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THE LOCAL NEWS OF THE MADISON VALLEY, RUBY VALLEY AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Montana's Oldest Publishing Weekly Newspaper. Established 1873

75¢ | Volume 147, Issue 11

Thursday, February 21, 2019



Phone scammers often target older residents.
(© CAN STOCK PHOTO / LISAFX)

Phone scammers target Madison County residents

Know how to protect yourself, your money and your personal information

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

MADISON COUNTY—Tax season is a popular time for scam artists to attempt to steal funds and assets from unsuspecting victims, and a new phone scam has popped up in Madison County in recent weeks.

Unlike some scams, where the caller pretends to be from the IRS or another government agency claiming you owe money, this scam seems much more positive on the surface. The caller identifies themselves as representing Publishers Clearing House and their famous cash giveaways and identifying the receiver that they've won a significant amount of money.

"He claimed I had won \$115,000 and that I was to call this toll-free number to claim my prize," says one Twin Bridges resident who received a call. "Instead of calling the toll-free number I called the same number back and was told there wasn't enough money in my bank account to call that number."

Other potential victims of the PCH impersonators have been told that they've won a secondary prize and must pay a fee to access their reward money.

Fortunately, this would-be victim was wary enough to call Publishers Clearing House, where they were directed to the fraud department, and told that the real PCH doesn't contact any winners by phone. They show up—as is shown in their famous television advertisements—unannounced at a winner's house, balloons and champagne in hand.

But many aren't so lucky. Americans lose billions of dollars each year due to scam artists, so knowing how to protect yourself is essential.

The impersonators in this case are especially advanced, with callers often using the real names of PCH employees. Publishers Clearing House took to their website to identify how Americans can protect themselves from losing personal information and funds.

PCH says if you receive a check in the mail claiming you're a winner, do not cash it. It's probably a fake check, and oftentimes the caller will return later telling you that the check has bounced and that you now owe them a considerable amount of money.

If you get an email, online friend request, social media message or phone call saying you've won a prize that you never applied for, ignore and delete it. PCH says the adage rings true in the case of sweepstakes: if it seems too good to be true, it is.

In the case of phone scams, calling back probably won't help either. Often, numbers that call back to the scam artists are then placed on a list that the scammers will share, and you could end up getting dozens of calls from other people attempting to steal money.

"At PCH, you never have to pay to claim a prize," says the organization. "Recognizing the difference between legitimate sweepstakes and other types of offers that may not be legitimate will help you protect yourself. If someone contacts you claiming to be PCH and tells you that you've won a prize, then asks you to send a payment, stop. You have not heard from the real PCH."

The Montana Office of Consumer Protection (OCP) says that you should never give your personal or banking information to someone over the phone. The IRS and banks will never contact you via phone to ask for information, and the IRS will always send you a warning letter if you owe money, as well as allowing you to appeal if you believe there's been a mistake. If a caller claims to be from the IRS, they probably aren't.

Scammers generally try to get victims to send them money in the form of gift cards or prepaid debit cards, as they are usually much more difficult to trace and allow for easy spending. But any reputable institution will not ask for something of the kind, so be wary of callers asking for a wire transfer or telling you to purchase and send them gift cards.

SCAM continued on A2

Avalanche danger high as snow continues to fall

Unstable layers, wind, cold temperatures all risk factors

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

MCALLISTER—Reader Eric Shores submitted this photo of an avalanche triggered when the group of backcountry skiers he was with traversed a 26-degree slope up South Meadow Creek in the Tobacco Root Mountains last week.

Fortunately, no one in Shores' group was injured. But this avalanche comes just two weeks after an avalanche in the same range killed one skier and injured another outside Pony.

As snow continues to fall in waves over southwest Montana, strong winds can lead to the creation of unstable cornices on slopes and can cover cracks and other instabilities with fresh powder, making avalanche danger difficult to gauge. Unstable snow can fall or slide in slabs as seen in the photo, taken by one of Shores' group.



A skier on South Meadow Creek surveyed the results of an avalanche triggered by the group he was with. (SUBMITTED)

AVALANCHE continued on A2



Harrison's Maddison Christiansen shoots over the top of a Lima defender at the 12 C district tournament on Friday, February 15. Harrison beat Lima 42 - 23 in that game and would move on to play Twin Bridges the next day. (A. CHRISTENSEN)

Mustangs clinch district title

Ennis, Twin Bridges advance into post-season basketball play

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

DILLON—The field of championship basketball teams is slowly being whittled down as the post-season progresses, and three Madison County teams punched their ticket to this weekend's divisional championship in Butte.

Girls

District competition began on Thursday, February 14, when the Twin Bridges and Sheridan girls faced off and Harrison took on Drummond. The Ennis girls, as the top seed in the competition, elected to take a bye for the first round.

Twin Bridges blew past Sheridan 41 - 23 to advance to the second round, while Harrison fell to Drummond 56 - 20 after being held to single-digit points in each quarter of their first-round game.

Harrison would move into the loser's bracket for the lady Wildcats' second game, against the Lima bears who they played twice during the regular season. They kept a perfect record alive, beating the Bears for the third time in three matchups, 42 - 23. They would stay alive for another game.

DISTRICTS continued on A3

Ennis approves E. Main Street project

With lot line condition, permit moves forward

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

ENNIS—The Ennis town commission began their February meeting with a special agenda designated specifically for ongoing deliberations regarding a new project at the east end of Main Street, near Lions Park.

The developments, initially proposed by Michael Casey, were discussed by city judge Art Behar, who had reviewed the proposed plans. 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 breakfast and coffee space. There are also plans to build a small bathhouse for guests of the Riverside RV Park.

It was also initially proposed to expand part of the park, but the question of additional RV spots was removed from the current proposal for consideration by the county planning board so that the rest of the project could be reviewed by the commission.

"I don't know if you need to start encumbering every neighborhood project to the planning board," Behar told the commissioners. "That adds 1-2 months to the process. What's being done is not that complex. I don't think we should hold up these other permits just to wait for the planning board."

ENNIS continued on A2



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SCAM continued from A1: Phone scammers targeting area numbers, watch out

Callers also often resort to high-pressure tactics, sometimes even threatening that you'll be arrested if you don't pay immediately. Again, this isn't something the real IRS or a real bank would ever do, so resist the threat of frightening repercussions. Stay calm, hang up and rest assured that nobody is coming to arrest you, unless you've committed legitimate tax

fraud. If they do get ahold of banking information, the OCP says, scam artists won't necessarily try to immediately drain your bank account. Always keep a close eye on bank and credit card statements, watching for suspicious charges of any amount. Sometimes scammers attempt to slowly siphon money out of an account, and those small



charges add up quickly over time before they've even been noticed. If you think you've been the victim of a fraud or have received suspicious phone calls or emails,

you can contact the National Fraud Center at www.fraud.org. You can also report frauds to the Montana Office of Consumer Protection by calling 1-800-481-6896.

AVALANCHE continued from A1: With continued snow, cold, wind, it's getting dangerous

By the end of last week, many areas of southwest Montana had reached high avalanche dangers, according to the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center. But by early this week much of those ratings had been downgraded to moderate—a 2/5 rating, rather than the 4/5 that the Southern Madison and Southern Gallatin ranges had received around Valentine's Day.

Much of that mitigated ava-

lanche came from a warmer snap that compacted snowpack and a break in new snow for several days. But once more snow falls on top of those compacted layers, weak spots will be more heavily weighted, and the avalanche danger will rise again.

The Madison Range saw six avalanches last weekend: two on Friday, February 15, one on Saturday, February 16 and three on Sunday, February 17.

Both of Friday's avalanches were natural ones in Beehive Basin and Taylor Fork, reported by skiers who had been in the area who said they'd seen no cracking or collapsing of the surrounding snow. That just goes to show how unpredictable avalanches can be, triggered by little more than a breeze and offering little to no warning until it's too late to move out of the way.

Saturday's avalanche was

also in Taylor Fork, triggered by a snowmobiler. Snowmobiles also triggered two of Sunday's slides: one on Buck Ridge near First Yellowmule and one in McAtee Basin.

For up-to-date avalanche information, avalanche forecasts and risk levels and a list of avalanche activity, visit the GN-FAC's website at mtavalanche.com.

ENNIS continued from A1: E. Main Street project continues moving forward, with provisions

Some elements of the project are already prepared, such as the renovation of an abandoned church building already on the property. There has been the question of a lot line that is currently built over by about a foot, and whether Casey should be required to have the line adjusted as part of the project.

The commission decided that an adjustment wasn't immediately necessary, but that it would be a condition of the project permit that Casey would have to have the adjustment done if he ever decided to sell one or both of the lots abutting the line.

With that stipulation, the project proposal—apart from the RV park section, which the planning board will review before the commission sees it again—was unanimously approved by the town council.

After the conclusion of the

special meeting, the commission moved on to regular business, which including appointing commissioner Cory Hardy as the new chairman of the tree board, which has been without a leader for a few months.

Behar was also preemptively reappointed to his current post as city judge, a position that would have expired at the end of the year. Behar's newly renewed term will run through 2023.

Mayor Blake Leavitt brought a resolution to the council changing the town's budget for fiscal year 2018-2019.

The resolution would reallocate some funds into the town's water, sewer and ambulance funds, as well as designating some dollars for the planned master plan for Comley Park. Leavitt said around \$4,800 would be moved into the ambulance fund,

around \$1,200 to the information technology fund and \$16,700 for public works, which just added a new employee to, as Leavitt said, "be proactive instead of reactive on future problems," such as snow removal and sewer work.

Leavitt noted to the commission that all the money being moved around was already within the town's budget. The resolution, which would only be moving money from one designation to another, was unanimously approved by the commissioners.

In regard to the Comley Park master plan, Leavitt said the company assisting on the project would like to make a presentation to the commission, which should happen at one of the upcoming commission meetings.

The meeting ended with reports from various departments, including public works. Director

Kelly Elser noted that his team had been working hard on snow removal in and around Ennis, receiving commendations and appreciation for the prompt and thorough job the snowplows were doing. Elser also said the public works department was in the process of applying for a new wastewater permit, which must be renewed every three years as a standard practice.

Leavitt wrapped things up by telling the council that the newly reviewed zoning regulations should be ready for re-release in March. The commission and city government have been reviewing and updating the regulations for several months and the process is nearly finished.

"Hopefully everyone is as happy as I am with it," Leavitt said.

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Harrison practices preparedness drills, prepares for board election

Wildcats played Ennis, Drummond in district basketball

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com



HARRISON—Superintendent Fred Hofman likened the 2018-2019 school year to a roller coaster: we've only just reached the apex, and if it feels like things are busy now, just wait.

Harrison has a slew of school events coming up, including ski days, academic competitions and of course, prom in March.

But the immediate focus at the school board's February meeting on Monday, February 11, was the impending district basketball tournament in Dillon, which took place last weekend. Harrison's boys team played the Ennis Mustangs, while the girls faced off against Drummond, both on Thursday, February 14.

Activities director Connie Young offered an update that included a brief recap of the recent Montana High School Association (MHSA) statewide meeting, which was attended by dozens of athletic directors from all corners of the state. Attendees voted on a number of resolutions that would change MHSA rules and regulations, but Young said that only two of the ones she had presented previously to the board passed.

The first of those two resolutions was a straightforward one that allows representatives from far-flung schools across Montana to call into executive board meetings remotely rather than traveling hundreds of miles to a metropolitan areas for meetings.

Another resolution that MHSA

approved was one pushing forward a plan to gauge interest and explore the option of adding an MHSA-sanctioned girls' wrestling category in future school years. This resolution did nothing in the way of actually creating such a league, but only gave a committee approval to pursue studying the option.

Young also brought the board up to speed on two medically-related occurrences. She told the board that the athletic trainer used by the Harrison/Willow Creek athletic teams, who charges per hour for their services, could be raising their rates by up to 20 percent next school year. Young said that most schools operate on a contract basis with athletic trainers, and when asked whether the rate increase would make it a better option to adopt such a contract, she said that hourly services would still be the more economical choice.

In the current situation, a trainer is present at all of Harrison's athletic competitions, including cross country meets, football games, basketball games and track meets. However, a contractual agreement would also place the trainer at daily practices and would carry a prohibitive cost increase.

Hofman postulated on the potential option of creating a stipend-funded position to fulfill the need for an athletic trainer, but the board agreed to continue using the current setup, which works well for the co-op team's needs, and wait to see what price changes develop.

Young also told the board about some headaches that had come from the school's attempt to procure an EpiPen to have on hand for a student who has a severe allergy. She told the board she had written to an organization called EpiPens for Schools, which provides the antihistamine injectors to educators, back in September, only to have the pen never sent. After repeated attempts to have the pen sent, the school simply bought an EpiPen to have on hand in case of an allergic event where the student's own EpiPen couldn't be accessed.

"And wouldn't you know it, literally almost the next day, the EpiPen from EpiPens for Schools arrived," said Young. She said it was a relief to now finally have an injector (or in this case, now at least two) on hand, and called the prior situation "a pickle" if the school hadn't had one in case of an allergic exposure or anaphylaxis case.

District clerk Judi Ward followed with her own report, which included an update that two ski days for Harrison students will be coming up on March 14 and 15. Ward also noted that she was struggling to find a driver's education teacher for Harrison students, which may mean that the school cannot have a driver's ed program this school year.

Hofman then described the "secure in place" drills the school had practiced recently, which he described as a step or two before a lockdown in case of a situation on

campus that may be showing signs of escalating into a safety threat.

Hofman said in a concerning situation, it's very easy for an administrator to cut off outside access to Harrison High School, reducing the number of students and staff exposed to a potential threat. After that step is taken, a clerk can make a "secure in place" call to teachers across the school, who would then round students up into their classrooms and continue teaching as normal. If the situation should escalate to the point where a lockdown was necessary, the entire student body would be ready to do so.

The board meeting ended with the hiring of Katelyn Carlson, Hofman's daughter, as a temporary substitute paraeducator, and the review of the 2019-2020 academic calendar. The board approved the placement of two elective days off school in February and March of 2020, one of which was the Monday after the basketball district tournament to allow both teachers and student athletes a day of recovery.

Finally, the board approved a resolution posting notice of the annual school election, which will take place on May 7. The election will fill a three-year trustee's term and will likely also include additional levies for the 2019-2020 school year budget.

The Harrison school board's next meeting will be Monday, March 11, at 7 p.m.

Human impact on global ecosystems

BOZEMAN – As part of the Montana Wilderness Association's Madison-Gallatin Chapter's continuing series of "Wilderness and ..." presentations, Travis Belote, Lead Ecologist for The Wilderness Society, will

talk about new research on the human impact to global ecosystems.

Maps of the human footprint have allowed researchers to identify the wildest remaining lands on the planet and track

their decline in the last two decades.

Learn about the wildlife distribution in these wild places and take a zoomed in look at the ecological diversity of the Gallatin Range at 7 p.m. on Tuesday,

February 26 at Hope Lutheran Church, 2152 West Graf Street, Bozeman.

For more information, contact David Steinmuller at 406-219-2315 or dsteinmul@msn.com.



ABOVE – The Ennis lady Mustangs took the District 12C title on Saturday, February 16. They, along with the Drummond and Philipsburg, will advance to the divisional tournament this weekend. (K. KNACK)



RIGHT – Ennis's Ian Swanson presses past Harrison's Jackson Nye on his way to the basket on Thursday, February 14. The Mustangs would take the first-round victory in the district tournament 52-42 and move on to play Twin Bridges in the second round. (A. CHRISTENSEN)

DISTRICTS continued from A1: Twin Bridges, Ennis advance to post-season basketball play

Twin Bridges, meanwhile, played top seed Ennis on Friday, where the lady Mustangs showed just how they'd earned that top ranking. The Falcons fell 51-28, while Ennis advanced to the championship game against Drummond.

Twin Bridges and Harrison then faced off in a losers-bracket game, where Twin Bridges would advance to the consolation final in a narrow 45-40 victory. They moved on to play Philipsburg, but the lady Prospectors put an end to the Falcons' season in a decisive 48-22 win. The Falcons would take fourth in the district and the Prospectors third.

In the championship game, it was all about senior Whitney McKittrick. The lady Mustangs would take an early and decisive lead and never let it go, outscoring Drummond 21-10 in the first quarter and 32-13 in the first half. Drummond made a late attempt to catch up with a nine-point surge in the

fourth quarter, but it wasn't enough to match McKittrick's 15 points, along with 11 from Joree Hokanson.

The lady Mustangs would sweep the district tournament in a 44-26 victory against the Trojans, claiming a basketball title to go with their volleyball title from this fall. The Ennis and Drummond girls will advance to represent district 12C in next week's divisional tournament.

Boys

The Twin Bridges Falcons came into this district tournament 18-0, and they left 21-0. There isn't much more to say.

Electing not to take their first-round bye, the Falcons first played Sheridan, where they outscored the Panthers by at least double in each quarter. By halftime it was 46-13 and the Falcons showed no sign of relenting. They rolled to a 72-20 win, and a second-round matchup against local rival En-

nis.

Ennis had played Harrison in the First round, advancing by a much narrower margin of 10 points in a 52-42 win over the Wildcats. But it still wasn't enough to stop Twin Bridges, who beat the Mustangs for the third time this season, 68-38.

In another familiar matchup, the losers-bracket game of Harrison vs. Sheridan saw the Panthers take their second victory of the season in a narrow 41-38. The Wildcats would end their season, while the Panthers would move on to play Philipsburg in a chance to make the consolation game. But it seems that Sheridan's luck had run out, and they came just short in a 58-36 loss against the Prospectors.

After falling to Twin Bridges, the Mustangs played the Lima Bears en route to their own berth in the consolation game, notching a 21-point victory 63-42 to face off against Philipsburg for the last divi-

sional slot.

While the first quarter may have been close, ending with a 15-13 score, double-digit points from Kurt Funston, Brand Ostler and Trevor Swanson meant the Mustangs ran away with things. Holding the Prospectors to a mere four points in the second quarter and seven points in the fourth, the Mustangs would claim third place and a divisional berth in 63-37.

Meanwhile on the championship court, Twin Bridges was held to one of its narrowest margins of victory of the season, outscored by Drummond in the third and fourth quarters. But those few extra points for the Trojans couldn't catch up to Twin's 16-point lead going into the second half, and the Falcons would claim a 10-point victory, 49-39. Drummond would settle for second place and Twin Bridges and Drummond will move on to the divisional tournament, which begins on Thursday, February 21.

Community Briefs

Sheridan Turner Youth Initiative

SHERIDAN – Sheridan has received a \$5,000 grant from the Turner Foundation's Community Youth Initiative, according to Rodney Stout, local coordinator of the Sheridan Turner Youth Initiative Committee, the organization that sponsors the initiative in Sheridan.

"Turner monies have gone a long way in supporting activities that enrich the lives of the Sheridan youth," Stout said. "We are even more thankful for this opportunity during these difficult economic times."

The grants are earmarked for youth development in communities located near properties owned by R.E. (Ted) Turner, president of the Turner Youth Foundation

headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

As part of the initiative, each town was asked to form an adult-youth partnership and to identify priorities for determining how the funds should be spent. Funding typically supports such things as after-school, mentoring, recreational, community service and self-esteem building activities as well as creating more opportunities in job training and building entrepreneurship.

Applications are available in the high school and elementary offices.

The forms must be filled out and returned to the office by March 11, 2019. For more information contact Rodney Stout at 842-5302.

March madness pinochle

CAMERON – The Cameron Community Club is sponsoring March Madness Pinochle at the Bear Creek Schoolhouse every Saturday

evening (6 p.m.) in March. Snacks provided. Everyone welcome. For information call Jan Smith at 682-4636.

Cottontail observatory program

TWIN BRIDGES – On March 9, at 7 p.m. the Cottontail Observatory will offer a Naked Eye Astronomy presentation, followed by a tour of the night sky and observing through telescopes (weather permitting). If

you have a telescope feel free to bring it. If you need help with setting it up, come early about 6 p.m. For more information, contact the observatory at (406) 843-7722 or visit the website at www.cottontailobservatory.org.

Livestock reports due March 1

HELENA – Montanans have just a few more weeks to report the livestock they own in order to pay the per capita fees set yearly by the Montana Board of Livestock.

Livestock reports are due March 1. Owners can report online at ReportYourLivestock.mt.gov.

Owners must report the number of each type of livestock they owned as of Febru-

ary 1.

If you reported last year, but no longer own livestock, you still need to report to let us know your livestock count is zero.

Owners preferring a paper reporting form can call (406) 444-6900 or get one at any Montana Department of Revenue field office.

Per capita payments are due May 31

Sheridan to go forward on well

Tolson Lane annex, quit claim deed, brewery expansion also discussed

JOHN D. TAYLOR
editor@madisoniannews.com

SHERIDAN – Sheridan's town council discussed several ongoing pieces of business at its Monday, February 11, regular meeting, according to Mayor Bob Stump.

New town well

At January's meeting, Stump expressed frustration with how the federal government's shutdown was impacting the town's efforts to solve its ongoing water source problems and get a new well drilled. That continued this month.

"The process is broken – not the people – it's the process that is the most frustrating," Stump said, describing how the town must wait 30 days for each step of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development (USDA RD) to approve the town's efforts to at least put the well drilling out for a bid, to get moving and complete the well. This was originally scheduled to begin in October, Stump said, but between USDA RD's onerous process of approvals and the federal shutdown, getting the bid out has been delayed.

"\$1 million of the \$1.4 million is an emergency grant," Stump said. "There should be some urgency when it's called an emergency grant, a scramble to get things done, and support for this."

But that has not been the case from the town's perspective.

For example, on Friday, February 8, Sheridan learned from USDA RD that it would not be permitted to seek a bid on drilling a new well without easements from the property owners whose ground the transmission line would cross.

Stump told USDA RD that without a well, the easements would be meaningless... but USDA RD insists on the easements first, a dog chasing its tail kind of deal, from the town's perspective.

Sheridan intends to send

out the bid anyhow – "at risk" – Stump said, to get things moving forward, and will use a somewhat longer alternative route across land that doesn't require easements, unless USDA RD totally nixes the effort.

"We wanted to have the well drilled to save people's lawns this summer," he said.

"Stay tuned," Stump said, noting that there were things going to happen.

Tolson Lane

The council also looked at what it would take to annex 6B Tolson Lane, a 5.27-acre parcel off Tolson Lane on the east edge of Sheridan purchased in 2018 by Todd Dahlman. Dahlman said he intended on building his own home on this land then subdivide the land into as many as seven residential lots. Dahlman came to the council in November to ask about the town annexing the land and including it in the town's sewer and water hookups.

At the February meeting, Stump said, the council discussed the five steps required to annex the property, including a petition from the landowner to be annexed, then a development plan created by the town council on what services it is willing to provide.

No decisions were made on this issue, merely discussion, Stump said.

Quit claim deed

The council also looked at resolving an issue of a 500-square-foot triangle of land in the alley between Washington and Montana Streets. The alley, as originally platted, was to go down the slope and about three-quarters of the way down, take a jog to the south, Stump said.

Over time, people, seeking the path of least resistance, cut off the jog and kept going straight.

About two years ago, Stump said, the parcel on which the jog south occurs was purchased, and the owner wanted to turn one lot into two, build on one and sell the other.

In researching the title to the land, it was discovered that a 1950s deed granted the 500 square foot triangle parcel to the town of Sheridan.

The buyers needed a clean title to the land to move forward with their plans, and approached the town about clearing up the title.

To resolve the confusion, the town fixed the alley with the jog in it, then because the town has no interest in this small parcel, Stump said, intends to sell it for \$1 to the property owners via a quit-claim deed.

Brewery expansion

The owners of Ruby Valley Brew are looking to expand their production facility and want to use their property behind what used to be Jensen's store to do so.

However, because that property has a Hamilton Street official address, and the brewery's federal alcohol production license is based on their 111 S. Main Street location, there's a problem.

In order to expand the production end of the business, they would need to apply for another federal alcohol production license – a major time- and resource-eating hassle. However, if the address could be changed to mirror the S. Main Street address, things would be hunky-dory, so long as the production end of the brewery was not open to the general public.

What the town was asked to do was to help out was combine the lots into single Main Street address.

"We're not close to a decision on this," Stump said, noting how following 9/11 the town changed some addresses to meet emergency responder uniform locations, and making such a change might impact this. Which part of the brewery do responders got to if there is a problem?

"We just started the conversation," Stump said.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Zane Miller

Zane Miller has been volunteering at Madison Valley Manor for over four decades, playing music, telling stories and reading books to the residents there. His years and years of service were enough to earn him MVM's "Volunteer of the Year" designation in 2018.

"Zane is a friend to all at the manor," writes Dr. Melody Clark, MVM's activity director. "He has been playing music at the manor for 41 years. Most importantly, Zane is a reliable, trusted and true friend to all the residents at the manor. They look forward to gathering together, and many sing along as he strums his guitar."

Miller, whose mother and grandmother were both residents at MVM, also worked there as a CAN and as a part of the activities staff. He has proven to be an integral part of not only the MVM family, but the greater community as well.

"He is an inspiration to many for his tireless efforts and dedication to making lives a little richer through his music and stories," says Clark.



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OPINION

First month of Montana legislature

By Rep. Ray Shaw

The first month of the 66th Montana legislative session is now in the books. The session began with a record number of bill draft requests. So far, less than half of the 3,500 initial requests have been utilized and we are faced with an average number of bills to process and deliberate on.

This session is fundamentally different than any of my previous terms because the House is operating under a substantially revised set of rules.

In the past an individual legislator had no real input into the composition of committees, bill scheduling and bill processing.

The new rules we enacted at the beginning of this session address these issues. Legislators can now move bills between committees, schedule bills and even reconstitute entire committees from the floor.

Under the former rules, these processes would have required a vote of at least 3/5ths of the members. Now these same processes only require a simple majority.

The old structure concentrated all of the power in the hands of a few. The new structure, which mirrors the Senate, returns power back to the body of the House. I supported these rule changes and I'm happy to report that they appear to be working very well.

In another departure from previous sessions, the House passed a funding bill for public education in just the second week.

In the past, this bill had been purposely delayed until late in the session in order to generate perceived leverage. The old strategy never worked and I'm happy that our schools can begin their budgeting cycles with a solid funding commitment from the state.

As many people already know, Medicaid Expansion has to be renewed this session or it will sunset on June 30th. In anticipation of this deadline, Representative Ed Buttrey, from Great Falls has been working for the previous two years on reforms to the original HELP Act.

Buttrey's proposal incorporates work requirements and requires hospitals to pay a portion of the state share. I supported Medicaid Expansion in 2015 and I'll support Buttrey's bill when he brings it to the floor.

Over the past decade there has been substantial infighting within the Montana Republican Party. To understand this rift, it is necessary to recognize that legislators get elected for many different purposes and from many different areas. Most genuinely want to address the concerns of their constituents with legislation that can pass and be enacted. Others seem to be satisfied by simply making noise with legislation that cannot pass. I have always been a member of the first tribe, believing that my constituents demand real answers – not simple sound bites.

In an attempt to further the progress of this mission, I have joined the Conservative Solutions Caucus. This caucus is a subset of elected Republican legislators that is working hard on real solutions for issues as disparate as healthcare, infrastructure, and public education.

I thank you for the opportunity to be your representative.

Editor:

The employees of the Madison Ranger district wish to thank our communities for their amazing support during the recent federal government shutdown.

As fellow neighbors, parents, citizens and partners stepped forward to offer us overwhelming shows of assistance and support, we were reminded of how lucky and thankful we are to be living in such giving, caring communities.

The support of businesses such as Madison Foods and community members are continual reminders of how special our community is and how much we enjoy being part of it.

It is great to be back to work; we look forward to serving our customers, seeing you around town and out in the forest!

Madison Ranger District

Resolving illegal roads on public lands

A bill introduced in the Montana Legislature in early February – SB 224 – would give county attorneys a strong tool to prevent public road closures by increasing the outdated fine for illegally gating established county roads.

Senate Bill 224, sponsored by Sen. Tom Jacobson, D-Great Falls, would increase the fine for an encroachment on a county road from the current \$10 per day to up to \$500 per day, with no minimum fine. Jacobson is bringing the bill to crack down on people who illegally block the ability of the public to get to national forests and other public lands by putting up encroachments on county roads that lead to those lands.

"For decades, this fine has been so low that it's simply no deterrent for people to gate off county roads and block off public lands," Jacobson said. "And when access to our public lands is blocked off, it turns that land into private playgrounds for the lawbreakers who are doing it and the public loses."

The bill is strongly supported by hunters, anglers, and other public land users who are tired of seeing illegal gates on public roads that lead to public lands. It has support from county attorneys and officials who are caught up in litigation when a road is gated off and becomes the focus of lawsuits.

Numerous county roads have been illegally gated throughout the state. A prime example is the Hughes Creek Road in Ravalli County. This road has been illegally closed to the public for more than three decades – even though courts have affirmed that it is a legal public road. The road leads to the Bitterroot National Forest and re-opening it would restore thousands of acres for public hunting, hiking and wildlife watching.

"Having a real, meaningful fine in state law for gating these public roads will give county attorneys a strong tool to get these roadblocks taken down quickly," said Erin Arnold, Senior Civil Deputy County Attorney for Gallatin County. "A lot of these cases could be prevented in the first place, or resolved quickly if the penalty is a real deterrent."

"The first step toward keeping public roads open to public use is having some real teeth in the fine," said Dave Chadwick, executive director of the Montana Wildlife Federation. "Senator Jacobson's bill will make people think twice before they put up barriers to the public's legal access to public lands for hunting, fishing, and other uses."

Montana Wildlife Federation

OBITUARIES

William Allen Hoffman

February 15, 2019

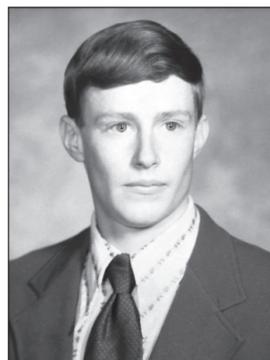
William "Bill" Allen Hoffman passed away in his home Friday morning after a courageous battle with cancer. He was surrounded by loving family and friends until the very end.

Bill was born in Helena MT to Robert "Bob" and Sara Jane Hoffman. He had 5 siblings, 3 older (Connie, Rob, Leslie) and 2 younger (David and Judy). His early years were spent on a ranch near Whitehall and in 1960 the family moved to a ranch in the Ruby Valley just south of Sheridan. There are countless stories of all the antics that came with family life on the ranch but it was an upbringing that was treasured by all.

In 1973 Bill graduated from Sheridan High school where he excelled both academically and athletically. Many close friends were made in his years in Sheridan Schools which would remain for the rest of his life. After attending Montana State for a time he transferred to the University of Montana where he pursued journalism. These were days often reminisced, in particular stories about driving golf balls from the roof of his fraternity.

After his time in Missoula Bill decided the Ruby Valley was calling so he moved back and began the construction of his unique log home in Laurin. Soon after his return, he met Becky Lynn Tovey and they were married in 1984. Together they raised 3 children; Henry, Lucy, and Luke. He was a great father who loved camping, fishing, hunting, foraging for asparagus and mushrooms, baseball and most anything outdoors. He was a great cook and also loved gardening as he possessed quite the green thumb.

Professionally, Bill was a craftsman. He spent many years working with his friends at JDL Construction and in later years worked on his own. When it came to working with wood, his creativ-



ity was unmatched. Everywhere you look in the Ruby Valley there is something that Bill worked on at one time or another. He was an artist.

Bill had a true love for life. He loved the little things and loved the people around him. In his last days he was able to meet his only grand child, Ophelia, who put a particular sparkle in his eye.

He is survived by his mother Sara Jane Hoffman; siblings Connie Jones Hoffman, Rob Hoffman, Leslie Morningstar, David (Jeri) Hoffman; children Henry Hoffman, Lucy (Dale) Roberts, Luke Hoffman; grand daughter Ophelia Roberts; nieces and nephews Shawn, Shannon(Scott), Brett, Anne(Jay), Madison, Sally, Makenzi, Joe, Ginny and many cherished friends.

Preceded in death by his father Robert Hoffman; sister Judy Hoffman; Aunt Francis Forgy, and brother in law John Morningstar.

The family would like to give a special Thank You to the folks at Compass Hospice, Dave Marsh, and the great friends who helped Bill in his last days.

There will be a memorial service/celebration of life potluck for Bill on Friday the 22nd at the Alder Community Center from 2-5 pm. Please come share your stories and memories of him.

Jerry Thomas Churchwell

February 3, 2018

Jerry Thomas Churchwell passed away on February 3, 2018.

Jerry was born on January 3, 1943 in Spokane Washington. His parents were Thomas Jefferson Churchwell and Margaret Pearl Petersen Churchwell. Chum, as he was affectionately called by his friends and family, grew up in Philipsburg, MT.

Jerry and his dad loved hunting and fishing. After graduating from Philipsburg, Jerry started his college endeavors at MSU.

Then the Vietnam War began. The same day Jerry went to enlist in the Navy, he was given his draft card. Jerry served four years as a First-Class Radar Man on the USS O'Brian DD-725.

Upon returning home to Philipsburg in 1969, he met the love of his life Lanelle Garoutte. They were married August 23, 1969. Shortly after they moved to Dillion, where Jerry completed his teaching degree.

The couple then moved to Malta where Jerry began his teaching career. He taught in Malta from 1970 - 1975.

His first daughter Lisa was born in 1971 and his second daughter, Shelley, in 1972.

In 1975, the family returned to Philipsburg and Jerry worked in the mining and logging industry. Eventually working for the Anaconda Copper Company.

However, teaching was his passion, and in 1977 he moved his family to Hayti, South Dakota where he taught for two years.

Wanting to be closer to family, they moved back to Montana, Jerry began teaching in Ennis. He taught calculus, trigonometry, physics, chemistry, biology, business, math, and

computer programming before retiring in 2010.

Jerry was a very kind, humble intelligent man. The thing he loved the most about teaching was working with kids. He wanted all of his students to reach their maximum potential and to be happy in their lives.

Not only did Jerry teach high school students, but on weekends many college kids sat around his kitchen table working on math and science. Numerous phone calls were also made to the Churchwell house and problems could also be solved over the phone.

In 1999, Jerry became a grandpa when Lisa and Mark had triplet girls. Amanda, Grace, and Alyssa quickly became his greatest joy.

Then in 2004, he became a grandpa again when Shelley and Rob had his grandson Tommy. His family was complete.

Jerry always said the best times in his life were when his girls were little and when his grandkids were born. He loved his family very much and was always there for them with a listening ear, a hug, and good sound advice.

He will be missed by both the many people who knew him and his family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, in-laws, and numerous aunts and uncles. Jerry is survived by his wife Lanelle; his daughters Lisa (Mark) Kimmey, Shelley (Rob) Sturtz; his grandchildren, Amanda, Grace, and Alyssa Kimmey and Tommy Sturtz, and several nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service was held Saturday, February 16.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Madison Valley Public Library in Ennis.



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Planning board making way for new leadership

Replacing planning director proving challenging

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

MADISON COUNTY—Three major positions in the Madison County planning office have been in flux lately, and the person who will sit in the driver's seat after the current planning director retires is still a question mark.

Charity Fechter, the current planning director, will be retiring in March after nearly a decade with the planning office. And while county government has been trying to fill the post, the search has so far been unsuccessful.

Fortunately, there are some options for how to proceed without leaving the planning office rudderless.

"No decisions were made at the most recent meeting," says Fechter. "We're having to kind of punt. They'll continue advertising for planning director and could promote from within."

With a staff of fewer than five people—aside from the planning board, which serves a separate purpose—even promoting one of the other members of the planning office would leave a space to be filled in the future. Fechter hopes to help equip the planning office with the staff it needs before her last day on March 15 to keep the transition as smooth as possible.

Aside from promoting from within, Fechter says the office could also hire an interim planning director while maintaining the current staff, appoint an acting director while still advertising for a new one or contract with someone external until a new planning director can be found. There's an entire spectrum of options.

"It goes from maintaining the status quo to any one of those things," she says. "If we know which way to go, we'll be able to plan for it before I leave."

Just as preparations to replace Fechter are getting underway, there have also been several recent changes to the planning board, which serves as the voice of Madison County's citizens, carrying their concerns back to the planning office and making recommendations to the county commissioners when enforcing development and growth policies.

However, the state of Montana has strict ex parte communication rules: rules that require members of bodies like the planning board to report any outside communication with constituents that could constitute a conflict of interest in a given situation.

Certain things are irrelevant to ex parte communication rules, such as things like growth policies which apply universally to everyone. But in cases like specific subdivisions, those rules create an attempt to keep planning board members from being influenced by individual stakeholders.

"You don't want them to be unduly influenced," says Fechter. "It isn't that you can't have ex parte communication; you just have to report it. There's an appearance there that you're trying to avoid."

Those ex parte communication rules were one reason cited by board president John Fountain for his resignation from the planning board at a recent meeting in January. Fountain was the only member of the planning board who is a resident of Big Sky, leaving him the daunting task of balancing ex parte communication rules with the interests of Big Sky's residents.

Since Big Sky is frequently the subject of planning board deliberations, with specific growth and development plans that require extensive work by planning officers, Fountain's position is an important one. Fountain's term would have run through the end of this year.

Board member Darlene Tussing, who was previously the planning board's vice president, was appointed president after Fountain's departure, while Ethan Kunard was elected vice president. In addition, the board welcomed a new member in Tamara Millican-Wood.

Eileen Pearce and Richard Meehan had reached the end of their board terms and did not renew them, which leaves two openings plus an at-large position (that Fountain formerly filled) which Fechter said is generally reserved for someone from Big Sky to ensure that voices from the entirety of Madison County are represented on the planning board.

The Madison County planning board meets the last Monday of each month in the county administration building in Virginia City. Meetings are open to the public, and the vacancies on the board will be filled as the county receives applications.

BLM issues final reports on Rochester, East Bench watersheds

DILLON – The Bureau of Land Management's Dillon Field Office has issued its final reports on public lands within the Rochester and East Bench watersheds.

The Rochester watershed is mostly located in Madison County, and a small portion of southern Silver Bow County, Montana. The watershed covers approximately 32,600 acres of BLM-administered land in 23 grazing allotments. There are about 3,030 acres within the watershed that are un-allotted.

The East Bench watershed is also mostly located in Madison County, with a small portion in Beaverhead County, Montana. The watershed covers 32,905 acres of BLM-administered land in 17 grazing allotments. There are 6,974 acres

within the watershed that are un-allotted.

The two reports can be found online at the following websites:

- East Bench - <https://go.usa.gov/xEQFt>
- Rochester - <https://go.usa.gov/xEQMZ> ()

To receive a copy of the watershed assessment report, call the Dillon Field Office at (406) 683-8000, or email MT_Dillon_FO@blm.gov.

The field office welcomes public comments to help formulate alternatives and define issues for the environmental assessments. Public comments should be submitted by March 29. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your



comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request to withhold personal identifying information from public review, the field office cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

For more information, call the Dillon Field Office at (406) 683-8000.

Family Mardi Gras Party

SHERIDAN – Come on down y'all to a Mardi Gras Carnival Party for the community!

All are invited to celebrate on Friday, March 1st, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall on Poppleton Street (behind Christ Episcopal Church, 302 Main).

This will be a fun, carnival style event—kids' games, jambalaya, masks, surprises—all to celebrate with families the traditional day of feasting

and fun before the beginning of the season of Lent.

Revelers are invited to bring salads and breads to complement the jambalaya. Music by Steve Rose and others. A king's cake with surprises baked will be cut and served.

A donation basket will be provided for the music and food. As they say in New Orleans, "Let the good times roll!"

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MSU algae research could make biofuel production more economical

By Marshall Swearingen,
MSU News Service

BOZEMAN — In an effort to improve the feasibility of a renewable energy source, Montana State University researchers are exploring a potential breakthrough in producing biofuel from algae.

Backed by a \$3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, the research team — which includes scientists from University of Toledo and University of North Carolina — is in the early stages of a three-year project aimed at developing a biofuel process that could bypass a limitation that has long hampered the industry, according to Robin Gerlach, professor in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering in MSU's Norm Asbjornson College of Engineering.

"This could transform the algae biofuel industry," said Gerlach, one of the project's principal investigators.

Like soybeans, camelina and other crops, algae contain oily substances that can be extracted and refined into biodiesel, which differs from ethanol and other alcohol-based liquid fuels produced by fermentation. Typically, algae are cultivated in large water tanks where carbon dioxide is injected to stimulate the growth of the tiny, photosynthesizing organisms.

Interest in algae biofuel peaked during the 1970s energy shortages and has since ebbed and flowed in response to oil prices. But the costs associated with supplying the algae with supplemental carbon dioxide from sources such as coal-fired power plants have discouraged commercial production, according to Gerlach.

Now, the researchers think that a recently discovered strain



Like soybeans, camelina and other crops, algae contain oily substances that can be extracted and refined into biodiesel, which differs from ethanol and other alcohol-based liquid fuels produced by fermentation. (MSU)

of algae could be cultivated using only the ambient carbon dioxide of the atmosphere.

"We're really excited about this," said Brent Peyton, professor of chemical and biological engineering and director of MSU's Thermal Biology Institute. Together with Gerlach and others, Peyton has studied algae biofuels at MSU for more than a decade.

The algae, called SLA-04, was discovered by the project's University of Toledo researchers in an eastern Washington lake containing high levels of carbonate minerals similar to baking soda. In the lake's unique environment, these algae have been shown to metabolize ambient carbon dioxide very efficiently, Peyton said.

"In the past we've found some algae and tried them out (with making biofuel)," Peyton said. "Now we're using state-of-the-art tools to move the

technology forward. This is really quite advanced for a project on algae biofuel."

For instance, the team will sequence the algae's DNA and then use a process called metabolic mapping to identify which genes correspond with the algae's biochemical strategies under a variety of conditions.

"Ultimately, we want to optimize those strategies for biofuel production," said chemical and biological engineering professor Ross Carlson. For example, the results could be used to fine-tune the amount of carbonate mineral added to the cultivation tanks.

Using the metabolic models, Blake Wiedenheft, associate professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology in MSU's College of Letters and Science, will explore the use of the genome editing

technique called CRISPR for enhancing the algae's ability to produce the oils desired for biofuel.

"I feel fortunate to be part of such an accomplished research team," Wiedenheft said, adding that the project could also provide insights into algae biology because much remains unknown about the genome of the aquatic organisms.

Project member Matthew Fields, director of MSU's Center for Biofilm Engineering and professor of microbiology and immunology, said he has long been familiar with the economic headwinds facing the algae biofuel industry.

"If we can find a way that is more cost effective, we could have a big impact," he said. "This is a major societal challenge, and we're motivated to contribute to a solution."

MSU's portion of the funding is \$1.3 million.

Bullock, Daines have most favorable ratings in recent MSU/MTN post-election poll

By Carol Schmidt, MSU
News Service

BOZEMAN — A new post-election poll of Montana voters conducted jointly by Montana State University political scientists and the Montana Television Network finds that Montanans' political preferences straddle party lines, with Montana Gov. Steve Bullock, a Democrat, and Republican Senator Steve Daines receiving high levels of support from the state's registered voters.

Additionally, 54 percent of voters polled, including a majority of both Republican and Democratic voters, said they believe things are heading in the right direction in the state, said David Parker, professor in the Department of Political Science at MSU and director of both the post-election poll released today as well as a pre-election poll released prior to the election.

The questions were part of a post-election follow-up poll conducted by the organizations that was mailed the day after the Nov. 6 election and collected between Nov. 8 and Dec. 14. There were 1,424 respondents to the post-election poll. The poll's margin of error is plus or minus 2.6 percent. Earlier this week Parker released MSU/MTN post-election poll results about U.S. Senate and House races here and ballot initiatives here.

Two-term Governor Bullock received the highest approval ratings from Montana respondents with 60 percent of all voters strongly approving or approving of the job he is doing while 34 percent disapprove. Democrats gave him a 91 percent approval rating, while 59 percent of Republicans said they disapprove or strongly disapprove of Bullock. However, 72 percent of Independent voters favor the job he is doing.

Bullock is rumored to be considering a run for U.S. President in 2020, and Parker said his approval rating, which is considered high, should be an asset in those considerations.

Daines, a first-term senator who is up for re-election in 2020, had a 58 percent approval rating among all voters. Republicans approved of the job Daines is doing by a margin of 86 percent while 63 percent of Democrats said they disapproved or strongly disapproved of the job he is doing. Fifty-six percent of Independents said they approve of the job Daines is doing.

Parker said the numbers are likely related to Daines' keeping a relatively low public profile, selecting issues Montanans care about when he is in the media, and because there are no current campaigns attacking his work.

Ironically, Montanans gave Democratic Senator Jon Tester, who was recently re-elected in a difficult race against Republican challenger Matt Rosendale, and Republican President Donald Trump identical approval ratings of 53 percent. Trump made an unprecedented four visits to Montana to oppose Tester's re-election.

Tester's favorability largely split along party lines with 99 percent of Montana Democrats approving or strongly approving Tester and 80 percent of Republicans disapproving or strongly disapproving of him. However, a majority of Montana Independent voters, or 63 percent, approve of Tester. Parker said Independent voters were one of the key factors in Tester's re-election in November.

Tester's approval rating has risen several percentage points since before the November election when voters in a pre-election poll conducted by MSU/MTN indicated his approval rating was 48.9 percent.

Trump's approval rating in Montana is also split along party lines with 95 percent of Republicans approving or strongly approving the job he is doing and 97 percent of Democrats disapproving or strongly disapproving of the job he is doing running the country. Forty-four percent of Independent voters approve of the job Trump is doing and 54 percent of Independent voters disapprove of Trump.

Trump's Montana approval rating is down just slightly from

a pre-election poll conducted by MSU/MTN prior to the November election when 54.5 percent of Montana voters approved of the job he was doing.

Fifty percent of Montana voters said they approved of U.S. House Representative Greg Gianforte, who was recently re-elected.

More than half (54 percent) of Montanans felt the state is headed in the right direction while just 29 percent believe it is headed in the wrong directions. A majority of all political affiliations were optimistic with 64 percent of Democrats, 51 percent of Republicans and 53 percent of Independents expressing the opinion the state was headed in the right direction.

Montanans are nearly evenly split on their opinion of whether the country is heading in the right direction. Fifty percent said the country is heading in the right direction and 42 percent said it is headed in the wrong direction, with opinions generally split along party lines. Seventy-nine percent of Democrats think the country is headed in the wrong direction while 85 percent of Republicans are happy with how the country is doing.

The poll also asked voters about their opinions of several national issues, with several questions netting a strong response.

Montanans agree on the importance of protecting federal lands with 89 percent believing it is important. A majority of both Democrats (99 percent) and Republicans (81 percent) favored protection of federal lands.

A strong majority of 76 percent of Montanans believe states should be able to impose a work requirement for Medicaid.

Sixty-five percent of Montanans believe illegal immigration is a serious problem in the country. Republicans are particularly united with 96 percent believing it is a problem.

A couple of questions resulted in mixed opinions.

In general Montanans oppose the 2010 health care reform law with 48 percent opposing it. Democrats favor it by 75 percent and Republicans oppose it by a similar 79 percent. Independents are fairly evenly divided among favoring it (42 percent) and opposing (39 percent).

Forty-six percent of Montanans believe teachers should be able to carry guns in schools, largely split down party lines with 81 percent of Democrats disagreeing and 77 percent of Republicans agreeing.

Forty-nine percent of Montanans think the state should offer a publically funded, voluntary pre-school program, an issue supported by Bullock. Only 28 percent of voters disagree with the proposal. The results were similar for a question about whether the federal government should pursue policies designed to reduce income inequality in the U.S. Forty-eight percent of Montanans agreed while only 37 percent disagreed.

Montanans are fairly ambivalent about the 2017 tax law (46 percent approve while 38 percent disapprove). The opinion is split in equal measure at 83 percent for (Republicans) and against (Democrats).

Parker conducted both pre-election and post-election polls with fellow MSU political scientists Eric D. Raile, Sara Guenther and Elizabeth Shanahan. They mailed 10,400 questionnaires to registered Montana voters in mid-September. About 20 percent of those who received the questionnaire — 2,057 respondents — sent it back by Oct. 6, which is considered a very good response rate, Parker said. He added that the MSU political scientists opted for a mail-in poll because the response rate is historically better than polls conducted by phone.

The follow-up post-election poll was mailed the day after the November election and collected between Nov. 8 and Dec. 14. There were 1,424 respondents to the post-election poll. The poll's margin of error is plus or minus 2.6 percent.

For more information about the survey results, go to <http://helpslab.montana.edu/>.

BBB: Don't get 'reeled in' by online fishing company

BOISE, IDAHO — Better Business Bureau serving the Northwest and Pacific is warning consumers about an online fishing business that's earned an "F" rating for its poor business practices. BBB discovered a pattern of complaints alleging Reel Hook Fishing based in Auburn, Washington, took customers' money but never delivered the goods.

To date, the BBB has received 14 complaints and more than 700 inquiries on this company. Additional investigation by BBB shows the company is also doing business under the names, "Angler's Cast", "Target

Hunt Co", and "LOA Outdoors". All are online stores.

The complainants were generally contacted via social media and asked to 'help a local company' by purchasing a t-shirt; the customer was often promised free merchandise in return. After waiting months, customers claim the products never showed up. One complainant told BBB, "consumers should be informed that Reel Hook is stealing people's money."

Despite numerous written requests, Reel Hook Fishing ignored all attempts to resolve the complaints with BBB. And

while one consumer told investigators he wished he'd checked with BBB first, it serves as a good reminder to click with caution when purchasing online.

BBB advises consumers to do the following.

- Research first. Research businesses at bbb.org and check online review sites to see what customers have to say about the business.

- Avoid wire transfers. Always use credit cards when making online purchases; if merchandise does not show or arrives significantly different than expected, dispute charges.

- Verify site security. Use

secure websites when placing orders. Before entering personal information, review privacy policies and make sure that address bars contain "https."

- Read fine print. Understand the terms of sales before making purchases. Find out how much deliveries cost, what the customer support options are and how long warranties last.

Customers who experienced problems with the business are urged to file a complaint at bbb.org. For more information on BBB investigations, visit bbb.org and follow BBB on Facebook and Twitter.

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Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) personnel capturing an elk for brucellosis testing. FWP captured nearly 150 elk in nearby hunting districts to test the deer family members for brucellosis. All results came back negative. (FWP)

Elk and brucellosis

Surveillance operations completed near Dillon

BOZEMAN – As part of its multi-year Targeted Elk Brucellosis Surveillance Project, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks conducted elk capture operations in both the northern portion of the Tendoy Mountains southwest of Dillon and in the southern portion of the Bangtail Mountains northwest of Livingston.

In the Tendoy, 99 female elk were captured with the aid of a helicopter in hunt districts 302 and 328 between Interstate 15 and Horse Prairie Creek. All elk tested negative for brucellosis and 30 animals were outfitted with radio collars to track their movement for one year.

In the Bangtails, 49 female elk were captured in the southeast corner of hunt district 393 along Flesman and Willow Creeks. All elk tested negative for brucellosis and 15 animals were outfitted with radio collars to track their movement for one year. In addition, blood samples from 7 elk harvested during the shoulder season all tested negative for brucellosis.

The goal of these operations is to evaluate the presence and understand the movement of brucellosis in Montana's elk populations. The research will also help FWP understand the overlap between elk and livestock on the landscape. The Montana Department of Livestock administers a brucellosis designated surveillance area (DSA) for livestock and determines the boundary partially based on elk brucellosis testing results and movement data. Cattle and domestic bison producers that utilize ground within the DSA are subject to additional testing and identification requirements to protect

Montana's livestock industry. The Tendoy and Bangtails are currently outside of the DSA.

Brucellosis is a bacterial disease that infects cattle, bison and elk and can result in abortion or the birth of weak calves. The disease is primarily transmitted through contact with infected birth tissues and fluids.

Animals that test positive for brucellosis exposure do not necessarily carry or spread the disease, but at one time were exposed to brucellosis and have developed antibodies that can be measured with blood tests.

This project is a joint effort between the Montana Department of Livestock and FWP, with support from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

"Important on-the-ground work of this nature couldn't happen without these partnerships," said FWP's research wildlife biologist Dr. Kelly Proffitt.

The work and the partnerships are critical to getting the information necessary for brucellosis management.

"The Department of Livestock appreciates the partnership with FWP, and the information and knowledge gained through this collaboration," said the brucellosis program veterinarian with the Montana Department of Livestock, Dr. Eric Liska.

More information about brucellosis and the Targeted Elk Brucellosis Surveillance project can be found online at <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/diseasesAndResearch/healthPrograms/brucellosis/>.

For further information, please contact Jenny Jones at 868-2637 or jennyjones@mt.gov.

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Pet of the Week

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Ruby Valley pediatric access care expands

SHERIDAN – The Ruby Valley Medical Center is pleased to announce that Dayna Leavens- Thergesen, CPNP, a national board-certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner is seeing patients at the clinic two days a week now. Thergesen, who treats patients from birth to 21 years old, is available to see patients at the Ruby Valley Medical Clinic in Sheridan on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Thergesen has been seeing patients at the Clinic on Thursdays for 16 years, serving the Ruby Valley first at the Twin Bridges clinic and then in Sheridan.

"My one day a week at the Clinic has been overbooked for some time," says Thergesen. "There was clearly a need for more local pediatric care."

Thergesen also sees patients in Dillon two days a week and in Butte one day per week at the Southwest Montana Community Health Center Department of Pediatrics.

"Traveling to Dillon, over Homestake Pass, or to Bozeman with a sick child, especially with winter road conditions, adds another level of anxiety to a stressful situation for pediatric patients and families."

Thergesen and the Ruby Valley Medical Clinic hope to facilitate better care and reduced stress for parents by adding a day to the pediatric care schedule.

The timing for adding a day of pediatric care at the Clinic is fortuitous. February is the peak season for acute illnesses including Respi-

ratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and influenza. (RSV is a respiratory illness that affects the bronchioles of the lungs and produces symptoms such as wheezing and shortness of breath, along with increased risk of pneumonia.)

"We're seeing the typical seasonal increase in RSV and flu cases, which generally coincides with basketball tournament season," says Thergesen. She noted that there have been fewer flu cases this year and postulates that this might be due to a higher vaccination rate for the kids in Madison County. There is no vaccination for RSV. RSV cases generally run through April and flu runs through May.

Thergesen is pleased that she will be working closer to home one more day each week. She lives in Sheridan with her two daughters who are very active in FFA, 4H, Girl Scouts and sports. "I'm glad that I'll be more available to my own children, as well as the children of the Ruby Valley and Madison County with this schedule change," says Thergesen.

In addition to providing care for urgent and acute health issues such as RSV, flu, ear infections, strep throat, etc., Thergesen also sees patients for routine pediatric primary care including well-baby and well-child check-ups, vaccinations, pediatric behavioral concerns, ADHD assessment and management, asthma, allergies, depression, anxiety, diabetes, sports physicals and children with special health care needs.

Sports physicals are part of an



Dayna Leavens-Thergesen, CPNP

annual well-child check-up and forms can be completed after May 1st for the following school year. Children that are uninsured can also have access to these check-ups at the clinic and sports physical forms completed for a fee of \$25. (Forms are available at your child's school office.)

Thergesen also sees new mothers for lactation consulting. She has been helping new moms with Breast Feeding Best Beginnings and issues since her career with newborns began in the NICU at Community Medical Center in 1995. Thergesen is a board certified lactation consultant.

To schedule an appointment for your infant or child to see Thergesen at Ruby Valley Medical Clinic, please call (406) 842-5056.

U.S. Cattlemen's Association: Montana Takes on #TruthInLabeling

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Earlier this year, Montana state senator Albert Olszewski introduced SB 206, to bring back a modified version of Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) for beef and other meats sold in Montana. The bill would require a placard accompany any livestock or poultry products offered for sale in Montana that indicates it was either "Born, Raised, and Processed in the U.S.," "Processed Inside the U.S.," or "Processed Outside of the U.S.A."

Retailers who knowingly or purposely offer these products for sale without the placard could face a fine up to \$500 or six months in jail, de-

pending on the number of offenses.

In addition to reviving the COOL program, the bill would also prohibit the marketing, advertising, or labeling of cell-cultured edible products as livestock or poultry.

"The U.S. Cattlemen's Association remains a staunch advocate of Truth in Labeling," said USCA's Maggie Nutter of Sweetgrass. "Alternative proteins, including plant-based 'patties' and cell-cultured muscle tissue, should not be allowed to ride on the coattails of beef and take advantage of our overwhelmingly favorable rating among consumers. U.S. cattle producers have invested billions of dollars into the

Beef Checkoff Program to build beef's reputation with consumers and ensure it remains America's favorite protein."

"I am proud of Montana for putting this issue in the public eye," Nutter continued. "Consumers are hungry to learn more about their food; our industry's commitment to transparency creates greater consumer trust and credibility for our product. In addition to the consumer's right to know, there is also the rancher's right to tell. U.S. cattle producers should be able to proudly claim the origin of our beef."

A hearing for SB 206 took place February 12.

Madison County DISPATCH

February 10 - 16, 2019

February 10 - Medical Aid in 300 Blk Madison St., Sheridan; Medical Aid in 300 Blk Madison St., Sheridan; Accident in 300 Blk Madison St., Sheridan.

in 200 Blk W. 6th Ave., Twin Bridges; Accident on MT Hwy 41 S, MM 17, Twin Bridges; Welfare Check on S. Boulder Rd., Cardwell; Welfare Check on Ruby Rd., Sheridan.

February 11 - Medical Aid in 700 Blk S. Second St., Ennis; Accident on S. Edgar/E. Idaho, Virginia City; Medical Aid in 300 Blk Madison St., Sheridan; Welfare Check on S. Boulder Rd., Cardwell; Welfare Check in 200 Blk W. Hamilton St., Sheridan; Accident on US Hwy 287/MT Hwy 87, Cameron.

February 14 - Accident on MT Hwy 287, MM 17, Alder; Medical Aid in 100 Blk Bald Eagle Drive, McAllister; Suspicious Circumstances in 200 Blk Tobe Rd., Ennis; Missing Person in 300 Blk N. Bridge St., Twin Bridges; Accident in 2300 Blk MT Hwy 287, Alder; Warrant Service in 5200 Blk MT Hwy 41 N, Silver Star; Accident on Bald Eagle Dr., McAllister; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 36, Sheridan; Fire Call on Haypress Lake Trl., Ennis; Medical Aid in 100 Blk Tobe Lane, Ennis

February 12 - Accident on MT Hwy 87, MM 4, Cameron; Suspicious Circumstances in 200 Blk Charles Ave., Ennis; Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 16, Cameron; Warrant Service on Blackman St., Silver Star; Medical Aid in 100 Blk E. 2nd St., Twin Bridges; Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 41, MM 49, Twin Bridges; Medical Aid in 5000 Blk US Hwy 287, Ennis; Accident on MT Hwy 84, MM 2, Norris; Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 59, Norris; Suspicious Circumstances in 4900 Blk US Hwy 287 N, Ennis; Accident on MT Hwy 84, MM 2, Norris.

February 15 - Medical Aid in 300 Blk E. Hamilton, Sheridan; Accident in 300 Blk E. Main St., Ennis; Abandoned Vehicle on MT Hwy 287, MM 22, Alder; Abandoned Vehicle on MT Hwy 287/Varney Rd., Ennis; Traffic Complaint on US Hwy 287, MM 52, Ennis; Medical Aid in 100 Blk W. Main St., Ennis; Coroner Call in Ennis.

February 13 - Medical Aid in 300 E. Crofoot St., Sheridan; Medical Aid in 300 Blk E. Madison St., Sheridan; Welfare Check in 300 Blk E. Ennis St., Ennis; Medical Aid in 300 Blk E. Hamilton St., Sheridan; Medical Aid

February 16 - Welfare Check on MT Hwy 287, Ennis; Wildlife Complaint on Upper Ruby Rd., MM 1, Alder; Missing Person in 100 Blk Dry Boulder Lake Rd., Twin Bridges; Missing Person on Varney Rd. Ennis



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The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 80 Calls for Service from February 10 - 16, 2019.



Twin Bridges Science Fair winners (TAMMY DEMIEN)

Science Fair winners lauded in Twin

TWIN BRIDGES – Twin Bridges schools held their Science Fair recently. The following students and their projects won honors:

- Brooke Anderson - Yeast Heat
- Maisy Hutchinson - Cookie Uprising
- Aidan Manger - Detergent Power
- Kinsey Johnson - Squishy Circuits

- Allie Dale - An Investigation of Melting Rate of Ice in Different Liquids
- Ayla Janzen- Waste Not Want Not
- Emily LaYacona - Breaking Proteins
- Zeke Redfield - Invincible Thermite
- Ruby Waller - Got Honey?
- Callie Kaiser - Sibling Similarities

Congratulations students.

Sen. Jon Tester leads 28 Senators in demanding answers on Veterans Administration Community Care implementation

Senators take VA to task for lack of communication, transparency

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Ranking Member U.S. Senator Jon Tester is leading a demand for more transparency and information from the VA about its implementation of the bipartisan VA MISSION Act.

Tester led a group of 28 Senators in expressing their frustration with the VA's lack of communication about critical decisions on community care access standards that will help determine when a veteran is eligible for community care. In a letter to VA Secretary Robert Wilkie, the Senators wrote:

"At recent briefings, VA leadership officials have indi-

cated the Department now intends to designate all clinical services as making a veteran nearly-automatically eligible for community care. This will significantly increase the overall cost and amount of care VA will send to the community. Given that the administration opposes increasing overall federal spending, these increased costs for community care will likely come at the expense of VA's direct system of care. And that is something we cannot support."

The VA MISSION Act was written by Republicans and Democrats to overhaul and

streamline the VA's community care programs. Congress and the VA agreed the Secretary would designate three-to-five types of care, like laboratory tests, X-rays, or urgent care, as eligible for community care if that care was clinically necessary.

In December, Tester grilled Wilkie about this same issue and his concern that designating all clinical services as nearly-automatic for community care would be putting the VA down a path towards privatization. Tester also previously held the VA accountable for providing a smooth transition to the new Veterans Community Care Program for Montana veterans ahead of its expected launch date of June 2019.

Tester is joined by Senators Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii),

Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), Patty Murray (D-Wash.), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), Tina Smith (D-Minn.), Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Kamala Harris (D-Calif.), Jack Reed (R.I.), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Richard Durbin (D-Ill.), Robert Casey (D-Pa.), Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), Bernie Sanders (I-Ver.), Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Christopher Murphy (D-Conn.), Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Tim Kaine (D-Va.), Mark Warner (D-Va.), Tom Udall (D-N.M.), Edward Markey (D-Mass.), and Catherine Cortez Masto (D-N.M.).



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MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

Thursday



Mostly cloudy. High 15, low -9. Winds N 12 mph, 20 percent chance of precipitation.

Friday



Mostly sunny. High 22, low 4. Winds SW 5 mph, 0 percent chance of precipitation.

Saturday



Cloudy. High 26, low 5. Winds S 8 mph, 20 percent chance of precipitation.

Sunday



Cloudy. High 25, low 8. Winds SW 5 mph, 20 percent chance of precipitation.

Monday



Mostly cloudy. High 24, low 6. Winds SW 7 mph, 20 percent chance of precipitation.

Quote of the Week:

"It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light."

Aristotle



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Pink in Pony

Annual fundraiser is set for Saturday

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

PONY—Paula Wilson has been managing the Pony bar for 16 years, but has lived in Pony her entire life. This weekend, she'll be at the bar like most weekends, but she'll be accompanied by far more people than usual on a wintry Saturday.

On February 23, the Pony bar will host its annual Pink in Pony auction and benefit. For the past eight years, Wilson and bar owner Scott Lambert have hosted an auction and dinner with live music and dancing, all to benefit local women struggling with cancer diagnoses.

"It was all Scott's idea," says Wilson. He just likes to do something to give back to the community."

Over its history, Lambert thinks the event has raised over \$100,000. He did his research before the inaugural event to ensure the funds raised could have maximum local impact.

"He hunted and hunted for days to make sure the money stays within the state," Wilson says. "It goes to ladies who can't afford their mammograms or tests or whatnot." Last year, the money supported three Madison County women through the services of the Butte Wellness Center, helping them get treatments and procedures they otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford.

The biggest year, Wilson says, Pink in Pony raised nearly \$30,000 after a home in Harrison had been destroyed and a family displaced. That's when the community really came together to help their fellow residents. But even without a catalytic event like that, she says the event regularly brings in an incredible amount of money—especially considering the size of the community.

"On average we probably bring in \$12,000 to \$14,000 per year, she says. "The generosity of the people around here is just amazing."

Plus, where better to spend a cold winter night than at the local watering hole, enjoying food, dancing and fun with all your closest friends?

The 2019 Pink in Pony will kick off at 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 23 at the Pony Bar with a live auction. Dinner and music by Sam Platts and the Great Plainsmen will follow, as well as a "Rifle Raffle," which will give away a Henry Golden-boy .22 to one lucky winner.



The Pony Bar will host its annual "Pink in Pony" cancer awareness fundraiser on Saturday, February 23 beginning at 4 p.m. Over nearly a decade, the event has raised nearly \$100,000 to help local women get the cancer care they need. (R. COLYER)

WILD GAME

Pony author creates educational wildlife board game

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

PONY—Tom Elpel has written books about everything from foraging for mushrooms to masonry and the U.S. economy. But his latest project strays some from his usual outdoor education endeavors: a wildlife-based board game designed to teach young players about the interconnected nature of animals, people and the earth.

"I discovered that games can be a powerful tool to excite kids and adults to learn more about nature," Elpel explains. "Learning becomes fun and enticing. These games serve as a family friendly alternative to screen time, while providing a bridge to reconnect with the natural world."

Inspired by his son's excitement for card-based games like Pokemon, Elpel wondered to himself if it would be possible to get kids just as excited about animals and real-life natural strategy.

So, he created Wildlife Web, a strategy game that brings together fifty of Montana's unique wildlife species such as whitetail deer, black bears, mountain lions, turkey vultures and even rabbits.

Each animal has its own series of strengths, rated from 1 to 5 in each category. An elk, for example, has a size and strength rating of five, which protects it from every predator in the game except mountain lions, grizzly bears, wolverines and wolf packs. Whitetail deer, on the other hand, have a size rating of four and a strength rating of three, making them easier targets.

Elpel uses the example of the rabbit, which may seem to be an easily-defeated foe. However, since bunnies are so adept at hiding, players who have selected a predator such as a coyote must roll the dice just to see if their predator can detect the rabbit in the first place.

The object of the game? To be the last animal standing, and raise your hand while you're at it.

However, there are other circumstances involved than just the strengths assigned to each animal. Just as in the wild, there are natural phenomena to contend with, such as the building of houses in an animal's habitat, a wildfire or a large storm.

Animals can also help each other out in Wildlife Web, just as they do in real life. There are bonuses for whitetail deer, which listen to bird-calls in their area to detect danger, and for mountain lions, who are stealthy enough to swipe smaller animals without being detected—even if it isn't their turn to roll the dice!



Wildlife Web, a card game developed by Pony author Tom Elpel, offers players a chance to see how the many species of Montana interact with one another and with their surroundings. (T. ELPEL PHOTO)

<p>Mountain Lion (cougar) <i>Puma concolor</i> Suffocate: Mountain lions stalk silently behind cover, then leap on the back of their prey, biting the neck to suffocate the animal. Stealth: Avoid setting off alarm calls. Do not hunt another player's animals in daytime if their Pack includes any squirrels or Size 1 birds. Ghost: If any player leaves the table, swipe one of their herbivore mammals as food, even if it's not your turn, one time per game.</p>	<p>Whitetail Deer <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> Listen: Whitetails watch and listen for bird alarms. For each American robin on the table take an extra Forage card and add 2 points for defense. Applies only during daytime. Flag: A raised tail signals danger to the herd. Flip a coin if deer is being hunted. Tails up—evade a predator. Tails down—roll the dice against the predator and fight for life.</p>	<p>American Elk <i>Cervus canadensis</i> Roam: Adult elk are large enough to be safe from anything but mountain lion, grizzly bear, wolverine, wolf packs, and rarely coyote packs. Two wolves or two coyotes are required to attack. Front Kick: Elk strike with sharp hooves when forced to fight or defend their calves. Add 2 points for defense. Appetite: Take 2 Forage cards per turn.</p>
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which raised over \$13,000 in less than a month. Supporters purchased copies of the game, which, thanks to their support, should be created and delivered sometime this spring.

"People protect and care about things that are familiar to them," Elpel says. "Even in rural Montana, we are losing touch with nature. Our only hope is to get kids back into the real world."

Wildlife Web is Elpel's second board game, among nearly a dozen books and several instructional DVDs. He produced a plant identification card game companion to his

popular book, Shanley's Quest: A Botany Adventure.

And in the meantime, Elpel will be preparing for his next endeavor: retracing the Missouri River section of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in a dugout canoe he carved himself, the Belladonna Beaver. This summer and fall, he'll attempt to paddle over 2,000 miles of river from Three Forks to St. Louis, Missouri.

To learn more about Wildlife Web, donate or explore Elpel's other projects, visit HOPSPress.com.

New non-credit MSU course aims to refine critical, responsible thinking practices

BOZEMAN – Montana State University professor Kristen Intemann will lead a new four-week course called "Calling B.S.: How Do We Believe Responsibly?" which is open to all community members and MSU students. The course will run on Monday evenings from March 25 until April 15.

The course will address some of the issues society wrestles with, including climate change, vaccinations, voter fraud and nutritional claims. Through respectful discussion and dialogue, participants will learn to recognize when experts and evidence might be misleading and also train themselves to think more critically and responsibly.

The course is designed for people of all views and backgrounds. Participants will review contrasting positions while thinking critically, practice formulating their own views, express those views clearly and convincingly and listen respectfully to classmates' ideas.

The course is \$79 per person and \$29 for currently enrolled MSU students. To register or for more information, please visit <http://ato.montana.edu/enrich> and look for "Calling B.S."

Intemann is a professor of philosophy at MSU in the College of Letters and Science. She is also an adviser to the award-winning Ethicats team, where students learn to debate a variety of philosophical issues. She is the recent co-author of "The Fight Against Doubt," which examines the gap between scientists and the public.

MSU Professor Kristen Intemann



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HEALTH & WELLNESS



Cleo Wages and Toby Wilkins, new MVM Club 90 members (Submitted)

Madison Valley Manor "Club 90" welcomes two new members

ENNIS – Looking for some inspiration during the long cold days of winter?

Stop by the Madison Valley Manor and visit with one of the Club 90 members.

Club 90 is a growing group of manor 90 year olds celebrating life each day and inspiring others to do the same.

Cleo Wages survived an ava-

lanche to make it to the club this past December 26th and Toby Wilkins turned 90 on February 3rd of this year.

When asked Toby what her secret is to celebrating her 90th birthday she said "Just be happy".

Maxine, 92, said "That is right, it's a state of mind-don't complain, it doesn't change any-

thing".

Cleo and Toby are two active ladies enjoying family visits, arts and crafts, bingo, sing-a-longs, music, Friday night movies and more. They are in good company with the manor's Club 90 roster currently at a total of six members (the oldest member is 95) with two more joining soon.



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Mental health disorders common following even mild head injury

NIH study IDs risk factors for problems after concussion

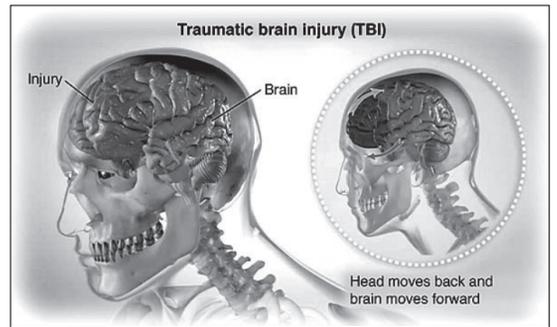
WASHINGTON, D.C. – A new study reveals that approximately 1 in 5 individuals may experience mental health symptoms up to six months after mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), suggesting the importance of follow-up care for these patients.

Scientists also identified factors that may increase the risk of developing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or major depressive disorder following mild mTBI or concussion through analysis of the Transforming Research and Clinical Knowledge in Traumatic Brain Injury (TRACK-TBI) study cohort. The study was supported by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), part of the National Institutes of Health. The findings were published in JAMA Psychiatry.

"Mental health disorders after concussion have been studied primarily in military populations, and not much is known about these outcomes in civilians," said Patrick Bellgowan, Ph.D., NINDS program director. "These results may help guide follow-up care and suggest that doctors may need to pay particular attention to the mental state of patients many months after injury."

In the study, Murray B. Stein, M.D., M.P.H., professor at the University of California San Diego, and his colleagues investigated mental health outcomes in 1,155 people who had experienced a mild TBI and were treated in the emergency department. At three, six, and 12 months after injury, study participants completed various questionnaires related to PTSD and major depressive disorder.

For a comparison group,



Contrary to common assumptions, even mild head injuries can cause long-term effects, with follow-up care after head injury, even for mild cases, crucial, especially for patients showing risk factors for PTSD or depression. (NIH)

the researchers also surveyed individuals who had experienced orthopedic traumatic injuries, such as broken legs, but did not have head injury.

The results showed that at three and six months following injury, people who had experienced mTBI were more likely than orthopedic trauma patients to report symptoms of PTSD and/or major depressive disorder.

For example, three months after injury, 20 percent of mTBI patients reported mental health symptoms compared to 8.7 percent of orthopedic trauma patients. At six months after injury, mental health symptoms were reported by 21.2 percent of people who had experienced head injury and 12.1 percent of orthopedic trauma patients.

Dr. Stein and his team also used the data to determine risk factors for PTSD and major depressive disorder after mTBI. The findings revealed that lower levels of education, self-identifying as African-American, and having a history of mental illness increased risk. In addition, if the head injury was caused by an assault or other violent attack, that increased the risk of developing PTSD, but not major depressive disorder.

However, risk of mental health symptoms was not associated with other injury-related occurrences such as duration of loss of consciousness or posttraumatic amnesia.

"Contrary to common assumptions, mild head injuries can cause long-term effects. These findings suggest that follow-up care after head injury, even for mild cases, is crucial, especially for patients showing risk factors for PTSD or depression," said Dr. Stein.

This study is part of the NIH-funded TRACK-TBI initiative, which is a large, long-term study of patients treated in the emergency department for mTBI. The goal of the study is to improve understanding of the effects of concussions by establishing a comprehensive database of clinical measures including brain images, blood samples, and outcome data for 3,000 individuals, which may help identify biomarkers of TBI, risk factors for various outcomes, and improve our abil-

ity to identify and prevent adverse outcomes of head injury. To date, more than 2,700 individuals have enrolled in TRACK-TBI.

A recent study coming out of TRACK-TBI suggested that many TBI patients were not receiving recommended follow-up care.

"TRACK-TBI is overturning many of our long-held beliefs around mTBI, particularly in what happens with patients after they leave the emergency department. We are seeing more evidence about the need to monitor these individuals for many months after their injury to help them achieve the best recovery possible," said Geoff Manley, M.D., professor at the University of California San Francisco, senior author of the current study and principal investigator of TRACK-TBI.

Future research studies will help identify mental health conditions, other than PTSD and major depressive disorder, that may arise following mTBI. In addition, more research is needed to understand the biological mechanisms that lead from mTBI to mental health problems and other adverse outcomes, such as neurological and cognitive difficulties.

The NINDS (<http://www.ninds.nih.gov>) is the nation's leading funder of research on the brain and nervous system. The mission of NINDS is to seek fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease.

About the National Institutes of Health (NIH): NIH, the nation's medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit www.nih.gov.

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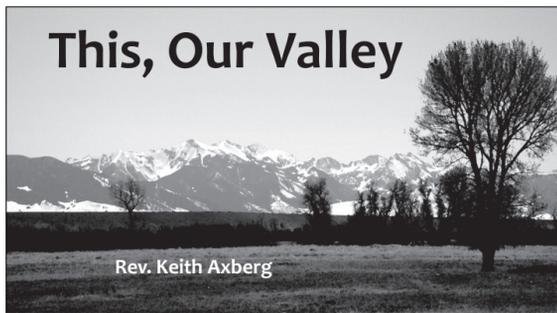
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COLUMNS



This, Our Valley



Rev. Keith Axberg

“What else could I do?
You could try again.”
John Steinbeck
East of Eden

It is embarrassing to admit it, but for the first time in about fifty years of driving, I got stuck in snow. I'd love to say it wasn't my fault (or better yet, blame it on my saintly wife), but no, it was my fault, my fault, my most grievous fault.

My wife (Barb) and I had gone up to Sedro Wooley to visit our

daughter and family, and despite her warning we should bring the pickup (due to the heavy snow on the ground) I decided to bring the car instead as it has all wheel drive, handles well in all weather conditions, and I wanted to gas it up for the weekend.

The roads were in excellent condition, thanks to the hard working men and women of the various state, county, and municipal road crews, so we made the ten-mile trip in our usual fifteen minutes. When we arrived, the

The fault lies not in our stars (but in snow)

roads in “Wooley” (the locals call it that) weren't in very good shape, but still quite passable. We arrived at our daughter's house and pulled into our usual parking spot which was, as expected, unplowed. The car came to a stop before I had applied the brake, so I knew I had miscalculated the depth of the heavy snow.

Unlike our Montana snow, which has a water ratio of about twelve inches of snow equivalent to about an inch of rain, our west coast Puget Sound snow was a much heavier three-to-one ratio. Oops.

I tried rocking the car, but the all-weather tires and all-wheel drive simply spun in place. I had miraculously converted our Suzuki into a Zamboni! The car was high centered on compact snow and I was, ironically, in hot water. Fortunately, we had

brought a snow shovel with us, so I got out and began to remove snow from all around the car and as far under as I could get. My daughter came out to help and between the two of us we made a lot of space in which to maneuver the car, but we couldn't get it off Mound Everest; we should have brought a flag to stick atop what was turning out to be the car's new home (at least until the spring thaw).

Fortunately, a kind soul had parked nearby to pick up his child from the school around the corner, saw our predicament, and offered his help. He was about the size and shape of an NFL lineman and, after a few moments of applying his strength (and traction boots) to the situation, I was able to gain enough momentum to come off the mound and back onto the hard-packed

(but smooth) road. We shoveled the rest of the parking spot (Mound Everest became a much flatter Madison Valley bench), and I parked the car as initially I had intended, and the crisis was finished off with hearty thanks, high fives, back slaps, and slowly subsiding heavy breathing (me).

Sometimes we get in over our heads without realizing that's what we're doing. We can see clearly what's on the surface, but we're often unaware of just what lies beneath. While the snow in the parking spot was only a few inches higher than the surrounding ice-packed road surface, that area is actually about six inches or so lower than the road that runs alongside it. Consequently, the moment I decided to park there, it was “Sayonara, baby.”

We all have days like that. We do the best we can, we miscalcu-

late or make a mistake, get stuck, and then have to find a way out. I was fortunate that I had a decent tool on hand (and no, I usually don't travel with a shovel in my car – that was serendipity). I was fortunate to have my own family at hand to help. I was blessed that a stranger had had mercy and lent us his strength. Despite several failed attempts to escape, we persevered; we did not give up; we prevailed and we overcame adversity. Thank God!

The moral is as old as life on earth: if at first you don't succeed, try, try again. After all, there's no business like snow business. And that's how icy [sic] it here in this, our valley.

Keith Axberg writes on matters concerning life and faith. He can be reached at kfaxberg@gmail.com.

Add value to calves, don't breed for the middle

By Billy Whitehurst

Despite the snow blowing sideways out the kitchen window, spring is on the horizon and will be here before we know it.

There is talk of spring bull sales, calving is in full swing for many folks, and planning for the spring works has begun. Part of that planning is determining what bulls to turn out this breeding season and for some, which cows to pair with those bulls.

There is no perfect bull in this world for all instances, even if you paid an exorbitant price for it. Bulls tend to be genetically predisposed to throw masculine or feminine traits and there are those that are bred to focus on the middle of the road. Margaret Thatcher once made the comment that if you stand in the middle of the road you get hit by traffic from both directions. Therein lies the dilemma when it comes to breeding and the type of calves you wind up with.

Over the last few years the price spread between heifer and steer calves has widened substantially. By breeding for the middle

we tend to take away maximizing growth traits in the steers and also maternal traits in the heifers in one way or another in an attempt to find that elusive perfect balance, which poses the question: Can we add value to these heifers, breed for stellar feedlot steers, and still have the type of heifer we want to retain for breeding?

Everybody likes different types of cattle when it comes to frame score, fleshing ability, and various other traits.

The vast majority of the data indicates that smaller cows tend to be more feed efficient, more fertile, and cost less to carry from year to year. This is a good thing in that lower inputs keep us more profitable in any market.

The downside (in some trains of thought) is that those type of genetics tend to result in smaller calves. This is not necessarily a bad thing, stay with me here. In many cases the smaller calves are still more profitable due to a higher per pound selling price and smaller cattle allow for increased stocking rates, thus increasing our total pounds sold per acre of land.

The goal in any cattle environment is to maximize profit per acre and not necessarily profit per cow. Many have tried to increase profits per cow by breeding for larger calves, but end up with larger cows as well that require more inputs to carry them. It only makes sense this would happen if you are keeping replacement stock from within the herd.

There are some solutions for this dilemma. I have seen two ranches meet this issue with success. Both ranches utilize terminal sires, one uses Charolais, the other uses Angus terminal sires.

The idea of using an Angus bull as a terminal sire may seem different but the reality is that within every breed there are bulls that have great calving and growth traits and excel as a terminal sire. This adds value to all calves in the herd when sale time comes. But what about replacements?

In one case, the ranch holds out the core cow herd that is desired to be the female seedstock and breeds to the bulls they wish to be herd sires. It is a genetic fact that half of those calves born from this

bull will be bull calves that won't have the growth traits as the terminal sired group. Bear in mind though, this smaller group of steer calves are generally going to be thrifty and feed efficient, making great calves to hold and put out on grass the following spring as they can be held through the winter at a very low cost (or sold to someone looking for lightweight calves for grass cattle); thus putting them into a different market niche, providing cash flow at alternate times of the year and entering the feedlots at times when the growthy calves of the fall are rotating out.

Following this breeding plan allows for the bulk of the herd to wean calves of high growth, while having a smaller group of lightweight steers to sell to a different market segment at a time of the year when they could draw a premium as well, and still maintain the type of heifer desired for breeding.

The second ranch uses a terminal sire to place on all cows two years and older while using AI to breed all replacement heifers with the herd sire they desire. Replacement heifers are only kept from



Billy Whitehurst is a former Madison County Extension agent, today a local rancher.

those calves born to first calf heifers. This allows for them to maintain a smaller-framed, efficient cow and still maximize calf growth due to the terminal sire bull.

It's easy to fall into a rut and continue to do the same thing year in and year out without a lot of thought given to what we are really doing. It's also hard to make

changes and go against conventional thought. I once heard someone say, “If you're thinking like everyone else, then you probably aren't thinking.” There's a lot of truth to that.

Agriculture is changing faster every day. Don't be afraid to think outside of the box.

COMMODITY INSITE: A hex on the Bard of Avon

BY JERRY WELCH

Down through history the one market that attracts the attention of the public is gold.

As a broker, brokerage house, a newsletter writer or anyone involved with investments if you wish to increase business and garner some headlines tout gold and how bullish it could be in the future. The public is in love with the gold market.

For example, a headline from Barron's this week says, “Gold's Surge Has Been Disguised by the Strong Dollar.” The article went on to state “... this bullish trend could continue. With expensive stock valuations, rising geopolitical tension, and an imbalance in supply and demand, gold could be an attractive investment choice for the decade ahead. And, for

the decades to come, holding some gold as ballast might not be a bad idea.”

Not long ago, Goldman Sachs turned bullish on gold with an upside target for this year of \$1,465 an ounce.

“Morgan Stanley (another banking powerhouse) may have little love for gold but the bank still sees some potential for the yellow metal as a tactical asset,” Kitco.com says. “In a rare trade investment recommendation, Lisa Shalett, head of wealth management resources at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, recommended that investors take profits in some of their equities and use it to build a 3 - 5 percent position in gold.”

But my thoughts from, “Haunted By Markets” are this: “When the time arrives

for a market to, ‘come into its own,’ there is no stopping it from moving higher in value. Gold and silver are perfect examples of markets finally coming into their own after languishing for years.”

In the same chapter with tongue-in-cheek and dripping with satire are these thoughts from David Weidner writing for MarketWatch.com, “Buy Gold. Buy gold. There's no risk. It never loses value. Except in 1915-20, 1941, 1947, 1951- 66, 1974-76, 1981, 1983 - 85 1987 - 2000 and 2008.”

“Buy gold. Your dollars are worthless,” Weidner continued. “You can't buy a flat-screen TV with them. You can't send your kids to college with them. Money can't buy you love or happiness, put food on your table, pay for a

trip to see the grandkids, put gas in your tank or pay the bills.”

“Buy gold. The Federal Reserve is printing money like Amazon prints books. Money is everywhere and it's worthless. Everyone is knee-deep in cash. Line your birdcages with it. Use it for toilet paper. The Fed will give you more.”

Very funny stuff and on the mark as well, especially the part where gold, “never loses value.”

When I look at the gold market and know full well that G-S and Morgan Stanley are touting the yellow metal, a few thoughts immediately pop onto my head:

• Gold prices bottomed last August around \$1,200 an ounce with values now at

\$1,330. Why didn't those two major banking powers hawk gold back then?

• The big story in the metal complex last year is the sharp rise with palladium values versus gold values. Last August, palladium prices were around \$850 an ounce. In the first week of this year, palladium hit nearly \$1,400 an ounce. Now, for the first time in history, palladium prices are trading more than the price of gold. Why didn't those two major banks hawk palladium back then because palladium has glistened far brighter than gold?

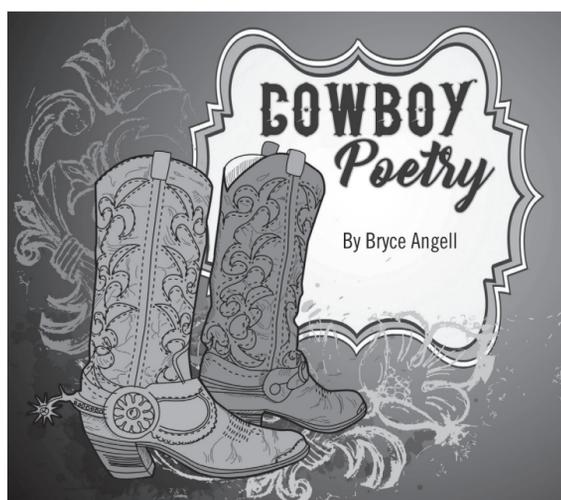
• The strength of palladium also hints loudly the same scenario may soon happen with platinum, silver and copper outperforming gold. With all due respect, those metals

appear cheap and poised to head higher in 2019. The only drawback is the fact the public is not in love with those metals as they are with gold.

In 2019, the metal complex should be a bull but not led upward by gold.

Of course, that forecast defies what William Shakespeare penned years ago, “All that glistens is not gold.” But I predict, in the New Year, a number of metal market will glisten far brighter than gold.

One final opinion: I say a hex on the Bard of Avon who believes gold has the brightest glisten! What does he know anyway? A hex on William Shakespeare, I say.



The Camp Cook

A camp cook isn't just a cook. His job has many tasks. The cowboys all depend on him. His face has many masks.

He'll wake you up at 5:00 am to eat fried eggs and ham, then toss you two hot biscuits with some butter and some jam.

He'll holler, “We ain't got all day. Let's move on up the trail; unless you think you're special or a feelin' mighty frail.”

The camp cook has a sewing box. He'll mend a torn up shirt. He carries rolled up bandages to fix a cowboy's hurt.

I've seen the cook set broken legs with ties and wooden splints. He doesn't seem to mind their pain. I've never seen him wince.

The camp cook listens to a cowboy's daily sad complaint, then tells him what a lonesome picture he has tried to paint.

Each cowboy gives the cook respect. His name they won't defile. ‘Cuz no one likes their food messed with. He'd spoil it, then he'd smile.

At night he'll tell the cowboys how each one's a knucklehead. Yet, he'll check the young men's sleeping bags to see they're safe in bed.

And when the men are all asleep the cook will reminisce. He'll think about when he was young. Those days he sure does miss.

He'll dream about the girl he loved. His life was not for her. A cowboy she could never love. Her life was jewels and fur.

His mind goes back to fixing food. Those cowboys sure can eat. For breakfast, maybe just this time, he'll fix a little treat.

He'll climb back in the wagon and his eyes will start to droop. But first he'll thank the Good Lord that he's still part of this group.

COMICS & PUZZLES

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Beavers' structure
- 4 Second letter
- 8 Wild and crazy
- 12 Indivisible
- 13 Mideast air-line
- 14 Sheltered
- 15 Gin, e.g.
- 17 Grad rags?
- 18 First murderer
- 19 Iron
- 20 Suitor
- 22 Paddock parent
- 24 Long-running Broadway musical
- 25 Pheasant or grouse
- 29 Fuss
- 30 Dental filling
- 31 Ultramodern (Pref.)
- 32 Backyard attraction
- 34 Somewhere out there
- 35 Feedbag fodder
- 36 Surprise big-time
- 37 Engine
- 40 Unwanted email
- 41 On in years
- 42 Morning garb
- 46 Entreaty
- 47 "Super-food"

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- berry
- Grecian vessel
- Transmit
- Group of cattle
- Despondent
- 1 "What's up, —?"
- 2 Literary collection
- 3 16th-century cartographer
- 4 Start
- 5 Verve
- 6 Highland hat
- 7 Brewery prod-
- uct
- 8 Capital of Croatia
- 9 Shaving cream additive
- 10 Information
- 11 Longings
- 16 Speaker's spot
- 19 Quarry
- 20 Wound cover
- 21 Gully
- 22 Soda shop orders
- 23 Asian nurse
- 25 Summertime pest
- 26 Notorious
- 27 Caboose's place
- 28 Collegian quarters
- 30 Construction piece
- 33 Gizmo
- 34 Winged
- 36 Garden intruder
- 37 3-Down's creations
- 38 Leering look
- 39 Adolescent
- 40 Luminary
- 42 "Humbug!"
- 43 Expert
- 44 Lingerie item
- 45 Conclusion

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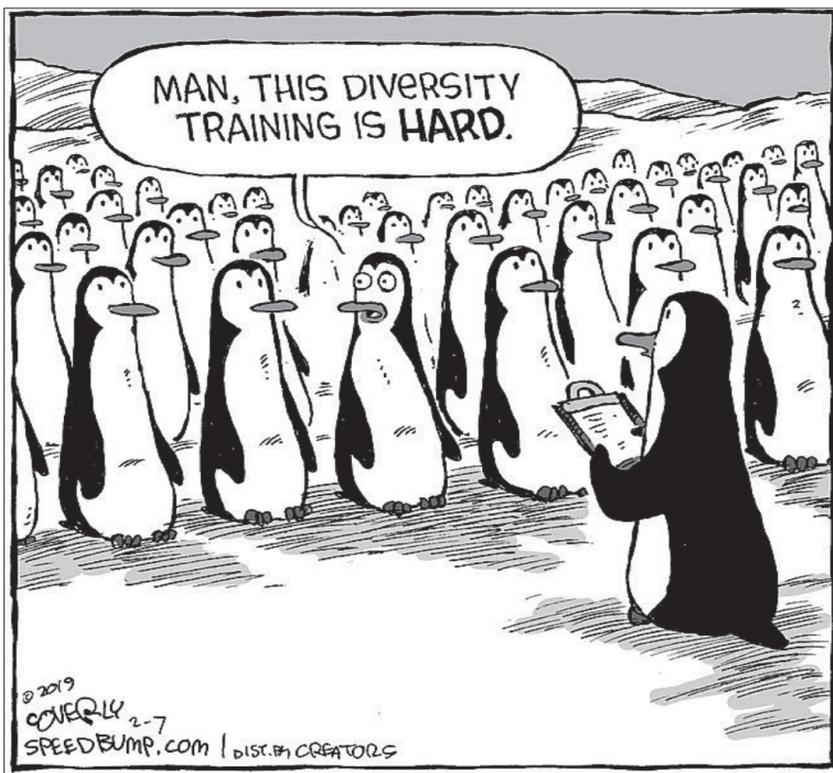
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All puzzle answers on B7

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Join our TEAM! Competitive
Pay Government Retirement
Benefits including health insur-
ance, vacation/sick leave, paid
holidays, life insurance Please
contact Jayne Forsythe at 682-
7271 for more information or
the online employment page
at www.madisoncountymt.gov
EOE

Dietary Aide/Cook - Part-time

This is a great opportunity to
work in a personal healthcare
setting. If you are interested
in a rewarding career, Madi-
son Valley Manor is the place.
Join our TEAM! Competitive
Pay Government Retirement
Benefits including health insur-
ance, vacation/sick leave, paid
holidays, life insurance Please
contact Jayne Forsythe at 682-
7271 for more information or
the online employment page
at www.madisoncountymt.gov
EOE

Ennis Schools is immediately
seeking applicants for a
custodian This position will be
40hrs/week Monday-Friday.
Shift will start at 3p.m and
end at 11pm. Summer hours
will be 7am-5pm. Starting pay
\$12.25/hr. Full benefit package
including up to \$700/month for
health insurance. The successful
candidate will be subject to a
state and federal background
check. If interested please
contact Superintendent Casey
Klasna at 682-4258.

Meadowlark Electric is hiring an
apprentice position. Must be able
to work 40 hour work weeks.
Pay D.O.E.
Contact Chris at 406-570-0884

Place Your Classified
682-7755

Home Park has openings for full
and part time employment. This
very challenging but rewarding
opportunity requires you to be a
part of a close team of caregivers
who make it a priority to take
care of the people who helped
build our communities. These
positions REQUIRE weekend
and evening commitments from
applicants; please understand
that we are staffed 24/7/365.
Working at Home Park assisted
living is a great way to go
home knowing that you made a
positive and personal impact in
someone's life. Apply with Home
Park Assisted Living and help
create smiles PAY D.O.E Please
contact Home Park Assisted
Living for an application or call
Jason at 406-842-513 for more
information

FOR RENT

20 x 30 Shop space and 12 x 40
RV Storage. Call 581-7687 for
information.

For Rent - Lone Elk Mall: Retail/
office unit, 2000 sq ft, \$700/
month plus utilities and mainte-
nance dues. 640-1351.
47-tfc-b

PETERSON'S DISCOUNT
STORAGE
Indoor & Outdoor RV/Boat
storage, storage units. Ennis,
581-9254

3 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to
Ennis Schools.
\$1000 + utilities per month,
wood + electric heat.
No smoking, no pets. Call 406-
682-7153

**BARKER VILLAGE
APARTMENTS:**
1 bedroom unfurnished apart-
ments available in Ennis. A/C,
washer/dryer equipped, private
location. 1 year lease, \$650 per
month plus security deposit, uti-
lities included, non-smoking, no
dogs. Call Erich Vogeli, Manager
at 406-682-5737.
15-tfc

Place Your Classified
682-7755

**BARKER VILLAGE
APARTMENTS:**
1 bedroom furnished apart-
ments available in Ennis. A/C,
washer/dryer equipped, private
location. 4 month lease, \$700
per month plus security depos-
it, utilities included, non-smok-
ing, no dogs. Call Erich Vogeli,
Manager at 406-682-5737.
15-tfc

Open private room for rent at
Home Park Assisted Living in
Sheridan. Immediate move
in upon approval. Home Park
provides: Medication manage-
ment, walk-in tub and shower.
housekeeping and laundry
services, 24 hour staffing, three
home cooked meals and snacks a
day, scheduled transportation to
local appointments, and service
with a smile. Our mission is to
help care for aging members of
our community by having a place
that can call home where they are
treated like family. Please contact
Jason at Home Park Assisted Liv-
ing (406-842-5133) to schedule
an appointment.

MADISON MANAGEMENT
Vacation and Long Term Rentals
570-5401
www.madisonmanagement.com
22-tfc

Small house in Pony-partial-
ly furnished. Loft sleeping.
Kitchen. Shower. Washer/Dryer.
No smoking, no pets. \$425 per
month + utilities. \$300 deposit.
Available early
Feb. 406-685-3530.

RANCH HOUSE FOR RENT
2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs,
Washer/dryer, 2 bedrooms, 1
bath downstairs. 1 mile from
Sheridan. \$900.00 per month +
utilities. Small pet negotiable.
References required.
406-842-5116

SERVICES

Madison Valley
Caring & Sharing
Hours:
Mon. Noon-2:00 p.m.
Sat. 9-11:00 a.m.
Wed. 5-7 p.m.
Lone Elk Mall, Unit 4.
Ennis. 682-7844
30-tfc-b

**Chimney & Vent
CLEANING**

Gary Kinney OR send a text
702-5372 596-7003

**WINDOW
SCREEN REPAIR**

**Expert
Tree Care**

406-683-5592
406-865-0000
60' Lift Truck
ISA Correct tree and shrub
pruning and tree removal.

MOVING SALE

CLOSING SALE
Mountain View TV closing the
electronic store, everything
must go, 50% or more off
merchandise. Mountain View TV
& Satellite still open for satellite
and TV service.
Mountain View TV, 6 Sunrise
Loop, 682-7858

MOVING SALE
2 upright freezers, entertainment
center, Husqvarna 18HP riding
lawnmower + odds and ends.
Call for list of additional items -
843-5223

Place Your Classified
682-7755

FOR SALE

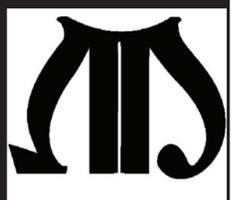
Bred Nigerian dwarf dairy goats
(registered) Sr Does, Jr Does, 1st
fresheners and newborn kids.
Birthing starts mid-April. Call
Fasching Farms (Ennis): 406-
600-1076 / 406-570-7278. Photos:
www.faschingfarm.com

Grass hay - small square bales.
No rain. Approximately 9 - 10
tons. Prefer you haul. Call for
details: 406-685-3395

Place Your Classified
682-7755

BOARD VAC.

NOTICE OF BOARD
VACANCIES
The Madison County Board of
Commissioners has one vacancy
on the Library Board; one
vacancy on the Harrison Rural
Fire District Board; one vacancy
on the Compensation Board; one
vacancy on the Housing Advisory
Board; one vacancy on the
Twin Bridges Mosquito District
Board; two vacancies on the
Planning Board, one representing
the Town of Sheridan and one
representing the Twin Bridges
Area; two vacancies on the
Public Health Board, one as a
school representative and one
representing the Twin Bridges
and Harrison/Pony/Norris Area;
one vacancy on the Tax Appeal
Board and one vacancy for a
Substitute Member on the Tax
Appeal Board; one vacancy
on the Weed Board; and one
vacancy on the Madison Valley
Cemetery District Board. If you
are interested in filling any of
these vacancies, please contact
the Commissioners' Office at
406-843-4277, or by email at
madco@madisoncountymt.gov.
PDF application forms can be
found on the county website at
[https://madisoncountymt.gov/
DocumentCenter/View/833](https://madisoncountymt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/833)
Please return completed
applications to: Madison County
Commissioners' Office P.O. Box
278 Virginia City, MT 59755



Looking for a
job?
Looking for a
place to live?
Looking for a
freezer?

We can help!

Looking to
hire someone
locally?
Need to rent
your house out
for the winter?
Want to unload
your old
freezer?

We can help!

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www.madisoniannews.com/classified

P.O. Box 365 • Ennis, Mt
406-682-7755



Place Your Classified
682-7755

**Student
of the
Week**

Kurt Funston is a junior at Ennis
High School and was chosen by
the Ennis High School Student
Council as our student of the month.
He is an all around student who excels
academically as well as in athletics.
Kurt was awarded with the MHS
Stockman's Bank Sportsmanship
award this winter at a home basketball
game. He is a letter earner as well
as a starter on the 2018-19 Mustang
basketball team. Kurt is consistently on the Ennis High School honor roll and is
a member of National Honor Society. He also has near perfect attendance with
a near perfect GPA. Mrs. Legg states, "Kurt is a dedicated gifted math student.
Excels in Precalculus and Statistics. He is a deep thinker and always a pleasure
to have in class."

We are proud of **YOU!**

**First
Interstate Bank**
Member FDIC.

Congratulations!



**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;
 - Dietary Aide/Cook Part-time;
- Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center, Sheridan, MT
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time;
 - Dietary Kitchen Aide-Part-time;
 - Director of Nursing-Full-time;
- Madison County, MT
- Custodian-Part-time;
 - Deputy Clerk of District Court-Part-time;
 - Planning Director-Full-time;
 - Tobacco Prevention Specialist-Full-time

(Temporary-Grant Funded Position through June 30, 2019).

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
- Optional dental & life insurance benefits

Additional employee benefit information is available online at <https://madisoncountymt.gov/JoinOurTeam/>

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.

View Classifieds online visit www.madisoniannews.com/classifieds

P.O. Box 365 • Ennis, Mt
406-682-7755



STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Ad #035

Real Estate– Northwest Montana – Company owned. Small and large acre parcels. Private. Trees and meadows. National Forest boundaries. Tungsten-holdings.com (406) 293-3714

Ad #036

Turn Key rural grocery store/residence for sale in Central Montana. Motivated seller. Contact: keith@shobeaction-realty.com (406) 899-5600.

Ad #037

Authentic Timber Framed Barns. Residential and Commercial Timber Packages. Full Service Design - Build Since 1990, (406) 581-3014 brett@bitterrootgroup.com, www.bitterroottimberframes.com

Ad # 038

PRIVATE TREATY HEREFORD BULLS. MC brand MCMURRY CATTLE BILLING. WEBSITE: mcmurrycattle.com REASONABLY PRICED. PROVEN BALANCED TRAIT GENETICS. Delivery available. HP (406) 254 1247. CELL. (406) 697 4040. Email mcmurrycattle@gmail.com

Ad #039

Help Wanted: Zerbe Brothers, a New Holland dealership in business for 69 years, is looking for a Diesel Technician. Perform diagnostics, repairs, maintenance on agricultural equipment.

Hydraulic and electrical system knowledge a must. Computer skills required. Willingness to maintain and update knowledge of product updates. Minimum 1-year experience. Benefit package. Contact Galen in Glasgow, MT (406) 228-4311.

Ad #040

Weekly newspaper seeking FT Assistant Editor, entry level, benefits, salary DOE. Billings, MT. Send cover letter, resume, and writing samples to editor@westernreporter.com. (406) 259-4589.

Ad #041

Madison County, Virginia City, MT is recruiting for a Full-time Planning Director, Information can be located at www.madisoncountymt.gov. Contact Human Resources (406) 843-4201. mahlstede@madisoncountymt.gov. EOE/ Position Open Until Filled

Ad # 042

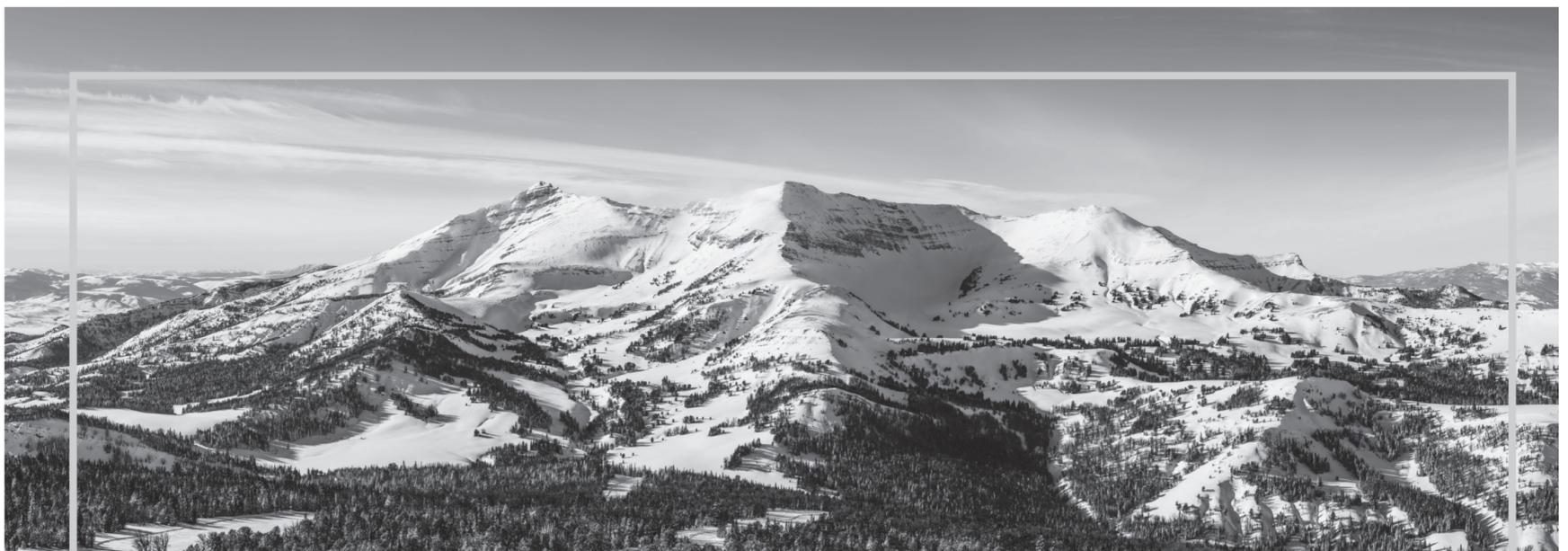
If you are reading this ad, you can see that classified advertising works! Reach over 400,000 readers in Montana and beyond to promote your product, service, event and business. To get results, contact this newspaper, or the Montana Newspaper Association at (406) 443-2850 or email stacy@mtnewspapers.com or member@mtnewspapers.com. 25 words for the small investment of \$149.

Looking for a job? For a new place to live?
For a treadmill?
WE CAN HELP!

Are you wanting to hire locally?
Are you hoping to unload some firewood?
WE CAN HELP!

Place a classified in The Madisonian.

Call 406-682-7755 or email info@madisoniannews.com and we can take it from there.



YELLOWSTONE CLUB
2018 - 2019 WINTER SEASON

- HIRING ALL POSITIONS -

Join Yellowstone Club for the largest season in YC History with the opening of the new Village Core!

Visit the hiring page, YC Careers at yellowstoneclub.com or visit <https://harri.com/yellowstoneclubcareers>



YELLOWSTONE CLUB

PUBLIC NOTICES FEBRUARY 21, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROSALYN I. MASON, Deceased.

Cause No.: DP-29-2018-34 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to PHILIP E. MASON, Personal Representative, c/o Krueer Law Firm, P.C., P.O. Box 718, Sheridan, MT 59749, return receipt requested or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. DATED this 30 day of JANUARY, 2019. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/S/ STEPHANIE GEHRES KRUER Attorney for Personal Representative (Pub. Feb. 7, 14, 21, 2019)
Stephanie Krueer Law Firm
MNAFLP

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF K.Q., YOUTH IN NEED OF CARE.

Cause No. DN-29-2018-3 To: KYLE SCHULTZ, BIRTH FATHER OF K.Q., ADDRESS UNKNOWN

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the above-entitled Court by the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Child and Family Services Division (the Department), 2 South Pacific Street, Dillon, MT 59725, requesting emergency protective services, adjudication as a youth in need of care and temporary legal custody by granted; that the Department be granted temporary legal custody; and that said youth be otherwise cared for.

NOW, THEREFORE, YOU ARE HEREBY DIRECTED to appear on the 4th day of March, 2019 at 1:30 o'clock p.m. at the Courtroom of Madison County District Court at the Courthouse, 100 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison County, Montana, then and there show cause, if any you may have, why said youth should not be declared a Youth in Need of Care, and why the Department should not be granted Temporary Legal Custody. The youth was born on the 31st day of May, 2007.

K.Q.'s birth mother is Shaleen Quilici. You have the right to be represented by an attorney in these proceedings. If you are unable to afford an attorney, the Court will appoint an attorney to represent you. Failure to appear at the hearing will constitute a denial of interest in the child, which denial may result in, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceeding, a judgement by default being entered for the relief requested in the Petition.

A copy of the Petition hereinbefore referred to is filed with the Clerk of District Court of Madison County (406-842-4230).

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 22nd day of January, 2019.

/s/ Karen J. Miller
Clerk of District Court
(Pub. Feb. 7, 14, 21, 2019)
Madison County Attorney
MNAFLP

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF B.Q.M., YOUTH IN NEED OF CARE.

Cause No. DN-29-2018-4

To: ERNIE MIZE, BIRTH FATHER OF B.Q.M., ADDRESS UNKNOWN

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the above-entitled Court by the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Child and Family Services Division (the Department), 2 South Pacific Street, Dillon, MT 59725, requesting emergency protective services, adjudication as a youth in need of care and temporary legal custody by granted; that the Department be granted temporary legal custody; and that said youth be otherwise cared for. NOW, THEREFORE, YOU ARE HEREBY DIRECTED to appear on the 4th day of March, 2019 at 1:30 o'clock p.m. at the Courtroom of Madison County District Court at the Courthouse, 100 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison County, Montana, then and there show cause, if any you may have, why said youth should not be declared a Youth in Need of Care, and why the Department should not be granted Temporary Legal Custody. The youth was born on the 7th day of May, 2011.

K.Q.'s birth mother is Shaleen Quilici. You have the right to be represented by an attorney in these proceedings. If you are unable to afford an attorney, the Court will appoint an attorney to represent you. Failure to appear at the hearing will constitute a denial of interest in the child, which denial may result in, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceeding, a judgement by default being entered for the relief requested in the Petition.

A copy of the Petition hereinbefore referred to is filed with the Clerk of District Court of Madison County (406-842-4230).

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 22nd day of January, 2019. /s/ Karen J. Miller Clerk of District Court (Pub. Feb. 7, 14, 21, 2019)
Madison County Attorney
MNAFLP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN RE THE ESTATE OF KENNETH J. KELLY, Deceased. Probate No. DP-29-2018-9 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named Estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first

publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be mailed to Ronald Berry, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, in care of Jason A. Williams, Esq., Datsopoulos, MacDonald & Lind, P.C., 201 W. Main St., Suite 201, Missoula, Montana, 59802, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. DATED this 7th day of February, 2019. (Pub. Feb. 14, 21, 28, 2019)
Dastopoulos, MacDonald and Lind
MNAFLP

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO PROTEST TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF MONTANA ALL-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE

Madisoncurents, LLC (members: Janura-Anderson Revocable Trust, Jan A. Janura, Carol M. Anderson) has applied to transfer Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages License No. 25-729-4682-002 to be operated at Long Branch Saloon, 125 East Main Street, Ennis, Madison County. The public may protest this license transfer in accordance with the law. Who can protest this transfer? Protests will be accepted from residents of the county of the proposed location (Madison), residents of adjoining Montana counties (Beaverhead, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Gallatin), and residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in 16-4-207(4)(d), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), are met. What information must be included? Protest letters must be legible and contain (1) the protestor's full name, mailing address, and street address; (2) the license number (25-729-4682-002) and the applicant's name (Madisoncurents, LLC); (3) an indication that the letter is intended as a protest; (4) a description of the grounds for protesting; and (5) the protestor's signature. A letter with multiple signatures will be considered one protest letter. What are valid protest grounds? The protest may be based on the applicant's qualifications listed in 16-4-401, MCA, or the grounds for denial of an application in 16-4-405, MCA. Examples of valid protest grounds include: (1) the applicant is unlikely to operate the establishment in compliance with the law; (2) the proposed location cannot be properly policed by local authorities; and (3) the welfare of the people in the vicinity of the proposed location will be adversely and seriously affected. How are protests submitted? Protests must be postmarked to the Department of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604-5805 on or before March 4, 2019. What happens if the transfer is protested? Depending on the number of protests and the protest grounds, a public hearing will be held in Helena or Ennis. All valid protestors will be notified of the hearing's time, date and location. Hearings typically are scheduled within 90 days. A protestor's hearing testimony is limited to the grounds in the protestor's letter. Following the hearing, the Department of Revenue will notify the public whether the license transfer is approved or denied. How can additional information be obtained? The cited MCA statutes are online at leg.mt.gov/bills/mca.toc/. Questions may be directed to Jamie Williams, Compliance Specialist for the Department of Revenue's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, at (406) 444-0712 or jwilliams@mt.gov. (Pub. Feb. 14, 21, 2019)
MT Dept. of Revenue
MNAFLP

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE

To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on June 10, 2019, at 10:00 AM at the main entrance of 100 Wallace Street, Virginia City, MT 59755, the following described real property situated in Madison County, State of Montana: Lot 4A as shown and described on the Amended Plat of Lots 4 and 5, Block 3 of Armitage's Deer Meadow Addition to the Town of Ennis, as said Plat is filed in Plat Book 2, Page 142, records of Madison County, Montana. More commonly known as 833 South 2nd Street, Ennis, MT 59729. Stephen H. Ellis, as Grantor, conveyed said real property to Montana Title and Escrow, Inc., as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Irwin Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, by Deed of Trust on May 1, 2006, and filed for record in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder in Madison County, State of Montana, on May 8, 2006 as Instrument No. 113142, of Official Records. The Deed of Trust was assigned for value as follows: Assignee: Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee for Residential Accredited Loans, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-QS10 Assignment Dated: August 21, 2013 Assignment Recorded: August 30, 2013 Assignment Recording Information: as Instrument No. 152358 All in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder for Madison County, Montana Benjamin J. Mann is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, State of Montana, on April 25, 2018 as Instrument No. 177580, of Official Records. The Beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to Grantor's failure to make monthly payments beginning July 1, 2016, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due on this obligation is the principal sum of \$316,562.38, interest in the sum of \$38,784.00, escrow advances of \$13,083.24, other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$3,664.17 for a total amount owing of \$372,093.79, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or advanced. The Beneficiary anticipates and may disburse such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Grantor. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to

the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's fees and attorney's fees, costs and expenses of the sale, and late charges, if any. Beneficiary has elected, and has directed the Trustee to sell the above described property to satisfy the obligation. The sale is a public sale and any person, including the Beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier's checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed, without any representation or warranty, including warranty of title, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale. The Grantor, successor in interest to the Grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property, has the right, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, to pay to the Beneficiary, or the successor in interest to the Beneficiary, the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Deed of Trust with Successor Trustee's and attorney's fees. In the event that all defaults are cured the foreclosure sale will be dismissed and the foreclosure sale will be canceled. The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to 15 days for any reason. In the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the Trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least every 30 days. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Successor Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Dated this 29th day of January, 2019. Benjamin J. Mann, Substitute Trustee 376 East 400 South, Suite 300, Salt Lake City, UT 84111 Telephone: 801-355-2886 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8AM-5PM (MST) File No. 52473 (Pub. Feb. 14, 21, 28, 2019)
Halliday, Watkins and Mann
MNAFLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Madison County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at 12:00 PM in the conference room at the Madison Valley Manor in Ennis to obtain public comments regarding a Preliminary Architectural Report and an application for funding to the Montana Department of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant Program to fund Phase 2 of the Manor renovation project. At the public hearing, representatives of SMA Architects and Great West Engineering will explain the proposed project, including the need and purpose, activities, budget, sources of funding, and any costs that may result for local citizens because of the project. All interested persons will be given the opportunity to ask questions and to express their opinions. Comments may be given orally at the hearing or submitted in writing by the end of the public hearing. Madison County will make reasonable accommodation for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this public hearing. Persons needing an accommodation must notify the Madison County Commissioners at (406) 843-4277 no later than February 22, 2019, to allow adequate time to make needed arrangements. You may also write to the Madison County Commissioners at P.O. Box 278 Virginia City, MT 59755-0278 or via email at madco@madisoncountymt.gov to make your request known. Madison County Commissioners Ronald E. Nye, Chair James P. Hart, Member Dan W. Allhands, Member (Pub. Feb. 14, 21, 2019)
MC Commissioners
MNAFLP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BARBARA JENNIE MCGOWAN, Deceased. DP - 29-2019-6 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to Cindy McGowan Martinson, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at McLean, Younkin & Willett, PLLC, 2066 Stadium Drive, Suite 101, Bozeman, Montana 59715, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. I declare under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct. DATED this 4th day of February, 2019. /s/ Cindy McGowan Martinson, Personal Representative of the Estate of Barbara Jennie McGowan (Pub. Feb. 14, 21, 28, 2019)
McLean, Younkin and Willett
MNAFLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

Virginia City will have a final reading of the new sign ordinance on March 7, 2019 at 7:00 pm. A draft of the ordinance will be available at the Town office. Questions or remarks may be e-mailed to townofvc@3rivers.net (Pub. Feb. 21, 28, 2019)
Town of Virginia City
MNAFLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of M&W Mining and Refining Inc.,

Comprehensive Bond Review for Operating Permit No. 00152 The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a comprehensive five-year reclamation bond review for M&W Milling and Refining, Inc. (M&W). M&W is authorized to operate a custom mill under Operating Permit No. 00152. The mill site is located on private land in Section 27, Township 6 South, Range 3 West in Madison County, located about one mile southwest of Virginia City, MT. DEQ currently holds a reclamation bond in the amount of \$175,015. DEQ is proposing to increase the bond amount by \$30,974 to \$205,989. The increase in the bond amount is mostly due to an increase in labor and equipment costs. The procedure for increasing bonds resulting from a comprehensive bond review is set forth in Section 82-4-338(3), MCA. The company and the public have until March 26, 2019 to comment on the proposed bond increase. DEQ will then issue a final bond determination. The company and any person with an interest that may be adversely affected by DEQ's final bond determination may obtain a contested case hearing before the Board of Environmental Review by filing with DEQ within 30 days of the issuance of the final bond determination a written request for a hearing stating the reason for the request. A copy of the bond calculation that forms the basis for the proposed bond increase can be obtained by contacting the Department of Environmental Quality, Hard Rock Mining Bureau, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, or by calling Herb Roloff at (406) 444-3841 or e-mail at hrolf@mt.gov. (Published Feb. 21, 28, Mar 7, 2019)
Dept. Environmental Quality
MNAFLP

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENT TO FORFEIT

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENT TO FORFEIT MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE - Notice is hereby given as required by Montana Code Annotated § 16-6-106 of the seizure and intent to forfeit and sell, destroy, or otherwise dispose of according to law, alcoholic beverages described below which were being kept contrary to the Montana Alcoholic Beverage Code, Montana Code Annotated, Title 16. The seized alcoholic beverages were served, sold from, and stored on an unlicensed premises in contravention of Montana Code Annotated § 16-3-301 and Administrative Rules of Montana 42.12.145 and 42.13.1102. The alcoholic beverages described below were seized by the Montana Department of Justice at 12 Warrens Way Unit 1-004, Big Sky, Montana 59716 on January 24, 2019. Hans Williamson and S & B Spirits, LLC were actually or apparently in possession or in control of the seized alcoholic beverages. Under the provisions of Montana Code Annotated § 16-6-106(3) and (4), any person who claims to have any right to the possession of the seized alcoholic beverages must file a claim with: Department of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604. If a personal notice is received, the claim and request for hearing in accordance with the Montana Administrative Procedure Act must be filed within 23 days from the date of the personal notice. If a personal notice is not received, the claim and a request for hearing in accordance with the Montana Administrative Procedure Act must be filed within 23 days from the publication of this notice. A filed claim shall identify the specific property being claimed, show the nature of the claim, and request an administrative hearing. The Montana Department of Revenue intends to request that its hearing examiner declare the seized alcoholic beverage contraband and order that the seized alcoholic beverage be forfeited to the State of Montana. If no claims are made or submitted timely, the seized alcoholic beverages will be declared contraband and forfeited to the State of Montana. DEADLINE TO FILE A CLAIM AND REQUEST A HEARING: March 18, 2019 Identification of Property The seized property consists of 1,850 bottles of liquor; 2,481 bottles of wine; 2,816 cans of beer; 17 kegs (16 gallon) of beer; and 14 kegs (5.16 gallon) of beer. A detailed inventory of seized property is available upon request. Please contact the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division at (406) 444-0711 or P.O. Box 1712 Helena, MT 59624. (Published Feb. 21, 2019)
Dept. of Revenue
MNAFLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to Water Users (Pursuant to Section 85-2-307, MCA) The following application has been submitted to change a water right in the State of Montana. THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION PROPOSES TO GRANT AN APPLICATION TO CHANGE A WATER RIGHT. DESCRIBED BELOW ARE THE PERTINENT FACTS WHICH SUMMARIZE THE APPLICATION. THE PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION (PD) DOCUMENTING THE FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ANY CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE WATER RIGHT ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/>. OBJECTION DEADLINE: MARCH 8, 2019. THE DEPARTMENT CAN ONLY ACCEPT OBJECTIONS FILED ON AN OBJECTION TO APPLICATION, FORM 611. MAIL THE COMPLETED FORM AND THE \$25.00 FILING FEE TO THE DNRC, PO BOX 201601, HELENA, MT 59620-1601 BY THE DEADLINE SPECIFIED. THE FORM IS AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE. DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE APPLICATION, TO OBTAIN THE PD OR OBJECTION FORM TO THE WATER RESOURCES OFFICE AT 2273 BOOT HILL COURT, SUITE 110, BOZEMAN, MT 59715-7249 FAX: 406-587-9726 PHONE: 406-586-3136. Application Number: 41F 30111107 Applicant: KROENKE LAND & LIVESTOCK LLC JEFFERS RANCH LLC BETTY & JEFFREY KLEIN WATER RIGHT NUMBER(S) BEING CHANGED Water Right Type: STATEMENT OF CLAIM Water Right Number: 41F 133764-00 Priority Date: JUNE 1, 1903 Historical Flow Rate: 2.5 CFS Historical Consumptive Volume: 137.09

AC-FT Historical Diverted Volume: 448.99 AC-FT PAST USE OF WATER: WATER WAS HISTORICALLY DIVERTED FROM THE SOUTH FORK OF JACK CREEK AT A FLOW RATE OF 2.5 CFS ALONG A DITCH TO CEDAR CREEK WHICH THEN SERVED AS A NATURAL CARRIER TO THE SECONDARY DIVERSION AND PLACE OF USE. THIS WATER RIGHT WAS HISTORICALLY USED FOR FLOOD/SPRINKLER IRRIGATION ON 702 ACRES. A PRIMARY DITCH AND SEVERAL LATERAL DITCHES WERE HISTORICALLY USED TO CONVEY WATER FROM CEDAR CREEK AS THE NATURAL CARRIER TO THE PLACE OF USE IN MADISON COUNTY. PROPOSED CHANGE: FLOW RATE: 2.50 CFS VOLUME: 448.99 AC-FT ACRES: 619.54 APPROPRIATOR IS AUTHORIZED TO CHANGE THE PLACE OF USE FOR SEVEN WATER RIGHTS TO INCORPORATE UPGRADES TO THE IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROVIDE WATER TO NEWLY IRRIGATED ACREAGE. THE HISTORICAL PLACE OF USE FOR THESE WATER RIGHTS IS WITHIN SECTIONS 3, 4, 9, 15, AND 16, T06 S, R01 E, MADISON COUNTY. THE AUTHORIZED NEW PLACE OF USE FOR THESE WATER RIGHTS IS WITHIN THE SAME LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION, WITH THE ADDITION OF NEW ACREAGE IN SECTIONS 33 AND 34, T05 S, R01 E, MADISON COUNTY. THE APPLICANT HAS INSTALLED FOUR PIVOT IRRIGATION SYSTEMS TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH WHEEL LINE SPRINKLERS. THREE OF THE PROPOSED PIVOT SYSTEMS FALL WITHIN HISTORICALLY IRRIGATED ACREAGE. WHILE ONE PIVOT HAS SOME AREA OUTSIDE OF THESE WATER RIGHTS, THE LAND TO THE WEST IS COVERED BY ANOTHER SET OF WATER RIGHTS. THE APPROPRIATOR WISHES TO KEEP THE HISTORIC PLACE OF USE AS INTACT AS POSSIBLE. THE WATER NEEDED FOR THE PORTION OF THE PIVOT OUTSIDE OF THIS CHANGE TO THE WEST WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE PIVOT PIPELINE FROM THE OTHER SET OF WATER RIGHTS. THE FOURTH PIVOT IS CAPABLE OF IRRIGATING 133 ACRES AND IS LOCATED DIRECTLY NORTH OF THE HISTORIC PLACE OF USE. THE APPLICANT HAS ALSO INSTALLED A 30-ACRE WHEEL LINE SPRINKLER SYSTEM IMMEDIATELY EAST OF THE 133-ACRE PIVOT. TO OFFSET CHANGES IN CONSUMPTIVE USE ON THE MODIFIED ACREAGE, THE APPLICANT PROPOSES THE RETIREMENT OF 245.46 HISTORICALLY IRRIGATED ACRES. THE ACRES SELECTED FOR

RETIREMENT ARE LOCATED WITH THE GAPS BETWEEN THE INSTALLED PIVOTS WITHIN THE HISTORICAL IRRIGATED FOOTPRINT. THE POINT OF DIVERSION AND PURPOSE WILL NOT CHANGE. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: THIS APPLICATION IS ASSOCIATED WITH CHANGE APPLICATION NC 41F 30111097 & 41F 30111105. THESE APPLICATIONS ARE CHANGING THE PLACE OF USE OF NINE SUPPLEMENTAL CLAIMS THAT WERE HISTORICALLY USED TO IRRIGATE THE SAME ACREAGE. THIS CHANGE WILL BE COMPLETED BY THREE APPLICATIONS TO ACCOUNT FOR DIFFERENT ELEMENTS BETWEEN THE SUPPLEMENTAL CLAIMS (I.E. STORAGE AND WATER SOURCE). PUBLISHED IN MADISONIAN ON FEBRUARY 21, 2019 (Pub. Feb. 21, 2019)
Dept Nat Resources
MNAFLP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HARI CRAIG MARCONET, Deceased. Cause No.: DP-29-2018-33 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claim will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to Charlotte Allhands, Personal Representative, c/o Krueer Law Firm, P.O. Box 718, Sheridan, MT 59749, return receipt requested or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. Dated this 14 day of FEBRUARY, 2019. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/S/ STEPHANIE GEHRES KRUER Attorney for Personal Representative (Pub. Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 2019)
Town of Virginia City
MNAFLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Madison Conservation District board supervisors will be attending a 310 training workshop on February 25th, 2019 from 10am to 3pm at the Madison Valley Bank (Pub. Feb. 21, 2019)
Madison Cons. District
MNAFLP

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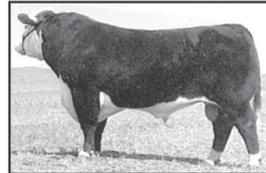
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Affordable housing advocates look to Montana Legislature for help

By Eric Dietrich

HELENA — There are plenty of infrastructure priorities jockeying for scarce state dollars as the Montana Legislature meets this winter, but, with housing costs a burden for many modest-income Montanans, advocates and some lawmakers want to spend state money boosting affordable housing projects.

A trio of bills endorsed by a committee of legislators who studied housing and local government issues between the 2017 and 2019 legislative sessions — House Bill 16, Senate Bill 15, and Senate Bill 18 — are designed to make that happen.

If one or more is passed into law, they would expand the options available to developers who want to build modestly priced homes and apartments that wouldn't pencil out without public subsidies. All three measures are early in the legislative gauntlet — and as of Jan. 22, SB 15 already died in the process.

"We work around the state and we often struggle to make projects work because we don't have enough funding tools," said Andrea Davis, executive director of the Missoula-based housing nonprofit Homeward, in an initial hearing for HB 16 Jan. 11. "It's really time that Montana has more solutions to meet these needs."

Statistics compiled by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, indicate there isn't a single county in Montana where a worker can comfortably afford a market-rate two-bedroom apartment with a full-time job at the minimum wage.

Around Lewistown, for example, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development pegs the market rate for a 2-bedroom apartment at \$771 a month. For a full-time worker at Montana's \$8.50-an-hour

minimum wage, averaging \$1,445 a month, that would require spending more than half their income on rent.

Even in Yellowstone County, or Billings, where the low-income housing coalition says the average renter makes \$14.01 an hour, or \$2,380 a month, a typical \$936-a-month two-bedroom would require 39 percent of that average renter's income. That's well above the 30-percent-of-income threshold housing experts generally consider "affordable."

"There's just a real gap between the housing market and the wages market," said SB 18 sponsor Sen. Margie MacDonald, D-Billings. It's also the case, she said, that populations like seniors living in parts of rural Montana need cheaper housing options to be able to stay where they are.

While the federal government and some Montana communities put public money toward subsidized housing projects, housing advocates complain that state government doesn't currently chip in with its own money. The Montana Board of Housing does dole out federal tax credits to help organizations like Homeward make their projects work, but the organizations that compete for that funding say the pot is small relative to the need.

For 2019, the state housing board has directed Montana's \$32.1 million allocation of federal housing tax credits to seven housing projects totaling 271 dwelling units in Havre, Ronan, Billings, Helena, Whitefish, Deer Lodge, and Livingston. For-profit and nonprofit housing developers had submitted applications for an additional 12 projects representing 428 subsidized units in places including Bozeman, Glasgow and Great Falls.

At a local level, the city of Bozeman also directs comparatively modest amounts of property tax revenue to address

its housing efforts, amounting to \$166,000 this year. For example, Homeward's 136-unit Larkspur Commons project, which opened in 2017, was subsidized by both federal tax credits and \$200,000 in Bozeman housing money. Similarly, Big Sky's resort tax board directed almost \$2 million to a community housing trust last year.

The three housing bills introduced in the state Legislature would each use state funds to make additional subsidies or financing options available to affordable housing developers:

House Bill 16, which would use the state coal fund to set up a housing loan program

Sponsored by Rep. Dave Fern, D-Whitefish

The bill would use \$15 million from the state's Coal Severance Tax Trust Fund to set up a loan program to help finance affordable housing projects. Since the state would earn interest on those project loans, the state General Fund would see a slight funding gain from the program, depending on how the loans perform versus existing coal fund investments.

The bill had an initial hearing in the House Taxation Committee Jan. 11, and was awaiting a committee vote there as of Jan. 22.

Senate Bill 15, which would let housing projects tap state infrastructure funds

Sponsored by Sen. Carlie Boland, D-Great Falls

The bill would let state infrastructure funds, specifically the Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund and Treasure State Endowment Fund, be used to help cover the costs of infrastructure (e.g., roads and sewer lines) necessary for affordable housing projects.

A fiscal analysis attached to the bill by the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning notes that those in-

frastructure programs are already under-funded relative to the number of projects seeking public money, meaning that housing projects would be competing for already limited funds. The analysis also raised questions about what specific types of infrastructure housing projects could seek support for under the measure, and whether single-family housing would be included.

The bill was introduced to the Senate Business, Labor and Economic Affairs Committee, but Boland said Jan. 18 that it had been withdrawn in favor of giving the issue more study.

Senate Bill 18, which would create state housing development tax credits

Sponsored by Sen. Margie MacDonald, D-Billings

The bill would create a state tax credit to help finance affordable housing projects by giving developers of qualified projects the ability to reduce their tax burden, with state credits piggybacking on the long-standing federal tax credits program.

According to a fiscal analysis, the measure would cost the state as much as \$3 million a year in forgone tax revenue, but MacDonald said she is open to adjusting the bill's scope to give the idea a test run.

As of Jan. 18, Senate Bill 18 was awaiting a hearing set for Jan. 23 before the Senate Taxation Committee.

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 or 406-544-1074.



MSU students and community members attend the 31st annual Bug Buffet at MSU in Bozeman, Thursday, Feb. 14. The event featured dishes with various edible insects prepared by guest chef Joseph Yoon, executive director of Brooklyn Bugs. (MSU/ADRIAN SANCHEZ-GONZALEZ)

Cricket, mealworms, pupae

Hundreds flock to MSU to try edible insects

By Anne Cantrell, MSU News Service

BOZEMAN — Grasshopper Korean veggie cellophane noodles. Black ant roasted beet-cucumber arugula salad. Chocolate mousse with bug bar. Acheta (cricket) Korean fried rice. These and more dishes featuring edible insects were served to hundreds of students, faculty, staff and community members who attended the 31st annual Bug Buffet held Thursday in Montana State University's Strand Union Building.

"I was intrigued to see what (the insects) taste like," said Natalie Wheeler, a third-year student at MSU in community health and Hispanic studies. "Sometimes the crunchiness freaks me out, but it tastes good."

"There's a crunch for sure," she added. "Like little croutons." Wheeler, who is originally from Polson, has attended the event for the last three years. She said she's interested in insects as a sustainable source of protein.

"I really enjoy that they have (the Bug Buffet) at MSU to educate that bugs are a good protein source," she said. "It's not normal in the U.S. to eat them a lot, but I think it should be."

Gavin Allamian, a first-year student from St. Charles, Illinois, said his favorite dish at the buffet was the chocolate mousse with bug bar. As a sustainable food systems major, he chose to attend the event because of an interest in how entomophagy — or the human consumption of insects and arachnids as food — utilizes so little space relative to other sources of food.

He and his friend Keegan MacKenstadt, a first-year student in construction engineering technology, agreed there was a mental block to overcome when eating insects, but that it quickly dissipated.

"It's a little weird to see grasshopper legs in noodles, but once you get the over the first, 'I'm not eating a bug' thought, it's not a big deal," Allamian said.

Ariel Savage, a graduate student in MSU's science and natural history filmmaking program, decided to attend the Bug Buffet after reading about it in the newspaper.

"It seemed like an incredibly unique experience, so I didn't want to miss it," she said.

Consuming dishes with insects

was a "little bit to get through," she added, but she said the event had a good feel to it.

"You can tell everybody worked very hard on the dishes," Savage said. "It's nice (MSU is) doing it for free. It opens the door for a lot of people to try it out."

The inaugural Bug Buffet at MSU was held in 1989, according to Florence Dunkel, associate professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology and one of the event's organizers. That year, the lone item on the menu was a dish made of grasshoppers, and about 25 students attended the event, she recalled in a 2018 Mountains and Minds magazine story.

Since then, the Bug Buffet has grown considerably. More than 1,000 guests attended the event last year, and organizers expected a similar attendance this year. This year's buffet offered a 10-course menu and featured guest chef Joseph Yoon, executive director of Brooklyn Bugs and a chef in New York City. The samples were prepared under the supervision of Amber Wivholm from MSU Culinary Services and MSU sanitarian Dustin Schreiner.

The Bug Buffet has also expanded to a week-long series of events. This year's Bug Buffet week included a student cook-off, workshops for students, faculty and staff, a film screening, an academic conference, and field trips to a local business that farms crickets and a fish hatchery that uses advanced extrusion technology to create fish feed that includes insects.

Support for the Bug Buffet was provided by MSU's Office of the President, College of Education, Health and Human Development, College of Agriculture, College of Letters and Science, Office of International Programs, Jake Jobs College of Business and Entrepreneurship, Blackstone LaunchPad and Culinary Services. Corporate sponsors include Buhler Inc., Cowboy Cricket Farms Inc., The Cricket Ranch and Little Herds.

Claire Zahner, a senior in plant biotechnology from Kansas City, Missouri, and one of the event's student organizers, said she hopes that the Bug Buffet helps people in attendance begin to view insects as an everyday food source.

"I hope that everybody gets how delicious insects can be and how easy it is to incorporate them into everyday food," she said. "The end success (of this event) would be no longer having a bug buffet because it has become so normalized (to eat insects) anyway."

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School News

Twin Bridges school honor roll

TWIN BRIDGES – Twin Bridges School district has announced its second quarter honor roll. The following students earned honors during the second quarter:

- Seniors - Makenna Adams, Riah Edsall, Nora Humbert, Taryn Johnson, Brikayla Salerno, Ayden Anderson*, Jace Caprara*, Cole Escott*, Anna Kaiser*, Blu Keim*, Ethan Kneeland*, Daniel Krueger*, Clancy Phillips*, Jovenai Rosselott*.
- Juniors - Mike Baughn, Avery George, Ashleigh Guinnane, Rob Dale*, Trystan Harmon*, Jake Hughes*, Nate Konen*, Kenna Millhouse*, Bryce Nye*, Isaiah Redfield*, Dante Salerno*, CJ Wayland*, Kiki Kelly.
- Sophomores - Shawn Head, Tabitha Orrin, Hunter Sager, Aton Anderson*, Molly Humbert*, Hadley Johnson*, Matthew Kaiser*, Charlie Krueger*, Will Morris*, Delilah Puckett*, Kyie Saler-

no*, Trista Sarles-Redfield*, Carl Shaw*, Tate Smith* 4.0, Bailey Stockett*.

- Freshmen - Addie Baker, Chase Fitzpatrick, Pablo Babcock*, Jasmine Banks*, Kara Dale*, Kate Fisher*, Christopher Fraser*, Lilly Grabil*, Morgan Hendrickson*, Sam Konen*, Hailey Paack*, Tyler Pancost*, Francesca Pollorena*, Leie Stockett*, Mhanon Sullivan*, Ethan Wayland*, Lunden Wentzel*.
- 6th grade - Kole Anderson, Janel Baker, Mila Dawson*, Cody Fuller, Ben Humbert*, Audrey Kish, Lily Mooney, Kris Poirier*, Mary Reynolds, Ben Wayland*, August Witham.
- 5th grade - Brooke Anderson, Ethan Babcock, Andrew Frecker, Mavrick Greemore, Gabby Gruby*, Maisey Hutchinson*, Kinsey Johnson*, Aidan Manger*, Kristen Nelson*, David Stack, Lilly Stockett*, Aurora Todd-Sporich.

* denotes high honor roll.

Sheridan's students of the month

SHERIDIAN – Sheridan Schools is very pleased to announce the following Students of the Month. Students are chosen by faculty and staff members based on their citizenship, leadership and academic attitude.

January

- Kindergarten - Emily Scott
 - 1st grade - Timothy Miller
 - 2nd grade - Kora Hardy
 - 3rd - Hazalin Maddison
 - 4th grade - Isabella Cash-Rich
 - 5th grade - John Martens
 - 6th grade - Trey Schrank
 - 7th grade - Chase Lutgen
 - 8th grade - Cassidy McCoy
 - 9th grade - Simah Anson
 - 10th grade - Jessica Masshardt
 - 11th grade - Grace Larsen
 - 12th grade - Zachary Piper
- Congratulations students!

Tester, Daines, Gianforte introduce 'Clean Water for Rural Communities Act' to improve rural water infrastructure

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Jon Tester and Steve Daines and U.S. Representative Greg Gianforte reintroduced a bipartisan bill to provide much-needed authorization for Montana rural water infrastructure on Wednesday, February 6.

"Every Montanan deserves reliable access to clean water," Tester said. "This important legislation will pave the way for new water infrastructure investments that will boost access to clean water, create good jobs, and support Montana's farmers and ranchers."

"The fact of the matter is that thousands of Montanans still lack access to steady safe drinking water," Daines stated. "Water is a basic necessity for any community. We depend on a steady supply to provide clean drinking water, irrigate our crops, water our livestock and provide energy through hydropower. That's why it's so important that we get this bill passed."

"Unfortunately, not all Montanans have access to a reliable supply of water," Gianforte said. "This critical bipartisan legislation will improve Montana's water infrastructure and better ensure that more than 20,000 Montanans in our rural communities have a steady supply of water for drinking and agriculture."

Though several rural water projects have already received Congressional authorization, they struggle to receive the funds needed to complete construction in a timely and efficient manner. Between 1980 and 2007, Congress directed the Bureau to undertake 11 specific rural water supply projects, some of which remain uncompleted. There currently is no predictable funding for the remaining projects, because construction funding must be secured annually through the appropriations process and there is a significant backlog in construction funding for these projects.

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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

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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
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Madison Valley Presbyterian Church

WORSHIP
September - April ~ 11 a.m.
May - August ~ 9 a.m.
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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
KJV
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

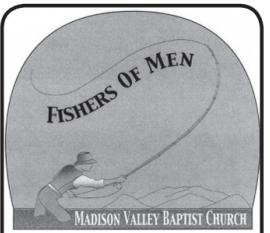
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MADISON COUNTY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY'S MASS SCHEDULE
MASS AT ST. JOSEPH'S IN SHERIDAN AT 4PM ON SATURDAYS.
MASS AT NOTRE DAME IN TWIN BRIDGES AT 8AM ON SUNDAYS.
MASS AT ST. MARY'S IN LAURIN AT 9:30AM ON SUNDAYS.
MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S IN ENNIS AT 11AM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

Prayer meeting 6 p.m.
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Bethel UMC
Sheridan
Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Ready Set Grow Preschool
Contact Julie Russell 842-5876

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, February 21 – Ham Sliders, Broccoli Salad, dessert, Happy Birthday
- Friday, February 22 – Shrimp Alfredo, salad, breadsticks, pinochle at 12:45 p.m.
- Monday, February 25 – Porkloin, Mushroom Gravy, Roasted Potatoes, dessert, Mahjong at 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 26 – BLT cobb salad, roll, dessert, pan at 12:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 27 – White chicken lasagna, veggies, dessert, mahjong at 1 p.m.
- Thursday, February 28 – Chili, salad, cornbread, dessert
- Friday, March 1 – Tuna Melt, veggie sticks, pickle, 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, February 21 – Potato au gratin ham, veggie, roll, dessert
- Tuesday, February 26 – Cheeseburger with fries, dessert
- Thursday, February 28 – Goulash, veggie, 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.

- Friday, February 22 - Chicken piccata, pantry pasta, glazed carrots, lemon meringue Pie
- Monday, February 25 - Chicken pot pie, salad, dessert
- Wednesday, February 27 - February birthday celebration, roast beef, mashed potatoes, veggie, salad, birthday cake & Ice cream.

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

"Today the confirmations of the Kingdom of Abha are with those who renounce themselves, forget their own opinions, cast aside personalities and are thinking of the welfare of others... Whosoever is occupied with himself is wandering in the desert of heedlessness and regret. The 'Master Key' to self-mastery is self-forgetting. The road to the palace of life is through the path of renunciation."
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 Jefferson/Ennis 10 a.m. adult forum 11:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Virginia City Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Christ Church Sheridan Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study 9:00 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.

D	A	M	B	E	T	A	Z	A	N	Y		
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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 MEETING
Same Time - Same Place
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.

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

— LIFERING —
A Life Ring group is starting in Ennis. Lifering is an abstinence-based, worldwide network of people seeking to live in recovery from addiction to alcohol or non-medically indicated drugs.
In Lifering, we offer each other peer-to-peer support to encourage personal growth and empowerment. Those interested in participating, can call 682-4463.

OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

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

**Thursday
February 21**

History of the Madison Theatre, Ennis

The MVHA presents History of the Madison Theatre by John Heckler. RSVP to 406-682-4023 and leave a message with name and number of people attending. 4 p.m. presentation with pizza afterward.

**Saturday
February 23**

Madison County Democratic Committee Meeting, Virginia City

The Madison County Democratic Central Committee will hold its monthly meeting at the Thompson-Hickman Library at 10 a.m. For more information call Ian Root at 682-3151.

Jan Ephill Reading and Lecture, Ennis

Come hear Bozeman author Jan Ephill read from

her historical novels and talk about how the themes in books tell us who we are. 11 a.m., suitable for all ages, sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

**Monday
February 25**

Beekkeeping Workshop, Ennis

This Ennis Continuing Education workshop will cover honey bee pests and what to do about them. We'll talk about everything from wasps and skunks to bears and mites, identifying and dealing with honey bee pests. 6 p.m. at Ennis High School. Call 406-682-4258 to register.

**Wednesday
February 27**

Brown Bag Lunch with Brian Leech, Butte

This presentation and book signing with Brian Leech will cover his book

"The City that Ate Itself: Butte, Montana and its Expanding Berkeley Pit." Leech is a professor of history at Augustana College in Illinois and secretary of the US Mining History Association. Guests are encouraged to bring a sack lunch, presentation at noon at the Butte Archives. Call 782-3280 for information.

**Thursday
February 28**

Mad Gals Meeting, Bozeman

The Mad Gals will have their February meeting at Valley View Country Club with a social at noon and lunch at 12:30. Bring a friend, and RSVP by February 25.

Lauren Oakes Reading and Signing, Ennis

Lauren Oakes, author of "In Search of the Canary Tree: The Story of a Scien-

tist, a Cypress and a Changing World," will do a reading and signing of her new book. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, free and open to the public. 6 p.m. at the Madison Valley Public Library.

Avalanche Safety Workshop & Field Day, Ennis

This Ennis Continuing Education workshop will offer an introductory 2-part avalanche class, partnering with Friends of the Avalanche Center. Topics will include recognizing avalanche terrain, the impact on weather on avalanche risk, development of mountain snowpack and basic search and rescue, among others. After an evening session at Ennis High School there will be a field day at Jack Creek Preserve on March 3. \$20 registration fee, call 406-682-4258 to register and for more information.

Tester secures electronic logging device prohibition for farmers, ranchers

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Legislation to fund the government that was secured this week by U.S. Senator Jon Tester and a small bipartisan group of lawmakers includes significant resources and policy wins for critical Montana agriculture programs, including a prohibition on the Department of Transportation from enforcing electronic logging device (ELD) rules on livestock haulers, as well as full funding for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and PILT.

While much of the debate about the government funding legislation centered around border security, Tester—a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee—also helped craft six bills to fund the Departments of Agriculture, Interior, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, Treasury, State, and Housing and Urban Development, in addition to other critical programs.

"Our bipartisan deal brings Montana common sense to a bureaucratic problem that's cost our state's ranchers time and money," Tester said. "We've secured the much-needed flexibility for our ranchers and livestock haulers to safely transport their products across the country in the way they know best, and I'll be working to ensure that flexibility is permanent."

Tester has been a longtime advocate for fixing the ELD rule. Groups across the state praised Tester's provision in the bipartisan deal:

"We would like to thank Senator Tester for his leadership on the ELD issue," said Fred Wacker, President of the Montana Stockgrowers Association. "The health and safety of our livestock is our number one priority, the ability to get them to their final destination in a safe and effective manner is key."

"As a Montana livestock producer and auction market owner, flexibility for livestock haulers is greatly appreciated. Cattle have to travel a long way from where they're born in Montana to where they're fed in the Midwest," said Joe Goggins, a Billings-based rancher and member of the Livestock Marketing Association. "This electronic logging device mandate delay will allow haulers more time to seek needed regulatory and legislative relief so that they can get our livestock safely and quickly where they need to go. We appreciate Sen. Tester's work to achieve this delay."

"We'd like to thank Senator Jon Tester and others in Congress for working quickly to delay the implementation of Electronic Logging Devices (ELDs) for livestock haulers," said Leo McDonnell, Director Emeritus of the United States Cattlemen's Association. "This spending package grants the livestock industry crucial time to work out a more permanent solution to the restrictive Hours-of-Service (HOS) rules." "Montana Farm Bureau is pleased that our livestock haulers have more time to work on a solution to a mandatory Electronic Logging Device rule," said Hans McPherson, President of the Montana Farm Bureau. "Although this was passed as part of a larger spending bill, we appreciate Senator Tester's support of this stop gap measure to keep Montana Livestock haulers on the road. This is an important step to eventually getting to a permanent exemption of this onerous rule."

The budget legislation also includes full funding for the Fort Keogh Research Laboratory, despite President Trump's efforts to close the facility, as well as full funding for the Wheat & Barley Scab Initiative, which the President aimed to eliminate despite its importance to protecting Montana's wheat and barley crops. In the country, Montana was one of the states hit hardest by the longest government shutdown in American history.

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.

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

TUESDAYS

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

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 Auxilary 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.

Willie's Distillery Trivia Night
Thursdays at 312 Main St., Ennis, 6 p.m.

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.

EVENINGS: ADULTS \$8 • CHILDREN (12 & UNDER) \$4 SHOW TIME AT 7:15 PM, BOX OFFICE OPENS AT 6:30 PM

**NOW PLAYING:
GREEN BOOK (PG 13)**

Let's Go to the Movies this Weekend!
Friday 7:15 • Saturday 7:15 pm • Matinee Sunday 4:00 pm

COMING SOON:
The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part (PG), Cold Pursuit (R)

Please call to verify for last minute changes 682-4023 | 115 Main St, Ennis
EnnisMovies.com | Facebook.com/MadisonTheatreEnnis



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, FEB 22ND: ED COYLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST: ZACH MCKINLEY

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH: FULLY COOKED

FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH: MERCEDES CARROLL

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND: LEFT FOR DEAD

FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH: RUBY VALLEY BOYS

& BARBWARE

ASK ABOUT OUR WEEKLY BOTTLING PARTIES

Get Results.

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406-682-7755

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bzmsaddleoutlet@gwstoffice.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 2/22 JACOB ROUNTREE
Ambient Indie Rock

SAT 2/23 LOGAN DUDDING
ACOUSTIC AMERICANA

SUN 2/24 COLE AND THE THORNES
Reggae/Soul

hwy 287 & route 84 - 15 miles north of ennis
norrishotsprings.com
406.685.3303