing Education course meant for newcomers to Facebook and other social media accounts to learn how to get started. 5:30 p.m., must register beforehand. Call 682-4258, \$20 registration.

continues its Brown Bag Lunch series with a presentation about Butte's historic cemeteries, including the history of St. Patrick's and Holy Cross, by Donna Driver. Guests are encouraged to bring a sack lunch. 12 p.m. at the Butte Archives, 17 W. Quartz Street. Call 782-3280 for information.

Strategic Planning Meeting, Ennis
Ennis School Board will meet with staff and community members to develop an action plan that aligns with the district's strategic plan. 5 p.m. at Ennis High School.

**Tuesday
January 22**
A Guide to Bird Feeding and Bird Feeders, Ennis
A discussion on general bird feeding, types of feeders and different feeds for attracting specific birds. 6:30 p.m., call 682-4258 to register. \$20 registration.

**Wednesday
January 23**
Brown Bag Lunch: Butte's Catholic Cemeteries, Butte
The Butte Archives con-

**Thursday
January 24**
Mad Gals Meeting, Ennis
The Mad Gals January meeting will be held at the Alley Bistro, with social at noon and lunch at 12:30. Please RSVP by noon on January 21.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

Madison County Mental Health Local Advisory Council, Virginia City
Meeting the first Monday of each month from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Commissioner's Meeting, Virginia City
Madison Co. Commissioners meet every Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. Annex Building.

Ennis Arts Association, Ennis
Meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m.
ennisartsassociation.org

Children's Story & Craft Time, Virginia City
Every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Thompson Hickman Library.

Movie Night, Virginia City
Movie Night at the Thompson-Hickman Madison County Library
Every other Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m.

Open Table Tennis, Pony 7 - 9 p.m.
For all ages and skill levels - Two Tables
At the Pony School
Info @ 685-3481

Support group, Ennis
Ennis family and friends support group for those struggling with addiction. 5 p.m. 100 Prairie Way, 599-3659.

WEDNESDAYS

Tennis, Ennis
9 a.m. til 1p.m., come play tennis at the Madison Meadows Golf Course. All levels welcome.

TOPS, Ennis
Weekly weigh-ins are at 9 a.m.
Meetings at 9:30 a.m.
MVMC in downstairs conference room. Jeanne, 682-3299

Books and Babies, Ennis
Madison Valley Public Library, 10:30 a.m. 682-7244

Baby Bistro, Ennis

First and third Wednesday of the month at the Madison Valley Public Library and 11 a.m.

Grief Support Group, Ennis
Everyone welcome. Meets every Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. Madison Valley Baptist Church

Angelwings ministry, Sheridan
Every Wednesday from 2:45-4 p.m. at the Bloomin' Ruby Cafe.

THURSDAYS

MV Women's Club FIRST THURS OF EA. MONTH
September through May at noon at the Madison Valley Baptist Church.

MV Manor Auxiliary Meeting, Ennis SECOND THURS OF EA. MONTH
1 p.m., Madison Valley Manor SunRoom

SUP Land/Water Fitness Class, Ennis,
Paddle & Pilates on stand-up paddleboards on Ennis Lake. 75-minute classes every Thursday at 7 a.m. Call or text Christine at 406-600-6379 to reserve your spot.

FRIDAYS

Tennis, Ennis
9 a.m. til 1p.m., come play tennis at the Madison Meadows Golf Course. All levels welcome.

Story Time, Ennis
Pre-K to Grade 2, 11 a.m. Madison Valley Public Library. 682-7244.

Live Music, Ennis
Willie's Distillery hosts live music in the tasting room, 5:30 p.m.. See the weekly ad on this page for performers.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY

Live Music - Norris
7 p.m.

Farmers' Market, Twin Bridges
9 a.m. every day.

Christensen Rentals, LLC
Landscape • Lawn & Garden Home Improvement & Construction
Rototillers, Power Rakes & Aerators
Backhoe, Skidsteer & Mini Excavator
Ask about the weekend rate - pick up on Saturday by 12pm and return Monday morning for a 1 day rate!
Call for availability!
NEW HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. • Saturdays 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
406-682-4748 • 201 MADISON ~ ENNIS, MT

EVENINGS: ADULTS \$8 • CHILDREN (12 & UNDER) \$6 SHOW TIME AT 7:15 PM, BOX OFFICE OPENS AT 6:30 PM
NOW PLAYING:
AQUAMAN (PG-13)
Let's Go to the Movies this Weekend!
Friday 7:15 • Saturday 7:15 pm • Matinee Sunday 4:00 pm
COMING SOON:
Green Book (PG-13), Mary Poppins (PG)
Please call to verify for last minute changes 682-4023 | 115 Main St, Ennis
EnnisMovies.com | Facebook.com/MadisonTheatreEnnis

WILLIE'S DISTILLERY
ENNIS, MONTANA
WILLIE'S DISTILLERY UPCOMING EVENTS:
312 E MAIN STREET, ENNIS 406-682-4117
WWW.WILLIESDISTILLERY.COM
LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY 5:30 - 7:30 PM
COME JOIN THE FUN, LISTEN TO SOME GREAT MUSIC AND ENJOY SPIRITS WITH A WESTERN FLAVOR!!
FRIDAY, JAN 18TH: STEVE ROSE & CAMERON GIBSON
FRIDAY, JAN 25TH: LEFT FOR DEAD
FRIDAY, FEB 1ST: RUBY VALLEY BOYS & BARBWIRE
FRIDAY, FEB 8TH: FAN MOUNTAIN FROG DOGS
FRIDAY, FEB 15TH: KC & BO
ASK ABOUT OUR WEEKLY BOTTLING PARTIES

We are open for the WINTER SEASON!
Join Us For
Dinner
Thursday- Saturday 5pm to 9pm
Brunch
Sunday 9am to 2pm
Reservations are Recommended
Weekly Dinner Menus Available on Our Website!
Call Us at 684-5959 for More Information
THE OLD HOTEL
Rustic Charm, Brilliant Cuisine in Twin Bridges...
101 E. 5th Avenue • Twin Bridges, MT
www.theoldhotel.com
406-684-5959

BEFORE HALO Studio HAIR AFTER
215 S. FIRST STREET, ENNIS
406-224-1822
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A Divine Experience In Hair Design
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All Major Brands ~ Best Prices ~ Saddles ~ Tack
Pack Equipment ~ 200 Saddles ~ In Stock, New & Used, along with all the Matching Tack
YEAR ROUND DISCOUNTS
10% OFF Tack, Pads, Reins, Bits, etc. ~ 20% OFF Tack w/ purchase of Saddle ~ 25% OFF Saddles ~ 30% OFF SALE CORNER Saddles & Tack (Some Exceptions Apply)
Circle Y • High Horse • Tucker • Billy Cook • Dakota • Courts
McCall • Pack Saddles • Pack Equipment
Gift Certificates Available
2 Mi. South of 4 Corners
80155 Gallatin Hwy • Bozeman, MT
Mon-Sat 10-5 • Closed Sundays
406-586-8225 (TACK)
bzmsaddleoutlet@gwestoffice.net
Cid Klebenow, Manager
WE SHIP!

NORRIS HOT SPRINGS
WINTER HOURS: TH, FRI, MON: 4PM-10PM
SAT & SUN: 10AM-10PM
CLOSED TUES & WED
MUSIC THIS WEEK
FRI 1/18 HEATHER LINGLE
MonTexas Americana
SAT 1/19 SWEET SAGE BAND
Americana
SUN 1/20 WESTON LEWIS
Acoustic Rock
hwy 287 & route 84 - 15 miles north of ennis
norrishotsprings.com
406.685.3303

Get Results.
advertise in The Madisonian
406-682-7755