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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 19

Thursday, April 18, 2019

## Madison, Gallatin county commissioners meet in Big Sky

Joint commission meeting discusses census data, tourism and the economy

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**BIG SKY**—Madison County commissioners Ron Nye and Jim Hart as well as Gallatin County's Joe Skinner, Scott MacFarlane and Don Seifert attended the bi-annual joint commission meeting hosted at Big Sky Resort on Wednesday, April 10, drawing a crowd of more than 100 people to spectate and listen.

A variety of groups were represented in the audience, from the Gallatin River Task Force and Gallatin County Sheriff's Department to housing agencies, chambers of commerce from both counties, fire and emergency departments, school districts and the Resort Tax board.

The focus of the meeting was not to actively make decisions, but for the commissioners from both counties to be brought up to speed and updated on the go-



Commissioners from both Madison and Gallatin counties attended a joint commission meeting in Big Sky on Wednesday, April 10. Over 100 people attended the event, and presentations were made by a variety of interest groups about the future of Big Sky and inter-county collaboration. (R. COLYER)

ings-on in and around Big Sky and collaborations between Madison and Gallatin constituents and agencies.

### 2020 Census

The first speakers of the day were Jeri Bucy of the U.S. Census Bureau and Whitney Ber-

mes, Gallatin County's communications coordinator, speaking on the importance of the upcoming 2020 census, specifically for the state of Montana.

Bucy said that her goal was to increase outreach and education to the public about how the census will be conducted next April. She said that in a relatively low-income state such as

Montana, every person really does count.

"What the census is really all about is getting resources back to the states," Bucy said. "A miscount in any capacity is really a huge loss for Montana in terms of funding."

JOINT continued on A2

## Stormwater, curb and sidewalk project again center stage in Twin Bridges

Concerned Citizens survey heard, Resort Tax could pay for it all

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**TWIN BRIDGES** – Twin Bridges storm water, sidewalk and curb plans were front and center again at the town council's Tuesday, April 9 meeting.

The council heard from the Concerned Citizens group whose final survey results claimed they didn't want to project, and a council member came up with a unique resort tax plan to potentially eliminate the \$155 per year per parcel assessment that would fall on property owners as a result of the project.

### Resort tax

Councilman Joe Willauer pitched the Resort Tax plan—but not before lauding the public participation at the April 9 meeting, saying he'd never seen a council meeting packed like that one was. About 25 residents attended the meeting.

Willauer's basic idea was this: Get Twin Bridges approved as a resort town by the state, then use the 3 percent minimum resort tax on "luxury items," which includes guided outfitting days, restaurants, and lodging – but not things like groceries or medical expenses – to pay for the assessed bond for the sidewalk and curb project, as well as other development projects going into the future.

State rules about resort taxes, according to information from Willauer, say that at least 5 percent of the resort tax revenues must offset municipal property taxes.

Willauer expected that if the resort tax would become implemented, it would raise about \$1.5 million annually. This would cover the cost of the town's sidewalk and curb bond, \$45,000 annually; and, Willauer estimated, could eliminate the need for a special improvement district (SID) tax for the stormwater project. Residents, he noted, would have to spend more than \$5,000 annually on lodging, outfitting or restaurant food to spend more on tax than the current SID, an unlikely situation, he said.

"The money stays here," Willauer said of the resort tax, "It's 100 percent local control of the money."

Willauer outlined three steps that would need to be taken to implement a resort tax.

- Have Mayor Tom Hyndman send a letter to the state's Department of Commerce to ask if Twin Bridges would qualify as a resort town.
- If the town qualified, council would have to pass a resolution of support to become a resort town.
- The community would need to vote on this and approve a resort town status.

Residents asked about the limit of the resort status, and how this might affect local businesses.

Willauer said it would only apply to city limits, if approved; and that it was essentially a sales tax on tourism dollars.

Only one resident, Leslie Adams, expressed concerns about the idea. She said she didn't think people coming to her facilities would like paying extra, or that the town's SID levy was appropriate in general.

Hyndman said the resort tax would only affect capital improvement projects, like the stormwater, curb and sidewalk effort.

Willauer that a resort tax and a SID tax would be "duplicitous," that the resort tax had the potential to offset the costs of the projects for everyone.

TWIN continued on A3



ABOVE – At March's Twin Bridges council meeting, angry residents said a survey they'd conducted show the stormwater, curb and sidewalk project was not wanted. Council listened, and at April's meeting, Councilman Joe Willauer, right, shared an idea on how to pay for it all using a resort tax. (J. TAYLOR)

## Harrison school board cancels district election

No levy, one board candidate, no need for election

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**HARRISON**—Board chairman Dusty Wagner joked that Harrison's April school board meeting was on track to be one of the shortest in recent history, and he wasn't wrong. In a quick meeting that lasted less than half an hour, the board reviewed a few matters of old business and formalized the cancellation of the district election.

Wagner's school board position was the only one coming open this year, and as he was the only candidate who was running to fill that spot, the election became an unnecessary expense. Harrison is also not running a levy this year, which means there are no matters for constituents to vote on. Most districts around the area are in a similar situation: Ennis and Sheridan both also decided to forgo elections this year.

In a student report, the board was brought up to date on recent events among the Harrison student body, including a successful blood drive on March 27 and a fundraiser for injured Montana Trooper Wade Palmer that raised over \$500 when students and staff could pay \$2 for the privilege to wear a hat for the day. Palmer was shot near the Evaro Bar on March 15 and has been in a Salt Lake City hospital since then.

HARRISON continued on A2



ABOVE – Councilmen Dan Durham and Rahn Abbott, along with Mayor Bob Stump, Councilman Mike Walter and Clerk Ginger Galiger consider water issues confronting Sheridan with wells new and old at their April meeting. (J. TAYLOR)

## Baseball and water issues dominate Sheridan council

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**SHERIDAN** – You know it's spring when the baseballs start coming out, and in Sheridan, Little League is moving ahead, gearing up for baseball season, which began April 13, the town council learned at its Monday, April 8, meeting.

Lyra Hyndman and Hana Dietrich came to council to ask for some help getting the ball field and dugout back in better shape.

Hyndman and Dietrich said 39 kids, forming one minor league team, two rookie teams and a T-ball team were participating in Little League this year.

Hyndman and Dietrich pitched a plan to improve the dugout. They said they would donate the stain, IMOC would donate roofing, sandpaper and paint to spruce up the dugout.

What they needed and wanted from the town was a donation for fencing in front of the dugout and in the outfield and two plaques dedicating the field and both dugouts to Art Bieler, a cost of about \$200.

The plaques would be 5 x 7 commemorations of Bieler. The fencing was needed to cover a hole in the outfield and across the dugouts.

Another ballfield issue was gravel in the infield. Hyndman and Dietrich said it was tough for ball players to slide on this surface, that many skinned knees and elbows doing so.

SHERIDAN continued on A5



ABOVE – Harrison students performed "The Adventures of Robin Hood" on March 28, after working every day after school for more than a month to prepare the production. The play was a huge success, staff told the Harrison school board at their April 8 meeting. (A. CHRISTENSEN)

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# Softball double header leaves Ennis 2-2

Mustangs top Browning but fall to Belgrade April 12

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ENNIS—The brand-new lady Mustangs softball team played their second double header of the season on Friday, April 12, ending up with an even 2-2 record. The first of the two games was a near-shutout against Browning, which Ennis walked away from with a 10-1 victory. Jenna Snider led both teams with four RBIs, while Paxton Fortner and Shae Lovett each had three quality-at-bats and Riley Robinson added two more. Senior pitcher Whitney McKittrick also led across the board with three strikeouts. In the first inning, Ennis would lead early 1-0, by the end of the second it was 6-1 and by the end of the third it was 10-1, where it would stay.

Later that same day the Mustangs faced off against Belgrade's junior varsity squad, a much more established program that brought the heat for the less-experienced Ennis team.

It would be another blowout, but not in the Mustangs' favor. Belgrade would score eight runs, all in the first inning, and Ennis would be held scoreless for the first time all season.

A bright spot in a touch matchup was Addison Retherford, who pitched 10 first-pitch strikes for the Mustangs.

With spring break coming up April 18-23, softball won't return until April 25, when they will host Manhattan at 5 p.m. They'll travel to Anaconda the next day for a double against Twin Falls and Plains.



ABOVE — Ennis's Whitney McKittrick (12) winds up for a pitch against the Deer Lodge Lady Wardens on March 29.



LEFT — Ennis first baseman Alyssa West made a spectacular catch for the out. (R. COLYER)

## JOINT continued from A1: Madison, Gallatin County Commissioners hold joint meeting

A reason for that is that the federal government allocates roughly \$2,000 per person per year according to the census data it receives. So, if one person doesn't get counted, that's \$20,000 the state will miss out on until the next census a decade later.

The census data also helps allocate funding for transportation, delineate voter precincts and determine a state's congressional delegation. It's very likely, Bucy said, that if Montana does a good job of reporting its population numbers, it may get a second congressional delegate in the coming years.

Bucy said the areas where it's most vital to get out nuts-and-bolts information of how the census is run are rural and tribal sections of the state. The Census Bureau is partnering with the communications office of Gallatin County to do just that. One notable difference about this year's census that is important to advertise is that 2020 will be the first year that residents can fill out the census in the typical fashions—on paper or by phone—or online, a new addition.

That self-reporting is an important part of things, Bucy said. Because the census often includes confidential and personal information, self-reporting keeps that information safer and more accurate than when residents wait for a census representative come to their door to ensure that they participate. It also saves the Census Bureau money if they don't have to send those employees out.

Gallatin County commissioner Don Seifert noted that Big Sky in particular is a place where more accuracy is an important goal for the upcoming census, particularly because of how many seasonal employees live there as well as construction workers who are a part of Big Sky's rapid development.

"Those are numbers we'll use for the next 10 years," Seifert said, "so they're very important to capture."

### Parks, open space

Next up on the agenda was Ciara Wolfe of the Big Sky Community Organization, who presented details of the two-year master plan for parks and open space currently in place for Big Sky and the surrounding areas.

Wolfe touched upon the short- and mid-term goals of the plan, which include expanding the boundaries of Big Sky's parks district to match the corresponding resort tax area outlines. She said that on the Madison County side, these lines all match up, but in Gallatin County they do not. That will ensure that all the proper resort tax lands are being considered when the time for

taxation and reimbursements rolls around.

In addition, Big Sky is in the process of updating its trails master plan to address maintenance and connectivity with the over 60 miles of new trails they are aiming to add in the next decade or so. They've identified areas of current trails that need improvement and maintenance, especially the very popular Beehive Basin and Ousel Falls trailheads.

Revenue from the Resort Tax will help facilitate these improvements, including making the Beehive Basin trailhead part of a nature preserve and adding trash receptacles, educational signage, restrooms and a parking area to that access point.

One of the biggest mid-term goals of the master plan concerns what Wolfe called "the most ambitious campaign as a community that we've ever taken on." She said that at the end of this month the Big Sky Community Organization would be unveiling its project plans for an indoor recreation center, something that has been a frequent request from residents of the area for several years.

Wolfe said the center will be around 25,000 square feet and will be a \$17.5 million project, \$12 million of which has already been raised. Details of the project won't be clear until that plan is unveiled, but the goal for the center is to break ground this summer and open in 2021.

### Gallatin River Task Force

Karen Filipovich of the Gallatin River Task Force came before the commissioners to give an overview of Big Sky's sustainable water solutions forum, which took place in February.

The forum evaluated community priorities for water use and conservation, as well as creating the Big Sky Headwaters Alliance, a coalition of business, recreation, conservation and government partners working to manage Big Sky's water resources. The focus, Filipovich said, is outreach, as well as water security and resiliency of local waterways and habitats.

She said one challenge that Big Sky will face is balancing community and wilderness water needs while keeping in mind factors like fishing interests, wildland fires that occur with greater and greater severity across Montana and being a good steward to their partners downstream, ensuring that the water that flows out of Big Sky is just as healthy as the water that flows in.

The Gallatin River Task Force and Big Sky Headwaters Association will be partnering with the

Nature Conservancy in the coming months to establish a water fund that focuses on water security, ensuring that access, supply and watershed health is maintained year-round for future generations.

"If we can keep healthy ecosystems," Filipovich said, "we can also increase water security in times of drought."

### Community Visioning Strategy

Megan Moore, of Logan Simpson Consulting based in Fort Collins, Colorado, then took the floor to explain the firm's work in helping lay out Big Sky's Community Visioning Strategy, which used data and questionnaires to examine the values of Big Sky's residents, gauging the best ways to ensure that all the reasons people come to—and stay in—Big Sky are preserved and capitalized.

Moore said she was amazed by the level of community involvement from the people of Big Sky; she filled up 240 one-on-one interviews, something that she said rarely if ever happens when she conducts these kinds of surveys. She also said around 1,400 people became involved by attending events and giving feedback, while 1,700 more were made aware of Logan Simpson's aims via email and other communications.

When asked why they came to Big Sky and what they love most about the area, the most common responses largely overlapped. Residents were both drawn to the area and stayed there in large part because of the accessibility of outdoor activities, the small-town feel of the community, the quality of life and the character and involvement of the people who live in Big Sky.

When it came to things that could be added or improved, community priorities included the establishment of an overarching vision for Big Sky, a greater array of youth activities, more accessible and affordable housing, improvements in both public transportation and public safety and a prioritization of conservation as the rapid development in the area continues.

Moore said she was currently in the process of synthesizing all that information and working with Big Sky to put together the vision statement that the community wants to see, as well as short- and long-term goals. She will be returning to Big Sky later this year to present those developments and expect the final plan to be wrapped up and ready for implementation before the 2019-2020 ski season begins.

### Affordable housing

The final agenda item before

the two sets of commissioners was something that both counties—as well as most of the other 54 around the state—have been struggling with in recent years: accessible and affordable housing. It's a problem that becomes even more acute in a microcosm community such as Big Sky.

Big Sky superintendent of schools Dustin Shipman and Habitat for Humanity's Dave Magistrelli presented a project that will soon be coming to the community in an effort to provide housing for teachers who struggle to find affordable and long-term places to live in Big Sky. The project is pending the passage of two levies in the school district this spring.

The levies, which will be voted in Gallatin County, include a \$40,000 general fund levy earmarked for personnel funding and a \$600,000, five-year levy for the district's building reserve fund. That is the money that would go toward the Habitat for Humanity project.

Shipman said in the past year he has had no fewer than three teachers in his district come to his office in tears, telling him that their rentals had been sold and they couldn't afford any of the other available options in Big Sky. It's a problem that must be addressed, he said, noting that two-thirds of his staff are uncertain whether they'd be able to remain teaching in Big Sky for three to five years due to the severity of the housing issue.

Magistrelli then presented the outline for the Habitat for Humanity project, which would build a complex of 1,000-square-foot apartments on campus for teachers to live in. He noted that the construction would happen at the cost of materials and nothing more, largely due to volunteer work that would accomplish most of the labor aside from plumbing and electric, which would be contracted out. Habitat for Humanity of Gallatin County, he said, would make no profit, and the total cost of the construction would be around \$135 per square foot.

That particular project must wait upon the outcome of this year's vote levies, which will happen in the coming weeks.

With the completion of the agenda items and no visitors desiring to offer public comment, the commissioners expressed awe at the large turnout to the meeting and thanked presenters and visitors for their attendance and information. The joint commission used to be an annual event and was changed to occur twice yearly due to the volume of information and the amount of public involvement. The next joint commission meeting will take place this fall.

## HARRISON continued from A1: No election necessary this time for Harrison school district

English teacher Alexis Kunzer gave a teacher report, noting the success of Harrison's recent school play, The Adventures of Robin Hood. Students worked every day after school on the production beginning in February and put on the show on March 28.

From district clerk Judi Ward came the clerk's report, noting that teacher appreciation week will be coming up soon May 6-10. The student body will host a teacher appreciation breakfast on Tuesday of that week, May 7.

Ward also revisited a topic that had come before the board previously: the lack of a driver's education teacher in Harrison this year. Despite their best efforts, the district has been unable to find someone to teach the class, meaning that Harrison students who need to take driver's education will have to go some-

where else to do so.

As the school year begins to wind down, there is no slowing to the activity at Harrison School. Track and field has begun at both the high school and junior high levels, with athletes from around the county traveling to meets and battling tough weather as winter attempts to cling to the Madison Valley. The board approved the hiring of an assistant for the track program, who

will aid in facilitating meets from running timers to helping with measurements in the throwing and jumping events.

In the final item on the agenda, the board approved the re-hiring of both the tenured and non-tenured staff at Harrison for the 2019-2020 school year. The next regular Harrison school board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 6 at 7 p.m.



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# Below normal mountain precipitation in Montana causes snowpack declines statewide

BOZEMAN – Major weather pattern changes in March marked a return to closer to seasonal temperatures during the latter half of the month for Montana, a welcome change after a brutally cold February.

It was also a dramatic change from the well above average February precipitation across the state to well below average for precipitation totals at mountain and valley locations. According to USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service snow survey data, all mountain locations experienced well below normal snowfall for the month.

“Many mountain SNOTEL sites received record-low March monthly precipitation totals, and others were second lowest on record,” said Lucas Zukiewicz, NRCS water supply specialist.

Some river basins were able to keep snowpack totals at near or above average on April 1. Snowpack percentages in the mountains supplying river basins in the central part of the state are near normal, while southern basins reporting above normal totals on April 1. “February was such a big month for

snowfall in the central and southern basins that even though they experienced a record dry March, snowpack remains near or above normal for this date,” Zukiewicz said. “It may have saved winter and our spring and summer runoff.”

He cautioned that not all river basins have been so lucky this winter. “There are areas of concern in the state,” Zukiewicz said. “Snowpack in the northern mountain ranges remains below normal for April 1 and below normal March snowfall certainly didn’t help.”

River basins west of the Divide are typically frontloaded with snowfall and precipitation from November through March, while basins east of the Divide typically experience their largest monthly precipitation totals from March through June.

“That means that the time for recovery in snowpack totals before runoff begins in these areas is running out as we progress further into spring, especially in northern basins west of the Divide,” Zukiewicz said. “While it’s still not impossible, it is less likely.”

April 1 snowpack totals give



more clear insight into the snowmelt component of runoff across the state, and streamflow forecasts issued by the NRCS for the April 1 - July 31 period reflect the variation in snowpack and precipitation across the state this year. Forecasts for river basins in the northern half of the state indicate below average streamflow volumes this spring and summer, while central and southern river basins have forecasts that are near to above average.

Spring mountain snowfall and valley precipitation plays an important role in the runoff for any given year, and this year will be no different.

“Snowpack across the state typically peaks during the month of April, meaning the next month will

give us an idea of the total volume of water stored in the mountain snowpack ‘reservoir,’” Zukiewicz said. “That will tell us a lot about what we can expect relative to spring and summer runoff.”

Long-range forecasts issued by the National Weather Service’s Climate Prediction Center indicate increased chances of above average temperatures across the western half of the state for April – June and increased possibility of precipitation across the southern half of the state.

Monthly Water Supply Outlook Reports can be found at the website below after the 5th business day of the month: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/mt/snow/>

Snow Water Equivalent		
4/1/2019	% Normal	% Last Year
<b>Columbia River Basin</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>67</b>
Kootenai in Montana	84	66
Flathead in Montana	86	63
Upper Clark Fork	105	67
Bitterroot	98	73
Lower Clark Fork	94	76
<b>Missouri River Basin</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>79</b>
Jefferson	105	77
Madison	114	92
Gallatin	107	84
Headwaters Mainstem	117	69
Smith-Judith-Musselshell	108	78
Sun-Teton-Marias	81	57
St. Mary-Milk	86	63
<b>Yellowstone River Basin</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>74</b>
Upper Yellowstone	110	72
Lower Yellowstone	92	76
<b>West of Divide</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>East of Divide</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Montana State-Wide</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>72</b>

## TWIN continued from A1:

## Resort tax might pay for stormwater project

He pointed to communities similar to Twin Bridges, and the money raised in them from the resort tax: Craig, MT earns \$120,000 annually; Virginia City in 2015 earned \$65,000, and in 2018 earned \$100,000 from its resort tax; Wolf Creek earned \$25,000 per year. Meanwhile, he pointed out, Big Sky’s resort tax yielded \$7 million, but results like that were not expected in Twin Bridges.

Still, Willauer said the effort was a very preliminary step and that the state could nix this if it didn’t consider Twin Bridges a resort community.

On a motion by Councilmen Scott Holbrook and Matt Greamore, the council approved having Hyndman request the state to consider Twin Bridges as a resort community, the first step in the process.

### Concerned Citizens survey

At the March meeting of the town council, a group of residents shared preliminary results from a survey they’d conducted of whether the town should do the stormwater, sidewalk and curb project.

Jeff and Patty Walker brought the results this survey – post cards sent to about 200 residents, asking or their thoughts of the project. They’d received 50 initial responses to this mailing, with only two property owners approving of the project. This meant, the Walkers told the council, 96 percent of the residents of Twin Bridges disapproved of the project.

“Can’t you wait until more cards come back,” Jeff Walker said, referencing the survey, and asking why council didn’t follow majority rule, “the American way, the Montana way” of doing things.

Council learned the final results of the survey from Hoyt Walker.

In three weeks time, Hoyt Walker told council – the same amount of time council used for their survey of residents about the same project – 93 post cards were returned, a 48 percent return rate.

Of these, 14 people were for the project, 68 were against it, 11 were uncommitted, 23 said they’d received no letter from council earlier about the project, 20 didn’t understand the project, and 72 wanted a special meeting on the project to held at Twin Bridges school.

Walker said some people were not 100 percent decided on the issue, and that council should further educate the community on what’s going on.

Greamore noted that the 193 people the post cards were sent to didn’t compare with the 259 letters the council had sent out to residents about the project in December on this issue.

Councilman Nolan Frandsen noted that even with the numbers Walker presented, 132 people didn’t oppose the project.

Resident John Pawley said the citizens’ survey suggests that only 15 percent of residents were in favor of the project, and 73 percent were against, calling it a “catastrophic” difference in opinions. He pointed to the number of people at the meeting to suggest this difference in opinions meant something.

Leslie Adams repeated her contention that the council didn’t include the public in the process.

However, Bill Kinoshita, owner of the The Old Hotel restaurant, said he’d received a letter from the council, and although he wasn’t at the meetings about this, noted that the

money for the project had to come from somewhere, and he understood why the council had made the decisions to do the project.

In a related matter, the council unanimously approved Task Order No. 4, to seek a bid and begin construction of the initial steps of the stormwater, curb and gutter project.

Great West Engineering’s Jeremiah Theys, PE, the architect of the project, explained that Twin Bridges met the state Department of Environmental Quality’s revolving fund guidelines in the SID, noting that loan forgiveness could be a part of this, and that the project was fast-tracked on 6th Ave. A loan was in place for the project and the SID levy would repay this loan.

### Spiffy Biffy request

Council also discussed the town permitting portable toilet company Spiffy Biffy to use the town’s sewer system in the event of an emergency, when the company couldn’t use other means to dispose of wastewater.

Spiffy Biffy owners Gary and Heather Caprara, Twin Bridges residents, asked the council for permission to dispose of about 150-200 gallons of wastewater per day from their portable toilets in the town sewer system in March. The Capraras presented a contract to the town council permitting them to use the sewer system in the event of an emergency, when other disposal means were not available.

Town attorney Lori Harshbarger had some problems with the contract.

Harshbarger said she understood the basic idea, but from a legal perspective she had problems: The town spent millions to install the sewer and wastewater treatment system, and she was concerned that if the town permitted Spiffy Biffy to use the sewer system, others, including RVs, would also be interested in doing so, and there would be no regulation of this, about what was going into the sewer system and the impact of this on the town.

Ray and Mary Smail, of Southwest Septic in Ennis, also happened to petition the council for permission to use the sewer system to dispose of wastewater when other means were not available that very evening.

Holbrook was sympathetic to the cause of the Capraras. He suggested that using town sewers was a common occurrence for many communities. Billings, he said, charges \$46 per 10,000 gallons of wastewater input into their system, and he noted that the co-op is the only RV approved dumpsite in town, and charges \$5 per dump.

Maintenance Supervisor Sam Novich said that he didn’t think what the Capraras were proposing – using the sewer system in emergencies – was a problem for the system, but noted that the town was not open for dumping to everyone. He said a fee should be charged for each day the system was used.

Holbrook suggested a \$25 per day fee for Spiffy Biffy’s use of the sewer, “to make it inconvenient,” for emergencies only.

Willauer noted Harshbarger’s concerns and said there was a lot of liability connected to using the town sewers for others. He wondered how the council could be fair in this matter, especially with others, like the Smails, wanting the same privileges.

Gary Caprara reiterated that Spiffy Biffy was only requesting use of the town sewers during emer-

gencies, such as the cold snap and heavy snow in late February, that prevented him from reaching field disposal sites. He also couldn’t understand why, having done all the “leg work” (providing figures on how much and other information) to get his proposal in front of council, especially as a town resident, that this wasn’t a simple deal.

Greamore noted that while the agenda included his request as a discussion item, council was not obligated to vote on it. He wanted to gather more information on the request, find out what volume of additional wastewater the sewer system could accept, before making a decision.

Willauer agreed, saying there was no need to rush into a decision on this, since it probably wouldn’t be until December that the need for it might arise.

Caprara thought it was a simple thing, and couldn’t understand the delays.

Harshbarger said the discussion was turning into a debate and that council needed to decide the limits on this, if it was to be permitted, how many people might use it, what sort of insurance might be needed and other items.

Willauer said the council would decide by December.

### AT&T tower contract

In March, AT&T approached the town about installing a cell phone tower in town. Hyndman told council. AT&T was offering to pay the town \$1,200 per month lease to install a 144-foot tall tower that would provide better cell phone service for the community. The company offered the town a contract to install the tower.

Harshbarger had reviewed the contract for the tower and found several things that needed to be clarified.

Where is the tower going, should have been specified, she said.

Hyndman said it was to be located behind the old ice house, where a cabin had been torn down. His understand was that this was strictly an AT&T phone service tower. He also noted that he’d asked AT&T for \$1,500 per month lease fee, a figure the company agreed to.

Harshbarger also said other items were concerns:

The termination of the contract was one-sided, for AT&T, not the town as a landlord. Insurance fees were a concern. Was \$1 million enough if the tower fell?

Interference from other radio frequency users was a concern. How would a tower impact other radio frequencies?

Indemnification, and what the town warranted about the tower site (free of hazardous materials) concerned her. The environmental clauses were cause to be very, very careful she said.

What happens if the town sells the property? AT&T wanted first refusal rights, and the lease was to be a five-year lease for five terms, or 25 years.

Frandsen wondered about radiation from the tower and if this would impact citizens.

Harshbarger said the given the community’s recent participation in council events, she thought the community ought to be given a chance to weigh in on the contract.

Council decided to include this item on its next agenda.

# Three

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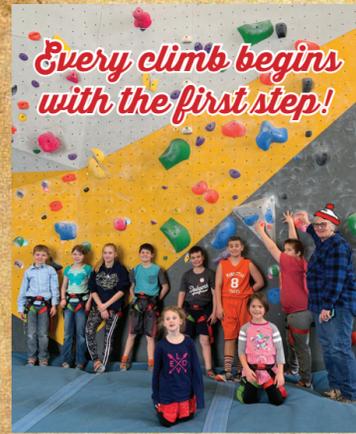
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## Pet of the Week

Because it's time to meet your match

I'm a sweet and loving boy and I'm really a quiet guy. Lost my dad last year and am so lonely and longing for love and attention. Oh I get some, but not near enough. My sister Trista and I are bonded, but can go separately if we have to (pray we don't have to). We are house trained, never been outside. We are UTD on vaccinations and were tested and found negative for FIV/FeLV. Please call Misty at 439-1405 and ask for me or for us. Sincere thanks. Tyrell



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Tyrell

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Established in 1873

(USPS 325-340)

Montana's Oldest Operating Weekly Newspaper

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# OPINION

## Montana's Medicaid expansion works

By Rep. Mary Caferro, Helena

What do rural hospitals, small businesses, and 1 in 10 Montanans have in common?

They all benefit from Montana's Medicaid expansion.

That's why I've introduced the Keep Montana Healthy Act, which will continue a program that works well for the health of all Montanans.

During the 2015 legislative session, I proudly co-sponsored a bill that expanded health care coverage to 1 in 10 Montanans. Now, four years later, Medicaid expansion is firing on all cylinders.

Here's what we know:

First and foremost, Montanans are healthier than ever. For breast cancer and colon cancer alone, more than 14,000 Montanans had access to cancer screenings that allowed for early detection and treatment because of Medicaid expansion.

Second, Montana Medicaid has provided a backbone for small businesses and generated

hundreds of millions of dollars of economic activity for our state. What's more? The program will save the state a projected \$60 million by 2020.

Third, Montana's Medicaid program created a bipartisan, highly successful workforce development program called HELP-Link that has helped Medicaid enrollees access workforce training and a path to higher wages. After Medicaid expansion went into effect, workforce participation from low-income Montanans increased by 9 percent. Within a year after receiving these services, 81 percent of the HELP-Link enrollees are employed, and 71 percent saw an increase in their paychecks.

And finally, we know Montana Medicaid has thrown a lifeline to our rural hospitals and empowered rural Montanans to seek preventative care. Since the legislature passed Medicaid expansion in 2015, our state has not lost a single rural hospital.

There are no if's, and's, or but's about it: Montana Medicaid expansion has been a good deal

for our state.

That's why, during the first week of the 2019 Legislative Session, I brought forward the Keep Montana Healthy Act.

It's the only bill before the legislature that protects health care coverage for 1 in 10 Montanans, supports the 18,000 businesses in Montana that employ someone enrolled in Medicaid, and keeps the doors open to the rural hospitals that have seen a reduction in bad debt and uncompensated care.

Unfortunately, the only other proposal being brought forward would include incredibly costly, ineffective work requirements masquerading as "community benefits" that would pile on the bureaucratic red tape and kick Montanans off their health care.

Work requirements have been a disaster in every state that has tried it and there is no doubt that a work requirement in our state would cost Montana taxpayers more money just to provide health care to fewer people.

Montanans value work, and in our state, work quotas and un-

necessary. The majority of Montanans enrolled in Medicaid are already working, and others are going to school, are caretakers for family members, or are managing a disability or illness.

Some of these proposals could even force Montanans to turn over their private medical information to the government in the form of a mandatory "health assessment" before they would be permitted to enroll in the Medicaid plan.

That just doesn't make any sense.

In Montana, our constituents expect us to promote common-sense ideas that fulfill our obligations, while also living within our means.

My Keep Montana Healthy Act will do just that.

Sometimes the best thing to do is recognize when you have something good. So when it comes to the bipartisan, made-in-Montana Medicaid Program, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

## Tax Day 2019 finds a tax system skewed to the rich and powerful

By Frank Clemente

Tax Day, when we settle our personal accounts with Uncle Sam, is also a good day to take account of our tax system overall. That's especially true this year, when the first tax returns prepared under the new rules of the Trump-GOP tax law are due. We should be asking whether our system is fair, whether it raises the revenue we need, whether it promotes economic growth and equality.

The answer to all three questions is, unfortunately, no. The tax code, already full of loopholes for the wealthy and corporations, was laden with even more by the new tax law. That law will also add nearly \$2 trillion to the national debt, endangering services like Medicare, Medicaid and education, as well as vital new initiatives like lowering healthcare costs and improving road and bridges.

And the Trump-GOP tax cuts is doing little to promote economic growth, but a lot to promote economic inequality, even as the gap between rich and poor reaches Gilded Age proportions.

Over 20% of the Trump-GOP tax cuts are estimated to have gone to the wealthiest 1% of Americans

last year. And once the law is fully in effect eight years from now, the imbalance will get even worse: 83% of the benefits will go to One Percenters.

Big profitable corporations got a 40% cut in their tax rate. And the new tax rate on the foreign profits of U.S. companies is only half the domestic rate, creating big incentives to shift jobs and profits offshore.

Republicans desperate to enact their skewed-to-the-rich tax plan assured the American people the tax cuts would pay for themselves. Wrong. The federal budget deficit jumped by almost \$100 billion in the first quarter of the current fiscal year alone compared to the same period last year, before the Republican tax law went into effect. Contributing to that growing budget gap was a nearly one-third drop in corporate tax receipts.

Rather than reverse all their tax giveaways to the wealthy, Republicans want to make up the shortfall by cutting public services working families rely on—while, incredibly, cutting taxes on the wealthy even more. In his recently released budget, President Trump proposed slashing \$1.4 trillion from Medicare, Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA), while cutting taxes by

\$1.1 trillion, once again mostly to the benefit of the rich.

Trump doesn't just want to cut the ACA's budget—he wants to eliminate it altogether. That would cost 20 million Americans their health insurance, while taking away the protection for 130 million people with pre-existing medical conditions who would pay more or not be able to afford insurance without the ACA.

Big winners from the ACA repeal are the wealthy, along with prescription drug firms and health insurers, whose steadily rising prices squeeze the same families facing reduced public services. That's because they'd no longer pay \$600 billion in taxes to help people afford insurance.

President Trump promised workers would benefit from the corporate tax cuts, guaranteeing that working families would get a \$4,000 boost in wages. Nearly a year-and-a-half later, according to a tally by Americans for Tax Fairness, only 4% of employees have seen any increase in their compensation tied to the tax cuts, and the great majority of those payouts have been one-time bonuses, not permanent raises.

Corporations aren't spending

their tax savings in any significant way on increased investment, either. Where the dollars are really going, predictably, is into the bank accounts of powerful CEOs and wealthy shareholders. Corporations have announced over \$1 trillion in stock buybacks since the Republican plan was signed into law. These boost the price of stocks, and most stock is owned by the wealthy.

So, a Tax Day review of our tax system yields troubling results. But we can fix that. Congress can begin by repealing the tax cuts for the rich and corporations in the recent GOP tax law. Then it can start closing all the other special loopholes inserted in our tax code over the years by the wealthy and well-connected.

Those cost us trillions of dollars in public revenue we need to fulfill solemn promises we've made to ourselves, like Social Security and Medicare, as well as invest in our future through bold new investments. Once those loopholes are closed, on some future Tax Day we can count ourselves proud participants in a fair share tax system.

Frank Clemente is executive director of Americans for Tax Fairness.

# OBITUARIES

## Lester Kilman

Lester Kilman was born in Verona, WI on Aug 15, 1932 to Karl & Frieda Kilman.

They moved around as his Dad took care of cheese factories and mining before settling in Pony in 1940.

Growing up, he enjoyed being outdoors, hiking and watching animals.

He married Pearl Neville in Jeffers, MT in 1954. They had 3 children: Karl, Kathryn, and Karen and raised their family in Ennis, where he was a custodian at Ennis High School for 37 years.

He is survived by his wife, Pearl in Ennis, MT; Karl (Father Paul) Kilman on Vashon Island, WA; Kathryn (Mark) Peterson in Helena, MT; Karen Kilman in Prescott, AZ; and 2 grandsons (John Peterson in Dundee, Oregon & Scott (Kyleen) Peterson in Billings, MT); and a great-grand-



daughter (Parker Rose Peterson in Billings, MT).

Family services were held on April 15 at Jeffers Episcopal Church where he was married with a gravesite ceremony with Masons and Veterans at the Pony Cemetery.

## Norma Joy (Thoreson) Ohren

April 10, 2019

It is with great sadness that the family of Norma Joy Ohren (Thoreson), age 67 of Whitehall announce her passing on the morning of April 10, 2019.

Norma was born in Bagley, MN on May 4th 1951. She grew up with her siblings and worked at the Mileage Café in town where she met and fell in love with Richard Ohren. They married, had a son and set up a homestead in Whitehall.

She worked as a waitress/bar-tender throughout her life. When her mother Grace passed away, Norma and Richard brought her sister Jo into their home to raise.

Throughout her life Norma welcomed in many family and friends, she would never turn anyone away and was always the first to help no

matter how she was feeling. She was kind, loving and hardworking. Never one to complain, she suffered the effects of Multiple Sclerosis for years. Her philosophy in life was love and also, "there's always room for ice cream."

She will be greatly missed.

Norma was survived by her son Douglas Ohren and spouse; her brothers Dennis and Terry Thoreson and spouse; her sister, Jo Aery (Thoreson) and spouse; six grand-kids; nine nieces and nephews; and her special friend of more than 30 years, Gene Collins and family.

Norma followed her mother Grace Thoreson (Lietz), her father Norman Thoreson, her husband Richard Ohren and her sister Mary-ann Dahlke (Thoreson) in death.

## Gloria M Hurtgen

Gloria M Hurtgen was born on Feb 7, 1946 at home in Silverwood MI.

She lived in Norris, MT for 17 years. She attended and graduated from Marlette HS. At that time she did a home study course through Weaver Airline School. Between 1964 and 1973, she worked for Delta, North Central, and Southern Airways.

She met her hubby on March 16, 1968 and married on May 29, 1968, which included marrying 3 beautiful children. A 4th child was added

to the family in 1972.

She is survived by hubby Paul, children Jeff (Laura), Theresa Crain, David, Jan Paul; Grandchildren David Richard (Lindsey), Nicole, Augustus, Ryan, Erik, Stephen, Mason, Trace & Madison. Also, her pride and joy, 2 handsome great-grandsons, Gavin & Nixon.

She was pre-deceased by parents Martin & Theresa Blackmer, Parent-in-law Joey Geraldine Hurtgen, niece Cindy, brother Joe, and one great-grandson, Maverick.

Also survived by sisters Thel-

ma (Dick) Winslow, Judy (Dennis) Geiger & brother Martin Jr (Marcia May), plus many nieces and nephews, and new-found family Patsy, Peggie, Rob & Barbee.

She has had a more blessed life than she could ever imagine.

In lieu of flowers - Donation to Madison Valley Hospital, 305 N Main, Ennis, MT, or St Patrick's Church, Ennis, MT.

Tree planting and memorial get-together at a later date. Mass will be held on April 17, 9 AM, at St Patrick's.





University of Montana - Western women's basketball team

## Daines honors Montanan of the Week: University of Montana - Western women's basketball team

WASHINGTON, D. C. — U.S. Senator Steve Daines recognized the University of Montana Western Women's Basketball Team for winning the NAIA Division I National Championship. The University of Montana Western women's basketball team won the NAIA Division I National Championship game 75-59 over Oklahoma City University and finished their season with 30 wins and only 4 losses. These ladies have done an incredible job exemplifying the hard work that all Montan-

ans are known for. The team also received several individual awards for coaches and players. Their head coach, Lindsay Woolley, was awarded the NAIA Coach of the Year. The Montana Western Bulldogs also had the NAIA Player of the Year, Brianna King. Ms. King set a University of Montana Western single-season scoring record with 771 points. Congratulations to the University of Montana Western women's basketball team on an incredible season and a memorable outcome as the NAIA

Division I National Champions. Daines' "Montanan of the Week" initiative, each week will highlight a Montanan by submitting a statement of recognition in the official Congressional Record, Congress's official proceedings. Daines welcomes nominations for "Montanan of the Week." Call his office at 202-224-2651 or fill out the contact form on Daines' website <https://www.daines.senate.gov/connect/email-steve>.

## SHERIDAN continued from A1: Water remains an issue in Sheridan

Council approved a \$250 donation to the Little League, to be used to purchase fencing and the plaques.

### New well, watering restrictions?

Mayor Bob Stump updated council on the inner workings of the new well project.

Stump said bids for drilling the new well had been opened and a contract was in front of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development (RD) team working on Sheridan's well.

The town received two bids for drilling the new well, one from O'Keefe Drilling Company, in Butte; one from Coldwater Drilling & Pumps, in Arlee. The low bid, Coldwater's, was for \$275,000, about \$5,000 less than the engineer's estimate.

The next step was sending a letter to RD with the bid package, recommending that RD approve Coldwater's bid and give the go-ahead to drill the new well. RD had 15 days to do this, Stump said.

Another issue was the railroad permit/lease, for the distribution line from the new well. Stump was in touch with the railroad to accomplish this.

Stump expected RD to award the contract as soon as possible after approval.

The problem was all the delays — again — were driving everyone connected with the project batty, waiting for governmental approvals: Coldwater was anxious to get working on the project because he had other projects to complete. Stump also has been worried that the continued bureaucratic delays bumped the timing of more water for Sheridan back.

He laid out a time line of the well being completed between May and June, a transmission line for the water being done by August, which means that throughout the prime growing season, water would again be in short supply.

"No different than last summer," Stump said. This could result in watering restrictions again, he told council.

Last summer, watering restrictions began in early July.

Stump offered an alternative: Rehabbing existing well No. 1, using a process that would essentially air-blast openings in the plugged screen inlets and rock surrounding the well casing. This could possibly up the amount of water coming into the well to 60-80 gallons per minute. This technique was used in Whitehall, Stump said, and it doubled the flow rate of the well.

"I'd like to proceed with this one other well so we can do some watering," Stump told council. "But if the situation is not changed, we're going to have to reinstate watering restrictions: No lawn sprinklers, hand watering, using

a garden hose with a hand on the nozzle."

Stump said last summer, one well was running 24 hours a day for five days in a row, and the concern was that the pump would burn up. The flow rate of this well is currently the same as last fall, he said, although water tables are due to soon rise somewhat.

If the town could get another well back in service, it could offer residents limited irrigation, he said.

Council considered Stump's suggestion. Councilman Mike Walter said priority No. 1 was fire suppression, and he thought risking the cost of rehabbing the well was worth it.

Councilman Emilie Saylor wondered how to enforce the watering restrictions. Public Works Director Curt Green said someone sneaking water wouldn't get away with it, that it would show up on their water bill. Stump talked about last year, how notifications were distributed throughout the community, and that anyone caught watering illegally the second time could have their water shut off.

Saylor noted that during the public hearing to increase water rates last fall, the town was promised another well. Since the council couldn't deliver on this promise until later, she thought the town "owed it" to the public to find a way to increase water, depending on the cost of rehabbing well No. 1.

Stump said he would contact the company that offered the air blast screen cleaning and find out the cost. One figure he'd seen was \$3,000. If the town could rehab the well and get more water, he'd have no problem spending \$5,000, but not \$25,000 to get this done, he said.

Green said the current production well is running about 8.9 hours per day to produce 150-160 gallons per minute.

The council agreed to table water restrictions for the time being, and have Stump and Green investigate the costs of air-blast cleaning of the screens for well No. 1. However the council also noted that it might readdress water restrictions at the next meeting.

### Senior Center water service

Stump noted that since the former Ruby Valley Medical Clinic had been torn down, replaced by the new construction of the Ruby Valley Medical Center, and the Senior Center relied on water from the medical clinic, the town needed to run a 142-foot water line down Crofoot Street to the new Senior Center, once part of the former clinic.

Ralph Sand from the Senior Center explained that beginning in February, the new Senior Center had been gutted for restoration, and to bring it up to

codes. Sand said this included about a full kitchen, seating for 40 people, and other work. The restoration, he said, was more extensive and expensive than first thought, including the need for a water line. However, considering the \$200 per square foot cost for a new 40 x 90-foot building, the \$225,000 remodel project seemed like a bargain.

Seniors are currently using local churches to run their activities while the work is being done. Sand told council the water line was not needed right away, but getting it done would be a blessing.

Installing the new line was approved

"This will be something the city can be proud of," said Sand.

### Pool repair money available

Sheridan's pool problems are resolved, according to a report from the parks district board.

Janet Doornbos and Mary Pat Graham told council that the board went through its bylaws and discovered that the parks district was up for repairs to the pool.

At March's council meeting, it was revealed that the pool needed more than \$20,000 in repairs, including filter system work, and rebuilding the pool's boiler unit. Also on the wish list was a \$9,000 pump.

Between the town, the pool club and the parks, Graham said, the money for the filter and other repairs was available, and the pump could be rebuilt for this season, then used as a backup in coming years. Replacing the pump would be a 2020 item.

"Things are looking up," Graham said, "but if we have any other large expenditures, we're in trouble."

In a related matter, council approved the renewal of the yearly lease agreement for the Ruby Pool.

### Brewery address

Council approved a Main Street address for Ruby Valley Brewery's expansion project.

Previously the lot address for the production expansion was 101 East Hamilton Street. A lot line adjustment turned two lots into one, both sharing the Main Street address. This would help the brewery not have to apply for separate alcohol production licenses to cover both locations, a time-consuming and bureaucratic hassle.

### Audit

Town clerk Ginger Galiger told the council that the town's audit, done in late March, came back fine. Galiger and council listened to Morgan Scarr, CPA with Amatics CPA Group, explain the town's audit during a phone conference, saying it was "clean."



## Renting vs. Home Ownership - It's just math!

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<p><b>PRICE REDUCED</b></p> <p>301 S HAMILTON, VIRGINIA CITY \$275,000   #321711</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2bd, 2ba</li> <li>• Beautiful yard w/trees and underground sprinklers</li> <li>• On hill overlooking Historic Virginia City</li> </ul> <p><b>Holly Driskill</b> SALES ASSOCIATE 406.451.3527</p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> <p>25 TRAIL CREEK, ENNIS \$357,000   #330879</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3bd, 2ba single level home</li> <li>• 20± acres, fenced</li> <li>• Attached 2 car garage</li> </ul> <p><b>Rikki Dilschneider</b> BROKER 406.581.5155</p>
<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> <p>GOODRICH GULCH RD   TWIN BRIDGES \$390,000   #322642</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,248± sf, 3bd, 2ba home on 40± acres</li> <li>• 2 car attached garage</li> <li>• No covenants!</li> </ul> <p><b>Michelle Van Dyke</b> BROKER 406.596.0805</p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> <p>19 MADISON, ENNIS \$397,000   #331267</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscaped, sprinklers, 2 car garage, central AC</li> <li>• 3bd-2ba single level home, built in 2017</li> <li>• 1,635± sf w/open floor plan &amp; vaulted ceilings</li> </ul> <p><b>Dot Merrill</b> BROKER 406.570.9067</p>
<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> <p>22 HAYFIELD LOOP, ENNIS \$549,900   #310141</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4bd – 2.5ba upgraded home, agent owned</li> <li>• 11.988± IRRIGATED acres</li> <li>• Open floor plan w/gourmet kitchen</li> </ul> <p><b>Melinda Merrill</b> BROKER 406.596.4288</p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> <p>305 WATER STREET   SHERIDAN \$149,500   #331480</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,694± sf, 3bd, 1ba home</li> <li>• Spacious yard, dog kennels &amp; garden</li> <li>• Covered carport &amp; single car garage</li> </ul> <p><b>Dawn Marie Dickson</b> SALES ASSOCIATE 406.600.4802</p>

# Happy Easter from our family to yours!

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# Coal politics stalls Medicaid expansion renewal

By Eric Dietrich  
Montana Free Press

HELENA — A Republican-sponsored bill to extend Montana's expanded Medicaid program was amended and then voted down on the Senate floor Thursday after five Republican co-sponsors defected in what some of them said was an effort to tie Medicaid expansion to the passage of a "save Colstrip" bill.

Even so, lawmakers of both parties say they expect the Senate to reconsider the expansion measure, House Bill 658, Friday or Saturday and ultimately pass it in some form before the Legislature adjourns.

"I'm not worried, to be honest with you," said Rep. Mary Caferro, D-Helena, who sponsored the Democratic expansion measure ultimately scuttled in favor of HB 658.

"If you're someone who is impacted by Medicaid, don't worry," said Caferro, who voted for the Republican expansion bill in the House. "We're not going to leave the session without Medicaid being figured out."

HB 658, authored by Rep. Ed Butrey, R-Great Falls, would extend the expanded Medicaid program created with the 2015 HELP Act, which uses federal money and some state funding to provide subsidized health insurance to nearly 100,000 low-income Montanans.

Unlike Caferro's measure, HB 658 includes work requirements and other provisions designed to make renewal more palatable to fiscal conservatives who are concerned about the bill's price tag and higher-than-expected enrollment numbers. The bill passed the House on a 61-39 vote March 30, attracting support from all 42 Democrats and 20 Republicans.

In the Senate, the expansion bill was caught up in the politics around another bill, Senate Bill 331.

Sponsored by Sen. Tom Richmond, R-Billings, that bill aims to help North-Western Energy secure a bigger stake in the Colstrip power plant. It has been criticized for undercutting the state Public Service Commission's ability to regulate how NorthWestern passes its costs on to ratepayers.

Richmond and nine other Republican senators, including prominent coal champion Sen. Duane Ankney, R-Colstrip, are listed as co-sponsors on the



Duane Ankney, R-Colstrip on the Senate floor April 11, 2019 (Montana Free Press)

Medicaid expansion bill. Five of those co-sponsors — Richmond Ankney; Sen. Brian Hoven, R-Great Falls; Sen. Jeff Welborn, R-Dillon and Sen. Russ Tempel, R-Chester — voted against the expansion bill Thursday, stalling its second reading at a 25-25 vote.

"It looks like some of the co-sponsors were trying to get the attention of [the governor]," Caferro said.

As the Republican-controlled Legislature enters the final weeks of the 2019 session, Medicaid expansion and another Democratic priority, a state-funded pre-kindergarten program, are seen as potential bargaining chips to pressure Gov. Steve Bullock, a Democrat, to support a revised version of the Colstrip bill.

In a press briefing Wednesday, Bullock wouldn't rule out signing SB 331 into law, particularly if it comes to his desk with amendments.

"I have a lot of concerns about where 331 is today, and whether it's a good deal for Montanans," Bullock said. "I think that it still could well be undergoing changes."

"The 96,000 Montanans who rely on

Medicaid expansion don't have votes to trade," the Governor's office state in a press release following Thursday's vote. "The only choice they have is whether they get the healthcare they need or whether they can put food on the table for their families."

"I sure as heck hope that there isn't a conversation about tying Medicaid to an energy bill, or Pre-K to an energy bill," House Minority leader Rep. Casey Schreiner, D-Great Falls, said Thursday before the Medicaid hearing. "Those are completely separate issues, and to hold families, their education, their early childhood development hostage. That's not okay."

"I want to see how some other issues play out, before we get too far along," Richmond told reporters following the vote.

Ankney echoed the sentiment, saying "Quite frankly, I want to see some support for some of the bills I have."

Ankney is a self-described member of the "Solutions Caucus," a group of moderate Republicans that has often sided with Democrats on major policy issues.

"Natural resources continues to pay a big share of everything we do in this state. But yet, the other side of the aisle don't want to support that," Ankney said.

"They always come to us when they have a big bill, and say 'will you help us?' And we do," he said. "But when turnabout comes around it ain't fair play anymore."

"There were some amendments that we're dealing with," said Tempel, who admitted SB 331 factored into his vote against renewing Medicaid expansion.

"There's a lot of good stuff about the Medicaid bill," he said.

Reporter Leia Larsen contributed to this story.

About Eric Dietrich

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.

## USDA announces sign-up period for updated Conservation Stewardship Program

BOZEMAN — The next deadline for Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) applications to be considered for funding in fiscal year 2019 is May 10, 2019. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) plans to invest up to \$700 million for new enrollments and contract extensions in fiscal year 2019. The 2018 Farm Bill made several changes to this critical conservation program, which helps agricultural producers take the conservation activities on their farm or ranch to the next level.

"CSP continues to be a very effective tool for private landowners working to achieve their conservation and management goals," said Tom Watson, NRCS state conservationist in Montana. "It is the largest conservation program in the United States with more than 70 million acres of productive agricultural and forest land enrolled."

While applications are accepted throughout the year, interested producers should submit applications to their local NRCS office by May 10, 2019, to ensure their applications are considered for 2019 funding.

Changes to the Program The 2018 Farm Bill authorizes NRCS to accept new CSP enrollments from now until 2023, and it makes some important improvements to the program. These updates include:

- NRCS now enrolls eligible, high ranking applications based on dollars rather than acres. For fiscal year 2019, NRCS can spend up to \$700 million in the program, which covers part of the cost for producers implementing new conservation activities and maintaining their existing activities.

- Higher payment rates are now available for certain conservation activities, including cover crops and resource conserving crop rotations.

- CSP now provides specific support for organic and for transitioning to organic production activities and a special grassland conservation initiative for certain producers who have maintained cropland base acres.

### About the Program

CSP is offered in Montana through continuous sign-ups. The program provides many benefits including increased crop yields, decreased inputs, wildlife habitat improvements and increased resilience to weather extremes. CSP is for working lands including cropland, pastureland, rangeland, nonindustrial private forest land and agricultural land under the jurisdiction of a tribe.

### More Information

For additional information about CSP, contact your local USDA service center.

## Become a SKYWARN spotter

GREAT FALLS — The National Weather Service in Great Falls is pleased to announce SKYWARN spotter training sessions for Spring 2019!

We typically hold these sessions in April and May, in advance of the core of our typical summer severe weather season.

We encourage all members of the public with an interest in the weather and a desire to help us better protect the public through more accurate severe weather alerts to join us at one of these sessions!

Please go to <https://www.weather.gov/tfx/2019spotterTraining> for more information on our 2019 SKYWARN Spotter training offerings.

We currently have four sessions scheduled with a firm date/time. We are working on arranging a training session in Cascade County, and will have information in the future about an online training session, likely to be held in later May. If any changes are made or if any other sessions are added going forward, the above page will be updated as soon as possible.

We will be posting information about individual spotter training sessions to our social media accounts in the coming weeks. Please feel free to share those posts. If you would like .jpg or .pdf versions of the 2019 season flyer or the individual session flyer graphics for distribution, please contact francis.kredensor@noaa.gov.

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



## Jackie Smith

Jackie Smith has lived in the Madison Valley for nearly two decades. And during that time, she's made countless baked goods.

"She's a great baker, and she donates all the birthday desserts for the senior center every month," said a friend who nominated Jackie, who wanted to remain anonymous. "She baked over 100 cupcakes for the St. Patrick's Day dance, and she'll make dozens of cookies to give away at the Christmas Stroll."

Baked goods are Smith's specialty, but certainly not her only strong suit when it comes to giving back to her community. At nearly 80 years old, she's the only volunteer at Ennis's Nearly New Shop who puts in a full day's shift every Wednesday. You can find her in the shop from 10 to 4 every week, helping out as a part of her role in the Madison Valley Women's Club. She's been there every Wednesday for almost a decade.

She's also a part of the Mad Gals, the Madison/Gallatin women's club. Through both organizations, she's helped facilitate scholarships, charity events and community support of every kind imaginable.

"She's just always doing something for somebody," said the grateful friend. "She's amazing, and she just takes care of everybody always. She never forgets a birthday or any event."

"She donates so much time, and she does it just because."



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April 7 – 11am Holy Communion and Service for Wholeness  
April 11 – 11am Palm/Passion Sunday Service  
April 18 – 8pm Maundy Thursday Service  
April 21 – Easter Morning Worship followed by a Ham dinner to celebrate  
All welcome to our handicapped accessible services.

THANK YOU TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY for your support and love during our loss. Thanks to all for the beautiful flowers, cards, wonderful food and donations, and also to Ruby Valley Hospital. A special thank you to the beautiful music sung by Anderson and Taylor. *God bless you all,* The Darla Hartford Family

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*"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." -Tom Brokaw*

Montana Medicaid Expansion Enrollment			
County	Adults	County	Adults
BEAVERHEAD	773	MCCONE	167
BIG HORN	2,250	MEAGHER	243
BLAINE	785	MINERAL	506
BROADWATER	347	MISSOULA	11,338
CARBON	769	MUSSELSHELL	497
CARTER	47	PARK	1,514
CASCADE	7,346	PETROLEUM	27
CHOUTEAU	334	PHILLIPS	357
CUSTER	900	PONDERA	824
DANIELS	63	POWDER RIVER	76
DAWSON	499	POWELL	634
DEER LODGE	977	PRAIRIE	62
FALLON	157	RAVALLI	4,004
FERGUS	821	RICHLAND	643
FLATHEAD	8,978	ROOSEVELT	1,827
GALLATIN	6,511	ROSEBUD	1,081
GARFIELD	70	SANDERS	1,309
GLACIER	2,682	SHERIDAN	174
GOLDEN VALLEY	123	SILVER BOW	4,205
GRANITE	193	STILLWATER	515
HILL	2,096	SWEET GRASS	197
JEFFERSON	630	TETON	564
JUDITH BASIN	147	TOOLE	499
LAKE	3,775	TREASURE	59
LEWIS AND CLARK	5,643	VALLEY	520
LIBERTY	216	WHEATLAND	278
LINCOLN	2,324	WIBAUX	41
MADISON	389	YELLOWSTONE	14,176

Data from Montana Medicaid Expansion Dashboard  
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/helplan/medicaidexpansiondashboard>

## Gov. to Senate Republicans: "This is not a game"

### Bullock urges legislators to stop playing politics and pass Medicaid expansion reauthorization

HELENA — Governor Steve Bullock today urged legislators to stop playing politics and pass Medicaid expansion reauthorization after Senate Republicans again stalled action on HB 658.

"Governing is not a game. I join Montanans across the state in reminding the handful of Republican Senators, who are playing Russian roulette with the healthcare of nearly 10 percent of Montana's population, that they are voting on people's lives," said Governor Bullock. "There is still time to do the right thing and get this done — for our neighbors, for our communities and for our economy. But the time for games is over."

By failing to act on HB 658, the Legislature forces the State to begin the process of preparing to inform over 96,000 Montanans covered by Medicaid of their discontinued coverage in the event HB 658 does not pass.

Madison County has 389 people enrolled in the Medicaid program who would be impacted by this.

### Daines for Montana jobs, coal exports

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Steve Daines today reintroduced a bill to help clear the way for the construction of the Millennium Bulk Terminal, which would create hundreds of good paying Montana jobs by expanding trade opportunities for Montana coal.

"Montana has the opportunity to help keep the U.S. energy dominant and expand our economic opportunities through trade," Daines said. "This bill will ensure that the energy market in Montana reaches its full

potential by streamlining regulations that have been abused by activist bureaucrats and killed Montana jobs. It will spur high paying jobs in Montana, empower our Tribes and strengthen our nation's standing as a world economic superpower."

The bill clarifies that Section 401 of the Clean Water Act cannot be used as a weapon to prohibit Montana's exportation of clean and reliable coal to the nation's allies in the Asia Pacific Region.



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## Building in Madison County? Want to split your land?

Are you thinking about a building project outside of town limits? Want to split a piece of ground for your children? Need to know what permits are required to build near an airport or river? Madison County staff is offering a free question and answer evening to help!

**When?** May 1, 6 pm - 8 pm

**Where?** County Administration Building, 103 West Wallace, Virginia City

**Who?** Anyone thinking about building, dividing land, developers, realtor, builders.

For more information, contact Madison County at 406-843-5250 or Email: [planning@madisoncountymt.gov](mailto:planning@madisoncountymt.gov)

## MSU researchers to share latest on bees at April 18 symposium

BOZEMAN — Montana State University researchers will share their latest bee science at an evening symposium that will include short films and a question and answer session with an expert panel.

The annual Pollinator Symposium will take place at Inspiration Hall in MSU's new Norm Ashbjornson Hall on Thursday, April 18, starting at 6 p.m. The event runs until 8 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

"This symposium is about sharing our ongoing research with the big picture of improving bee health," said Michelle Flenniken, co-director of MSU's Pollinator Health Center and assistant professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology in MSU's College of Agriculture. The event is intended for anyone who is interested in bees and other pollinators, including students and community members, she said.

According to Flenniken, pollinator health is important because more than 70% of all flowering plants rely on animal pollinators, such as bees, to reproduce. Many of those plants are fruits, nuts and vegetables. For example, roughly 1.6 million honey bee colonies, each with about 35,000 bees, are

required annually to pollinate the California almond crop. The majority of those colonies are trucked to California from around the U.S.; Montana typically contributes more than 100,000 of those colonies.

The symposium will include presentations on honey bees by Flenniken and two doctoral students in her lab, Fenali Parekh and Alex McMenamin. Zoe Pritchard, a master's student in associate professor Michael Ivie's lab, and Will Glenny, a doctoral student in associate professor Laura Burkle's lab, will present research on wild bees. The symposium will end with a question and answer session with the presenters as well as other MSU faculty and the owner of the local Montana Honey Bee Company.

The three films to be shown are a brief video overview of MSU pollinator research, a National Geographic short film about an unconventional scientist who documents and photographs native bees, and a 12-minute film called "Pollinators Under Pressure."

MSU's Pollinator Health Center brings together faculty from disciplines across MSU as well as expertise from federal and state



MSU graduate student Alex McMenamin gently coaxes new Carniolan honey bees into their new home at the MSU Honeybee Research Site and Pollinator Garden. (MSU/ KELLY GORHAM)

agencies to examine topics including plant-pollinator biodiversity and ecosystem functionality, the mechanisms of pollinator host-pathogen interactions, pollinator

losses and pollinator conservation. Flenniken co-directs the center with Burkle, who is in the Department of Ecology in MSU's College of Letters and Science.

## Montana NRCS announces 2019 Honey Bee Pollinator Initiative

BOZEMAN — The US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is offering additional funding through its Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to target honey bee pollinator resource concerns in Montana in 2019.

While NRCS accepts EQIP

applications on a continuous basis, NRCS has set a deadline of May 10, 2019, to apply for this 2019 initiative funding.

NRCS will work with agricultural producers to combat future declines by helping them to implement conservation practices that provide forage for honey bees while enhanc-

ing habitat for other pollinators and wildlife. EQIP offers financial and technical assistance to eligible participants to install or implement structural and management practices on eligible agricultural land. Conservation practices must be implemented to NRCS standards and specifications. In Montana,

socially disadvantaged, limited resource, and beginning farmers and ranchers will receive a higher payment rate for eligible conservation practices applied.

For more information about EQIP, or other programs offered by NRCS, please contact your local USDA Service Center or visit [www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov).



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## GOT PICTURES?

The MVRG Weed Committee is looking for photographs for their 2020 calendar, featuring scenic photographs and noxious weed education. This is the 17th annual contest and the criteria are as follows:

- Photos must be of the Madison Valley watershed.
- Photos need to be scenic or landscape in nature.
- Photos must be horizontal orientation (not portrait).
- Format must be HIGH resolution TIFF or JPG images submitted digitally.
- We are looking for a variety of seasonal photos.
- Location of where the photo was taken must be included.
- Names need to be written on submitted cds or thumb drives.
- CDs or thumb drives should be submitted along with a self-addressed envelope for return.
- Contest is open to anyone.
- There is no limit on the number of photos you can submit, but please only submit your best.

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PHOTOS IS APRIL 30, 2019**

**Winning photographers will receive 5 calendars free of charge!**

The MVRG Weed Committee will select the winning photos to be published in the 2020 calendar. For questions, please contact the MVRG Weed Committee at 682-3731 or [weedcommittee@madisonvalleyranchlands.org](mailto:weedcommittee@madisonvalleyranchlands.org)

Please send digital photographs with necessary information and a self-addressed envelope to:  
 MVRG WEED COMMITTEE, P.O. BOX 330, ENNIS, MT 59729



### Madison River on Fish & Wildlife Commission agenda April 25

HELENA – The Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission will meet Thursday, April 25, at FWP Headquarters in Helena.

The commission meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. and will be streamed live via video to all FWP regional offices. The meeting will also be audio streamed online at fwp.mt.gov.

The commission will make final decisions on the following topics:

- Canyon Ferry no-wake zones
- Statewide Fisheries Management Program & Guide
- Amendments to administrative rule regarding the Bitterroot River Commercial Use Permit restrictions
- Glendive Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Paddlefish Grant Committee
- Biennial closure of White Bear Fishing Access Site
- Little Muddy Creek Fishing Access Site easement
- Pig Farm Fishing Access Site lease
- Dailey Lake Fishing Access Site easement
- Bridge 51 Fishing Access Site lease
- 2019 migratory bird regulations, seasons and closures

- Sharp-tail grouse reintroduction
- Thompson Fisher conservation easement amendment
- Mt. Haggin WMA, land transfer to Montana Department of Transportation
- Spotted Dog WMA grazing lease
- Blackfoot-Clearwater WMA grazing lease renewal
- Three Mile WMA forest project
- Rob Ledford WMA grazing lease renewal
- Fleecer WMA grazing lease renewal
- Ear Mountain WMA grazing leases renewal
- Big Lake WMA haying lease renewal

The Commission will hear the following presentations and proposals:

- Madison Negotiated Rulemaking Committee update
- 2019 mountain lion quotas
- 2019-20 CSKT pheasant, partridge and waterfowl hunting regulations

The Commission will also look at endorsing the following:

- Visit the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov for more information.

### Trump Administration to help rural communities grow recreation economy

WASHINGTON – On Monday, April 11, in support of the Trump Administration’s Executive Order on Promoting Agriculture and Rural Prosperity in America, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and the Northern Border Regional Commission in announcing assistance to help communities revitalize their economy through outdoor recreation.

“Outdoor recreation not only plays an important role in the health and wellbeing of millions of Americans, but it also generates billions in economic activity and supports millions of jobs,” said EPA Administrator Wheeler. “We look forward to working with communities and our federal partners on strategies that can grow the local recreation economy and revitalize main street while protecting our vital natural resources.”

“By partnering alongside EPA and the Northern Border Commission, the Forest Service is proud to help communities deliver recreation experiences that better meet the needs of visitors and support local economies,” said Vicki Christiansen, USDA Forest Service Chief. “We are committed to sustaining the nation’s forests and grasslands through public-private partnerships that engage people directly in the shared stewardship of their natural resources.”

“We are excited to launch this collaborative effort to provide opportunities to establish outdoor

recreation as a prominent economic sector of rural economies,” said Harold B. Parker, Federal Co-Chair of NBRC.

According to the Outdoor Industry Association’s 2017 report on The National Outdoor Recreation Economy, outdoor activities – including hiking, biking, boating, fishing, hunting, birdwatching, off-road vehicle riding, skiing, snowmobiling, and viewing historic places – generated \$887 billion in annual spending and created more than seven million jobs. These activities can bring new investment to local economies, heighten interest in conservation of forests and other natural resources, and improve quality of life for residents and visitors.

Through this latest federal assistance, a planning team will help communities bring together local residents and other stakeholders to decide on strategies and an action plan to grow the local outdoor recreation economy. The planning assistance process will take place over a period of four to six months, with a focal point being a two-day facilitated community workshop. Participants will work together to identify a vision, goals, and specific actions to realize the locally set goals.

Partner communities are encouraged to pursue activities that foster environmentally friendly community development and main street revitalization through the conservation and sustainable use of public or private forests or other natural resources. Examples include:

- Building or expanding trail

networks to expand use and attract visitors and new businesses

- Developing in-town amenities, such as broadband service, quality housing, or local shops, restaurants, or breweries, to serve residents and help attract new visitors and residents with an interest in nearby outdoor assets;
- Marketing main street as a gateway to nearby natural lands and recreational opportunities; and
- Developing a community consensus on the management of outdoor assets.

EPA and its federal partners expect to announce in summer 2019 the selection of eight communities for planning assistance. The deadline for application is May 31, 2019. Applications may be submitted on behalf of any U.S. community. Special consideration will be given to communities that are:

- Small towns;
- Economically disadvantaged, such as those in Opportunity Zones; and/or
- In the Northern Border Region.

EPA’s Smart Sectors program also provides support to grow the outdoor recreation economy. In 2018, EPA offices in the New England and Mountains and Plains regions established Smart Sectors programs that recognize the wealth of natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities that can be leveraged to create jobs, spur new businesses, and support economic revitalization.

The USDA Forest Service develops and implements place-based



EPA’s Andrew Wheeler

recreation planning using collaborative processes with communities and outdoor recreation and tourism providers within regional destination areas. Forest Service recreation programs support over 205,000 jobs, the majority of which are in rural gateway communities near national forests. The agency partners with states, tribes, local communities, and landowners to promote shared stewardship of public and privately-owned forests and grasslands.

The Northern Border Regional Commission provides federal funds for critical economic and community development projects throughout the northeast. These investments lead to new jobs being created and leverages substantial private sector investments.

For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/recreation-economy-rural-communities>



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Call for reservations of 6 or more: 406.682.4242

### Higher limits now available on USDA Farm Loans

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Higher limits are now available for borrowers interested in USDA’s farm loans, which help agricultural producers purchase farms or cover operating expenses. The 2018 Farm Bill increased the amount that producers can borrow through direct and guaranteed loans available through USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) and made changes to other loans, such as microloans and emergency loans.

Key changes include:

- The Direct Operating Loan limit increased from \$300,000 to \$400,000, and the Guaranteed Op-

erating Loan limit increased from \$ 1.429 million to \$1.75 million. Operating loans help producers pay for normal operating expenses, including machinery and equipment, seed, livestock feed, and more.

- The Direct Farm Ownership Loan limit increased from \$300,000 to \$600,000, and the Guaranteed Farm Ownership Loan limit increased from \$1.429 million to \$1.75 million. Farm ownership loans help producers become owner-operators of family farms as well as improve and expand current operations.
- Producers can now receive

both a \$50,000 Farm Ownership Microloan and a \$50,000 Operating Microloan. Previously, microloans were limited to a combined \$50,000. Microloans provide flexible access to credit for small, beginning, niche, and non-traditional farm operations.

- Producers who previously received debt forgiveness as part of an approved FSA restructuring plan are now eligible to apply for emergency loans. Previously, these producers were ineligible.
- Beginning and socially disadvantaged producers can now receive up to a 95 percent guarantee

against the loss of principal and interest on a loan, up from 90 percent.

#### About Farm Loans

Direct farm loans, which include microloans and emergency loans, are financed and serviced by FSA, while guaranteed farm loans are financed and serviced by commercial lenders. For guaranteed loans, FSA provides a guarantee against possible financial loss of principal and interest.

For more information on FSA farm loans, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) or contact your local USDA service center.



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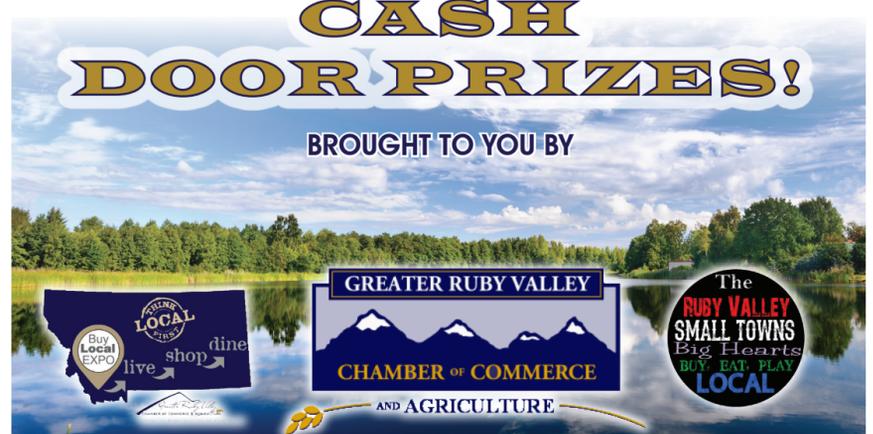
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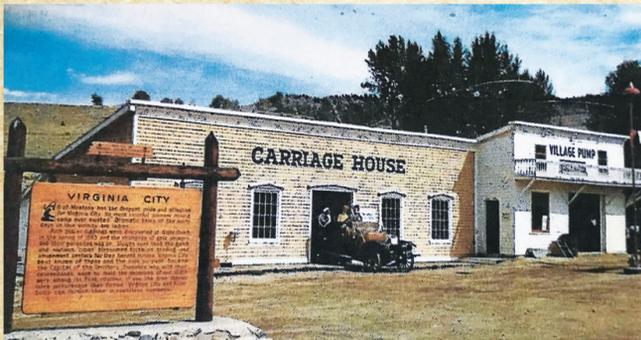
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When the ice recently came off Ennis Lake, Robert Celecia and friends witnessed the largest migration of Tundra Swans in recent memory. (ROBERT CELECIA)

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## Dr. Kathy Meyer joins Ruby Valley Medical Clinic

SHERIDAN – The Ruby Valley Medical Center is pleased to announce that Kathy Meyer, Doctor of Chiropractic, has joined the healthcare providers at the Ruby Valley Medical Clinics.

Dr. Meyer is seeing patients on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Twin Bridges Clinic located at 104 S. Madison Street.

Dr. Meyer sees chiropractic care as a mechanical solution to a mechanical problem. "I work with all the joints in the body, not just the spine – shoulders, elbows, hands, wrists, hips, knees, ankles, feet. If there's a joint in the body, I move it. It's about understanding the human body from a biomechanical approach. That's how I look at it, taking a big picture perspective," said Dr. Meyer.

Her treatments through chiropractic adjustments of the joints can be done in conjunction with the Erchonia laser, a 21st century therapy.

Cold laser, also known as low-level light therapy uses a series of specific frequencies to promote a healing response in the body.

"It is exceedingly effective as a way to jump-start the body's healing process," said Dr. Meyer.

"I use it in a wide variety of situations – tendonitis, bursitis, acute conditions. It is a drug free way to address a lot of conditions including reducing pain and inflammation. We've even used it to effectively alleviate the pain from a bad sunburn!" She finds that having drug-free procedures, such as chiropractic care and the Erchonia laser to be especially important given the current opioid epidemic. Dr. Meyer advises, "It's a 21st century therapy, not some science-fiction hot laser device that cuts through walls."

Although she knew she wanted to be a doctor since the 7th grade, Dr. Meyer chose to become a chiropractor following a work-related injury to her back. She reluctantly went to see a chiropractor but was inspired by the information provided about her injury and the effectiveness of the care she received.

"I was so impressed with the chiropractor; I wanted to do what she did. I found my calling in using my hands to work with the joints of the body to improve overall function and help people feel better! After 25 years, I still really enjoy it!" said Dr. Meyer.

Dr. Meyer decided to take her healing skills west after graduat-



Dr. Kathy Meyer

ing from Northwest Health Science University in Minnesota.

"The Rocky Mountains have always interested me, even as a kid. After I graduated, I had friends in practice in out here. They absolutely loved Montana and highly recommended it. My first trip to Montana was to take my state board exams and look at potential practices for sale. I saw the beauty of southwest Montana and knew I found my home. I bought the practice in Whitehall and I love it here. After 24 years, I couldn't imagine living anywhere else." She is pleased to be able to raise her two school age daughters in a small town environment similar to the small town in the backwoods of New Hampshire where she grew up.

Dr. Meyer believes it is important to develop an individualized treatment plan for each patient. "No two people are alike and their treatments shouldn't be either," said Meyer. "A high school athlete is going to have different needs than a 35 year old construction worker. As for those with arthritis, we want to help them keep the mobility they have in their spine so they will require a different approach than

someone who does office work."

While chiropractors are typically sought for musculoskeletal injuries, spinal pain and joint discomfort, Dr. Meyer also treats expectant mothers as they prepare for delivery.

"Chiropractic care has been shown to decrease labor time and breach babies will often turn on their own after the mother's hips and back are adjusted. There is a very careful and specific protocol for pregnant women and I really enjoy being part of the pregnancy support team." After delivery, Dr. Meyer's skills can help mothers with colicky babies and other early childhood concerns. There are completely different techniques designed for treating infants and small children.

Dr. Meyer is certified through the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners and has completed additional studies in Advanced Extremity Adjusting. She is also a Nationally Certified Impairment Evaluator.

If you would like to arrange an appointment with Dr. Meyer in Twin Bridges, please call the Twin Bridges Medical Clinic at (406) 684-5546.

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## MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

**Thursday**  
 Mostly sunny. High 59, low 35. Winds SW 7 mph, 10 percent chance of precipitation.

**Friday**  
 Sunny. High 65, low 41 Winds SSW 14 mph, 10 percent chance of precipitation.

**Saturday**  
 Rain. High 51, low 32. Winds WNW 9 mph, 60 percent chance of precipitation.

**Sunday**  
 Partly cloudy. High 53, low 31. Winds N 6 mph, 20 percent chance of precipitation.

**Monday**  
 Partly cloudy. High 56, low 36. Winds SW 7 mph, 10 percent chance of precipitation.

## Quote of the Week:

"Prepare for the unknown by studying how others in the past have coped with the unforeseeable and the unpredictable."

Gen. George S. Patton

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# PANORAMA



While visiting Camp Bullwheel last summer, Bill McGraw lost his wallet. He had no idea that an anonymous good Samaritan would later find it and go to great lengths to return it. (R. Colyer)

## Spring bear hunting season open

HELENA – Montana’s spring black bear hunting season opened April 15 and it’s important for hunters to refresh themselves on tips for identifying the difference between black bears and grizzly bears.

All black bear hunters are reminded that they must successfully complete Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks’ bear identification test before purchasing a black bear license.

Take the bear identification test online at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov); click the Education tab, then click “Bear Identification Program.” Complete the training and test, and then present the printed on-line certificate to purchase a license. The training and test can also be obtained on paper, with a mail-in answer card, at FWP regional offices.

The 2019 black bear regulations are available online on the FWP website at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov), at FWP region offices and license providers.

Spring black bear hunters should purchase their license by April 14. Black bear hunting licenses purchased after April 14 may not be used until 24 hours after purchase. Black bear hunters are limited to one black bear license a year.

### Regulation change

This year’s regulations include an important change. While successful black bear hunters must present a complete hide and skull to FWP within 10 days of harvest, including evidence of sex, evidence of sex is not required to be naturally attached. This is a change from previous years.

The print version of the regulations contains an error and still reads that evidence of sex must be naturally attached to the hide when presenting it to FWP (pg.4).

In general, evidence of sex is not required to remain naturally attached to big game animals. However, it is required to accompany the animals from the field to the point of processing.

### Bear safety and awareness

GRIZZLY BEAR		VS	BLACK BEAR	
SHOULDER HUMP	ROUNDED, SHORT EARS		NO SHOULDER HUMP	POINTED, TALL EARS
DISHED FACE PROFILE			STRAIGHT FACE PROFILE	
LONG CLAWS			SHORT CLAWS	
TRACKS FRONT HIND	FRONT CLAW		TRACKS FRONT HIND	FRONT CLAW
- LONGER CLAWS - TOES CLOSER TOGETHER			- SHORTER CLAWS - TOES MORE SEPERATED	
2" - 4" LONG			1.5" LONG	

LOOK FOR A COMBINATION OF CHARACTERISTICS  
COLOR AND SIZE CAN BE MISLEADING

Hunters are reminded that it is unlawful to harvest bear cubs (bears under one year of age), and females with cubs. Remember, if you’re unsure of whether the bear is grizzly or black, male or female, take the extra time to observe the animal before attempting to harvest.

FWP encourages residents to “Be Bear Aware” and remove attractants every spring. Residents are asked to remove or secure food attractants such as garbage and bird feeders and bird seed. Chicken and livestock should be properly secured with electric fencing or inside a closed shed with a door.

Visit [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov) for tips and tools on using bear spray, safe recreating and access to bear-resistant products.

Whether you’re bear hunting, shed hunting, hiking, camping or mountain biking, here are some tips to stay safe in bear country:

- Always carry bear spray and know how to use it.
- Never approach a bear. Respect its space and move away.
- Travel in groups of three or more

people whenever possible and plan to be out only in the daylight hours.

• Make your presence known by talking or other means, especially when near streams or in thick forest where visibility is low. This can be the key to avoiding encounters. Most bears will avoid humans when they know humans are present.

• Don’t approach a bear; respect their space and move off. Remember, female bears are very protective of new cubs.

• When camping, always secure food attractants, whether it’s in a bear-safe container or by hanging all food, trash and other odorous items well away from camp and at least 10 feet above ground and 4 feet from any vertical support. Keep a clean camp at all times. Never cook or eat in your tent.

• When hunting, immediately field dress the animal and move the carcass at least 100 yards from the gut pile.

• When mountain biking, slow speeds around sharp corners and in densely forested areas.

## UM research identifies cross-boundary solutions to invasive weeds

MISSOULA – Weeds don’t stop at fence lines and neither should solutions, according to research published this week in Nature Plants by an international team of 15 researchers, including the University of Montana’s Alex Metcalf.

Around the world, invasive plants spread and escalate management costs, despite exhaustive efforts by researchers, extension personnel and land managers. To address this growing challenge, Metcalf joined the team, which includes both natural and social scientists, to examine weed control through a cross-boundary lens.

Management techniques for invasive weeds primarily have been developed for individual landowners, but practices rarely look at how control from a collective perspective would improve overall weed management outcomes. The new paper is a call to action for scholars and practitioners to broaden their conceptualization and approaches to weed management, beginning by evaluating the “public good” characteristics of specific challenges and adopting solutions properly tailored to their social context.

“Traditional approaches to weed control have often ignored the scale, complexity and collective nature of the problem,” said Metcalf, an assistant professor in UM’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. “What we show with this work is that solutions will be more effective when guided by landscape-scale design principles that encourage cross-boundary cooperation.”

The study, published April 8, frames weed control as a social dilemma, where individual and collective interests do not always align.

“Social dilemmas often take on very different configurations,” Metcalf said. “For example, weed control is almost a classic ‘public good’ problem and requires very different approaches. Correctly classifying the world’s worst weed management challenges helps identify the right type of solution and give people the best chance at achieving their goals.”

The team applied a transdisciplinary approach to four pressing international weed management challenges: plant biosecurity (the protection of plant resources from alien pests through quarantine, port inspections and bulk treatment), weed seed contamination (crop seed sources that can contain weed seeds), herbicide susceptibility (resistant weeds) and biological weed control (classic efforts to deploy host-specific arthropods or pathogens).

“Solutions to these collective problems should be guided by four overarching principles,” Metcalf said. “Stakeholders must share common goals and commitments to contribute to control efforts, values must be shared or good working relationships must be established, individual contributions must be transparent, and resources must be pooled to support those least able to contribute.”

The team of researchers was led by Muthu Bagavathiannan, a Texas A&M University weed scientist, and Sonia Graham, a social scientist at the University of New South Wales, Australia, currently visiting the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. The group plans to continue collaborations to advance weed management solutions in Montana and around the world.



Spotted Knapweed, a nasty invasive weed.

Contributors include Bagavathiannan; Graham; Metcalf; Zhao Ma, Purdue University; Jacob Barney, Virginia Tech; Shaun Coutts, University of Sheffield, England; Ana Caicedo, the University of Massachusetts; Rosemarie De Clerck-Floate, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Canada; Natalie West, the United States Department of Agriculture–Agricultural Research Service, Montana; Lior Blank, Agricultural Research Organization, Volcani Center, Israel; Myrtille Lacoste, The University of Western Australia and Curtin University, Australia; Carlo Moreno, The College of Wooster, Ohio; Jeffrey Evans, USDA-ARS, Illinois, now at Farmscape Analytics, New Hampshire; Ian Burke, Washington State University; Hugh Beckie, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, now with University of Western Australia.

Read “Considering Weed Management as a Social Dilemma Bridges Individual and Collective Interests” in Nature Plants online at <https://go.nature.com/2D7sfXX>.

## Good things in a quiet way...

### Out-of-state visitor receives miracle wallet return

REAGAN COLYER  
[news@madisoniannews.com](mailto:news@madisoniannews.com)

ENNIS—Bill McGraw first visited Camp Bullwheel to visit an old friend.

McGraw and Camp Bullwheel Director of Development Frank Bell had gone to high school together and bonded over a love of the outdoors. They stayed in touch for decades and McGraw organized a visit last summer to get a firsthand look at the work Bell and the rest of the camp staff are doing.

Camp Bullwheel is a nonprofit adaptive fishing outfitter that provides people with physical disabilities or catastrophic injuries to experience life on the river. With adaptive equipment from wheelchair accessible rafts to fishing rods that a quadriplegic can cast with just a breath, the staff make the impossible possible, taking people out onto the famous Madison River who would never otherwise have the opportunity to do so.

“They have the right attitude there,” says McGraw of the staff at Camp Bullwheel. “They’re getting better all the time.”

McGraw himself is the chairman of a private foundation in the Cleveland area, so he has long time familiarity with businesses of this nature and knows what it takes to get them off the ground. He’d restored an Airstream trailer last summer and used it as an excuse to come out and visit Camp Bullwheel. Bell liked the vehicle so much he bought it.

“I had a great time fishing with Peter [Pauwels, Camp Bullwheel’s co-founder] and Frank and a couple of their clients and enjoyed interacting with everyone,” McGraw recalls. “I’m just impressed with what they’re trying—and succeeding—to do. In the meantime, Frank fell in love with the Airstream and he ended up buying it.”

After a day on the river, McGraw climbed out of the raft the group had been in and sat down to take off his waders. As he peeled them off, he noticed his wallet, which he’d tucked in the chest pocket, was gone.

“I looked everywhere, and of course it blended in with everything so I couldn’t find it,” he says. “Finally, I gave up and went back to Camp Bullwheel.”

He called the police, who took down the information and sent someone out to look, also to no avail. It wasn’t the first time McGraw has lost a wallet, so he figured he wouldn’t even bother going through much more effort. He finished his trip, returned to Cleveland a couple days later and began jumping through the necessary hoops, cancelling credit cards, getting a new driver’s

license and writing off as gone the cash that he’d been carrying.

What happened next, nearly a week later, caught him completely unawares.

“I was completely surprised,” he says. He received a call from Rocket Shuttles, one of the local guiding services. Someone along the river had found his wallet and turned it in to the nearest guide shop. “I couldn’t believe it.”

After asking a few questions to make sure they had the right owner, Rocket Shuttles mailed McGraw his wallet. When he got it in the mail, he expected it to be empty.

“That wasn’t the case,” he laughs. “If this had happened in my city, my credit card would have been charged for a tank of gas, a case of beer and a carton of cigarettes before I even noticed it was gone. When I received the wallet in the mail the contents were untouched, including two crisply folded \$100 bills.”

The whole experience, McGraw says, is a testament to the kind of people who live in the Madison Valley. From the police to the staff at Camp Bullwheel and the guides who eventually facilitated the return, they were almost more concerned about the whole ordeal than he was.

“The attitude of everyone involved was enlightened and of deep concern,” he says. “People just aren’t like that in the east. It’s a different ethic. People are trying to do good things there in a quiet way.”

To show his gratitude, McGraw made a \$500 donation to Camp Bullwheel in Rocket Shuttles’ name, hoping to render some small measure of support to the nonprofit’s growth. Camp Bullwheel is heading into its second full season guiding on the Madison and is already full up on reservations for its entire 13-week run, heavily facilitated by volunteer work and donations like McGraw’s.

“I hope this experience on the Madison encourages the fishing community to use the services of Rocket Shuttles, and to consider giving significant support to Camp Bullwheel,” he wrote in a letter to the nonprofit. “Please commit to both this season.”

McGraw has plans to return to the Madison, hopefully for a longer stay, this summer. He’ll likely leave his wallet out of his waders, but he’ll return with an even deeper sense of confidence in the residents of Southwest Montana and the fishing community of the Madison Valley.



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# HEALTH & WELLNESS



Madison Valley Manor news... Spring is in the air and the residents at the Madison Valley Manor are celebrating with outings to local restaurants, drives by the lakes, and attending the Madison Valley Women's Club meetings. The support from the Madison Valley Manor Auxiliary provides many opportunities to the residents to enjoy meals out, trips and more. The auxiliary meets the second Thursday of each month, at 1 p.m. at the Manor. The auxiliary also hosts the monthly birthday party with help from the Manor's activities department. April's birthdays include: Lee, Don, and Nancy. Lee Sprout, above, enjoyed cake (donated by Madison Foods), ice cream and music provided by Jim Forsberg and local musicians. A great time was had by all. (SUBMITTED)

## The skinny on fat: the good, the bad, and the unknown

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Fat is an essential nutrient for our bodies. It provides energy. It helps our guts absorb certain vitamins from foods. But what types of fat should you be eating? Are there any you should avoid?

Recommendations about dietary fat have shifted over the last two decades. From the 1970s through the 1990s, nutrition researchers emphasized eating a low-fat diet.

This was largely because of concerns about saturated fats, explains Dr. Alice H. Lichtenstein, who studies diet and heart health at Tufts University. Saturated fat that's in the bloodstream raises the levels of LDL cholesterol—the “bad” cholesterol. This in turn raises the risk of heart disease.

But when people started following low-fat diets, they didn't only cut saturated fats. In many cases,

they replaced healthy unsaturated fats with processed carbohydrates, explains Lichtenstein.

“Initially, when we recommended cutting total fat we did not anticipate people would replace it with fat-free foods, like cookies, crackers, and ice cream, made with refined grains and sugar,” says Lichtenstein. “It is what we refer to as an unanticipated consequence.”

As scientists have learned, those replacement calories matter. Studies have shown that replacing saturated fat with unsaturated fat reduces the risk of heart disease. However, replacing saturated fat with simple carbohydrates, such as added sugar and white bread, does not.

“There's still this misconception that eating fat—any kind of fat—is bad. That it will lead to heart attacks, or weight gain. That's not true. People really should be encouraged to eat healthy fats,” says Dr. Frank Sacks, a nutrition expert at Harvard University.



Since 2015, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has taken steps to remove artificial trans fats from the food supply. Most trans fats now in food come from the small amounts found naturally in animal products, like meat and butter.

Experts already recommend that people limit their intake of animal fats. “So that takes care of those trans fats as well,” Lichtenstein says.

As for saturated fat, it's complicated. Not all of the saturated fat in the bloodstream comes from the saturated fat that we eat, explains Dr. Ronald Krauss, who studies cholesterol at the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. Instead, it's produced when the body breaks down simple carbohydrates and sugars. That's one reason why replacing saturated fat in the diet with simple carbohydrates doesn't reduce the risk of heart disease.

Nutrition experts still recommend that people minimize the amount of saturated fat in the diet. But researchers are now looking at whether the type of food that saturated fat is found in matters. For example, the influence of plant-based saturated fats, such as those in coconut and palm oil, is still unclear and being researched further.

Recent studies suggest that some full-fat dairy products, such as yogurt, may actually have benefits for the heart, Krauss says.

Krauss and his colleagues recently ran a small study looking at the effects of replacing some of the sugar allowed in the DASH diet with saturated dairy fats. The DASH diet was developed by NIH to help lower blood pressure.

Participants who ate saturated dairy fat instead of sugar had less of a fat called triglycerides in their bloodstream. The higher-fat diet was also as effective at lower-

ing blood pressure as the standard DASH diet.

More research is needed to understand which foods that contain saturated fats may influence the body in a good way.

### Individual Needs

Researchers know that there are big differences in how people's bodies react to different types and amounts of fat. But they still don't know why. Studies have found that genes aren't likely responsible, Sacks explains.

Lichtenstein and Krauss are both studying how the microbes that live in the gut interact with dietary fats. The makeup of the microbiome—all the microorganisms that normally live in the body, mainly in the gut—can differ widely between people.

It may turn out that different types of gut bacteria produce different compounds from fats. These compounds could then affect the body in different ways, Lichtenstein explains. Or different types of fats could promote the growth of different bacteria in the gut, which may then have varying effects on health.

“We just don't know yet, but there is tremendous interest in trying to understand the role of the gut microbiome in human health,” she says.

If there's one thing that the research has shown, it's that the science of diets is very complex. Experts have moved away from focusing on single nutrients—such as fat—by themselves. Instead, Sacks says, researchers now talk about healthy dietary patterns: ways of eating that take all aspects of the diet into account. Learn more about healthy dietary patterns at [health.gov/dietaryguidelines](http://health.gov/dietaryguidelines).

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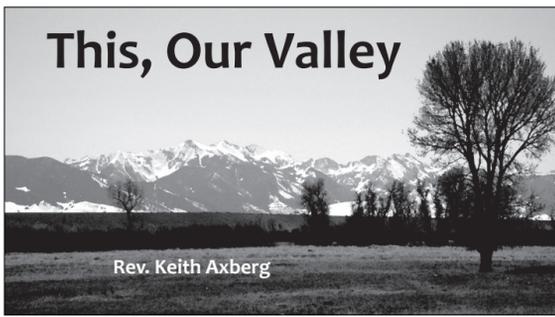
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# COLUMNS



## This, Our Valley



Rev. Keith Axberg

“How do you ever know for certain that you are doing the right thing?” Anthony Doerr, *All the Light We Cannot See*

My wife and I flew down to Texas for a wedding a week or so ago. I'd been dreading the trip as I do not like to fly. It isn't the flying that bothers me, but the pre-boarding ritual one needs to go through for the privilege of sitting in an aluminum tube for several hours, scrunched between two other souls on seats that make the small end of a

baseball bat look spacious.

I know modern air travel is far faster and more comfortable than riding an ox-pulled wagon several hundreds or thousands of miles across a true wilderness on trails laughingly called roads. I know that, and yet it isn't the journey that bothers me. It's the “thinking” about the journey that sets my teeth on edge.

So you can imagine my amazement when we arrived at the airport and discovered, to our great delight, that having “checked in” online the previous evening, we didn't need to deal

## Fear and loafing in South Texas

with the kiosk at the entrance. We went directly to the baggage counter with our two overstuffed suitcases and the friendly clerks took them, weighed them, tagged them, and set them on the conveyer, which took them through a portal toward that twilight zone bags go to play in.

For some reason, our boarding passes noted that we were trustworthy souls entitled to keep our shoes on while we made our way through the security choke point (which wasn't choked at all), and before you knew it, we were at our gate with a ton of time to spare.

I was amazed (and the return trip was just as quick and orderly as the outbound experience had been). The reality matched up with neither my prior experiences nor the nightmare my imagination had conjured up. The process was – dare I say it – a

delight!

One would think that I would know by now that fear and anxiety will always catapult my imagination over the parapet of common sense, but I have seldom let common sense get a toe-hold on the Normandy Beaches of my life. But I have also learned, once past the points of my greatest fears, to let go and move on (which I did), which allowed me to enjoy the rest of the trip.

We got to spend time with the lucky couple and many of the members of their extended families. We got to see parts of the world we've never seen before (the WW-II Carrier, Lexington; the Texas State Aquarium; the Alamo; and San Antonio's famous River Walk). I also managed to discover, to my dismay, that I still have no natural sense of direction south of the Mason Dixon line. Thank goodness for

the Map App on my phone. Without it, I would have truly been lost.

There were parts of Texas where even the app I was using couldn't find a way home. She had me driving in circles on the same roads until I gave up and, looking through my windshield, followed the road signs. What a concept!

Aside from that one glitch in the system, I was bemused by my complete inability to anticipate what direction the app would have me turn as I drove anywhere and everywhere. The sky was overcast, and the land was flat, so I had no sun to guide me or geography with which to align my personal gyroscope. After a week (and I'm not exaggerating), I was finally able to drive the five blocks from where we were staying to where other members of the family were staying without

the use of GPS!

Sometimes life is disconcerting and confusing. We lose our bearing, or we lose our landmarks, or we find ourselves trapped in a grayness that makes every option look wrong (or right) whether it truly is or not. It is times like that it's nice to have an app that points north, or a guide that points us in the direction we need to go to reach our destination.

As we approach Easter once again, let's pause and give thanks for the One in whom we can trust to always bring us home, and who IS the way, truth, and life in this, our valley.

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

## A different kind of easter egg hunt: Seven ways to seek and celebrate the bright spots in your community

By Quint Studer

Spring is here, and it's time to fall in love with our hometowns again. Everything is lush and green, Easter is days away, and those who've moved away are coming home to visit loved ones and celebrate the holidays. With family and spring rituals in the spotlight, it's the time of year that people really appreciate their communities the most. But even so, there are plenty of things we take for granted.

Each small and mid-size city is unique. Each has its own history and traditions. But when we live there, it's easy to forget how many gifts we really have.

Over the next few weeks, take some time to notice and honor those things that make your community special. To make it fun, think of them as ‘Easter eggs’—those bright spots that we might miss if we aren't

paying attention.

Every community has Easter eggs. They're those monuments, natural features, old buildings, or quirky businesses that create a sense of place. When we celebrate them, we can help ignite the kind of community spirit that helps places bloom and become more vibrant.

An Easter egg might be something you're used to and rarely notice, like a 200-year-old church or a beautiful riverfront park or a restaurant hidden away on a country road that serves award-winning barbecue and plays great bluegrass music. The point is that it's ‘hidden in plain sight’ but as you go about your busy life, you kind of don't notice it.

Finding and celebrating your town's Easter eggs is just a matter of getting in the right mindset. A few tips:

Stay positive. Spread the good news about your community. All

too often, we tend to look at our communities with an eye for what is going wrong. Focus on what is going right instead. Talk up your community to friends and family. If you're on social media, post a picture of a beautiful spot or the crowd at the local fish fry or flower festival.

By staying positive, you can inspire others to feel good about where they live also. More people will get out and about, and others will be attracted to the community as well.

Notice what you normally take for granted. What features does your town have that you've gotten used to, but that are truly unique and special? Is there something you drive by every day on your way to work that's commonplace to you but might be delightful or charming to a visitor?

When you've lived somewhere for a while, you quit noticing what's great. Open your eyes and look around. Maybe there's a country

store that sells homemade jams you could serve at Easter dinner, or a park you could take the grandkids to for a picnic.

Try to find one Easter egg a day for the next week. Each day, walk through a historic site, pop into a boutique or museum, or take the family to a locally owned restaurant. Everyone is busy but even spending 30 minutes appreciating an ‘Easter egg’ will brighten up your day.

Make your ‘egg hunt’ public. For example, if you belong to a local Facebook page or other social media group, make a post asking others to share their favorite local ‘Easter eggs.’ See how many responses you can get. (Even better if you make it a contest with a small giveaway to motivate people to contribute.) Or extend a blanket invitation for the community to join you for a short day hike at a local nature preserve or a meet-up at a local landmark—this

is a good way to help other citizens appreciate local hidden gems too.

Arrange to make a neglected bright spot a bit brighter. Is there a city landmark that's looking a little dilapidated and could use a little TLC? Consider hosting a clean-up day. People can volunteer to mulch and plant flowers or maybe even apply a fresh coat of paint. If you volunteer to spearhead the event (and of course get the proper permissions or permits), you can always recruit help from local youth groups or school Beta clubs.

Ask visitors what they like most about your town. This can be newcomers, visitors, or former residents just returning for a visit. Very often a new viewpoint can help us see the familiar in a new light.

Look out for new things that could become Easter eggs of the future. For example, you might have a large blank wall that could be

turned into a mural that celebrates your town. Or there might be an old warehouse or factory with great bones that could be repurposed as a local art gallery or a cool restaurant.

When you decide to look at your community with fresh eyes, it changes everything.

Practice makes perfect. The more you think about your town's bright spots, the easier it will be to notice and take advantage of them. Before you know it, you'll find your attitude has shifted. You'll be more appreciative and grateful for all your town has to offer.

*Quint Studer is author of Building a Vibrant Community and founder of Pensacola's Studer Community Institute, a nonprofit organization focused on improving the community's quality of life and moving Escambia and Santa Rosa counties forward.*

## COMMODITY INSITE: The best of times

BY JERRY WELCH

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,” are opening words to Charles Dickens' novel *A Tale of Two Cities* written 1859.

I cannot think of a more appropriate description facing American grain and livestock than those words penned 160 years ago. In fact, since the Farm Crisis of the 1980s, no other period in US agricultural has been so difficult as the one now being experienced.

Wikipedia describes the Farm Crisis of the 1980s as such: “The United States experienced a major agricultural crisis during the 1980s. Record production during this time led to a fall in the price of commodities. Exports fell, due in part to the 1980 United States grain embargo against the Soviet Union. Farm debt for land and equipment purchases soared during the 1970s and

early 1980s, doubling between 1978 and 1984. Other negative economic factors included high interest rates, high oil prices and a strong dollar. By the mid-1980s, the crisis had reached its peak. Land prices had fallen dramatically leading to record foreclosures. The Farm Credit System experienced large losses, which were the first losses since the Great Depression.”

In February, 2018, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) noted that net farm income from all US sources fell to a 12-year low. In March of this year, USDA stated that “inflation-adjusted net farm income in 2019 would be 49 percent below its highest level of 2013 and below its historical average across 2000 - 2017.” Needless to say, from an income level farmers and ranchers are experiencing the worst of times in nearly 40 years.

I cannot think of any profession or occupation – doctors, lawyers, teachers, truck drivers, construction workers, or hamburger flippers – whose income last year and this is at a 12- to 19-year low. But American farmers and ranchers, the very people that feed and clothe our nation are enduring such a situation and have been for years. The last time such a set of circumstance befell American agriculture was during Farm Crisis of the 1980s.

The primary reason agriculture producers are struggling is because there are no shortages with any commodity.

History shows without a shortage, or perceived shortage, it is difficult for prices of any commodity to improve in value and hold the gains for a sustainable period of time. There are no shortages because American agricultural producers are the

most successful businessmen and women in history. Year-in and year-out, they produce regardless of political issues, currency fluctuations, interest rates, or the whims of Mother Nature.

Yes, in one sense, farmers and ranchers are struggling financially because they are too successful. And if history repeats itself, they will be continue to be successful and feed and clothe the nation in the future.

However, on the horizon there is a sea change coming for American agriculture.

A few weeks ago in this column I posted a piece entitled “Game Changer.” I stated, “If and when China and the US strike a deal to end the trade war, it is a game changer for American agriculture. A deal should be agreed up within a month. I am basing that forecast on how much volatility

is taking place with most all ag-markets and how how anticipatory the futures market has been down thru history. Without embellishment, a trade deal with China is a game-changer for US agriculture.”

Unfortunately, as of this week, no deal with China has been struck.

It is highly likely that a deal will be done but each week there is stalling, balking, stonewalling and delays in getting the job done.

Such indecision has caused the US ag-markets experience uncertainty. And when it comes to markets of all kinds, uncertainty is bearish.

Once a deal is struck and China honors their pledge to buy \$50 billion worth of US ag-products from the US it will be unparalleled in history. The amount of money China plans to spend is simply breathtaking

and such purchases will alter the balance sheet for host of commodities. It is impossible to say what exactly is on the Chinese shopping list but rest assured, high protein products will be sought eagerly. Bank on it.

Learn the history of markets and what happens when supplies of grains or livestock tighten due to increased demand. And understand; a trade deal with China ends what I see now as “the worst of times” and ushers forth what history will eventually describe as “best of times” for American agriculture producers, farmers and ranchers.

## An old man speaks his mind

My friend and I were looking for a quiet place to eat. We'd signed the deal and sold the cows. Our day was near complete.

We'd driven my old Chevy ‘bout two hundred miles from home. We hadn't had a bath and neither head had seen a comb.

We both preferred The Coffee Shop, but that was far away. So, we settled for a fancy inn that advertised “Buffet.”

The maître d' looked down

on us. Said, “Move along old men.” His voice spoke with authority so moving was our plan.

But our legs were sore and swollen and they showed the years of wear. We sure don't break no record speed when using old Shank's Mare.

I looked the young man straight ahead, then gave him my stink-eye. I said, “We don't mean much to you and think I know just why.”

“You're primping in a new blue suit. Your beak at 45. No

one has taught you manners, yet respect is still alive.”

“So, let this old man tell you just how much you oughta know. And maybe if you're smart enough you'll use this chance to grow.”

“The beef, which you've been serving here, is more than chunks of meat. Before they were a tenderloin, they walked on all four feet.”

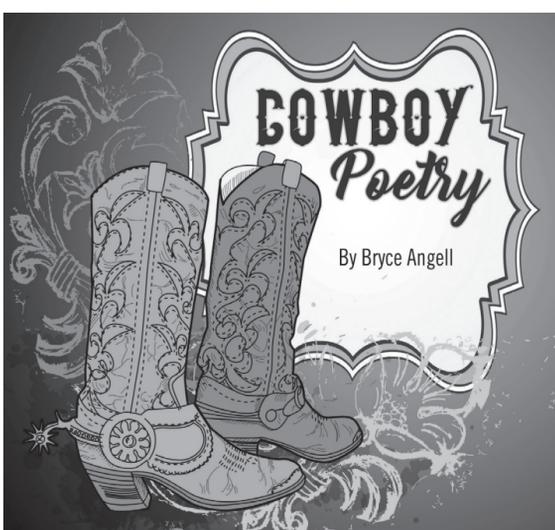
“My friend and I raise beef you know. Try kicking that about. And I bet you're clueless cows eat hay and where

the crap comes out.”

“The spuds you place beside the meat are usually mashed or fried. They're grown by men who work the land. Some old and some have died.”

“This job you now rely on depends on men like us. Not to mention all the food you eat. Consider that a plus!”

“So, next time you call us old men, shoot some earned respect our way. And ‘bout right now a thank you would be nice for you to say.”



# COMICS & PUZZLES

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Mouth part
- 4 Uses an old phone
- 9 Taxi
- 12 Lemony drink
- 13 "Snowy" bird
- 14 11-Down cousin
- 15 Woodworker
- 17 Fish eggs
- 18 Parisian pal
- 19 McCormick's invention
- 21 Tennis need
- 24 Palm starch
- 25 — Khan
- 26 Morning moisture
- 28 Phobos and Deimos, to Mars
- 31 "— Your Enthusiasm"
- 33 British rule of India
- 35 Merriment
- 36 Military caps
- 38 Wrigley product
- 40 Listener
- 41 Heidi's range
- 43 Piece of pasta
- 45 Half a dime
- 47 Ailing
- 48 Jimmy Kimmel's network
- 49 "Seize the day" in Latin
- 54 Half of XIV

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54					55					56		
57					58					59		

- 55 Elbows' counterparts
- 56 Dove's call
- 57 Tokyo's old name
- 58 Begin
- 59 Conclusion
- DOWN**
- 1 Fond du —, Wis.
- 2 Actress Lupino
- 3 Apiece
- 4 Considered
- 5 Pilot light, e.g.
- 6 Illustrations
- 7 Lecherous looks
- 8 Rill
- 9 Used the HOV lane
- 10 Lotion additive
- 11 Brewery output
- 16 LPG's Se Ri —
- 20 Quite enthusiastic
- 21 Poolroom item
- 22 Chills and fever
- 23 Thin-sliced raw meat
- 27 Witty one
- 29 Patricia of "Hud"
- 30 Withered
- 32 Defraud
- 34 Gin flavoring
- 37 Motes
- 39 Harass
- 42 Point of view
- 44 Antiquated
- 45 Church section
- 46 Footnote abbr.
- 50 Actor Stephen
- 51 Hockey surface
- 52 A billion years
- 53 Chic, in the '60s

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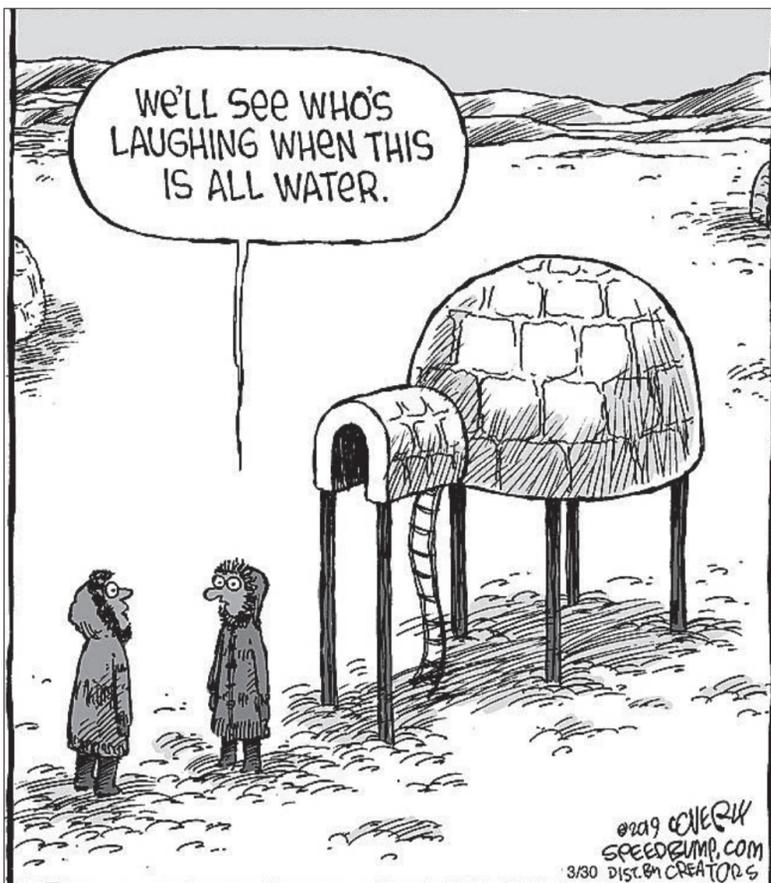


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Editor's Note: Any editorial cartoons printed in our paper do not reflect the opinion of the staff of The Madisonian.

Puzzle answers on B11

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Harrison Public School will be hiring coaches for Varsity, JV and JH teams for volleyball, cross country, basketball and track (boys and girls) for the 2019-20 school year. For more information, please contact Harrison AD, Connie Young at 685-3428. If you are interested in any of these positions, please submit a letter of interest to Fred Hofman, Harrison School Superintendent, PO Box 7, Harrison, MT 59735

General laborer, full-time with benefits, M-F at The Antler Shop. Apply at 339 W Main St. Call 682-7153

Ready-Set-Grow Preschool in Sheridan, MT is accepting resumes with references, for the head teacher and aide positions for the 2019-2020 school year. Please submit to the Pre-school at PO Box 13, Sheridan, MT 59749.

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  - Fairgrounds Groundskeeper (2 positions available) Twin Bridges, Part-time;
  - Motor Vehicle Clerk Virginia City-Full time.

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

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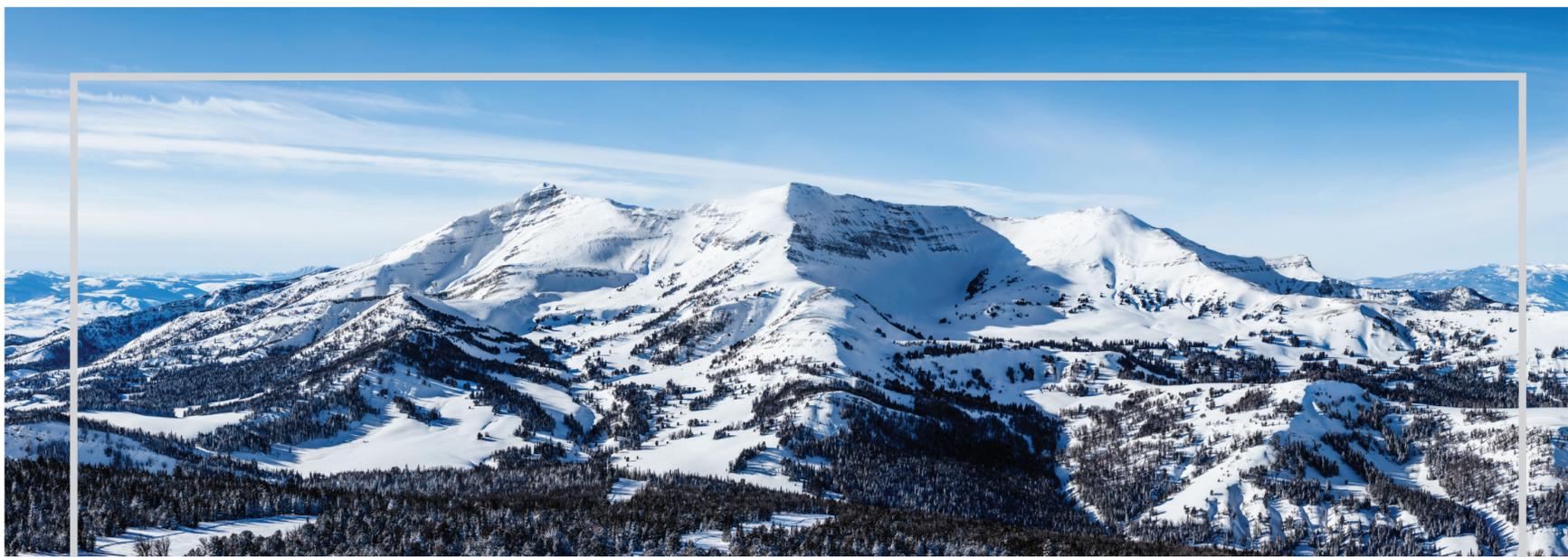
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# PUBLIC NOTICES

## APRIL 18, 2019

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for the Town of Ennis, Madison County, Montana, Case No. 18-08-1265P. The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) solicits technical information or comments on proposed flood hazard determinations for the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. The FIRM and, if applicable, the FIS report have been revised to reflect these flood hazard determinations through issuance of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), in accordance with Title 44, Part 65 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to adopt or show evidence of having in effect to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. For more information on the proposed flood hazard determinations and information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, please visit FEMA's website at [www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe), or call the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627). (Pub. April 11, 18, 2019) AECOM MNAXLP

**SUMMONS/CITATION FOR PUBLICATION**

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF SKIP PARKER AND SANDY PARKER VS. RUSSELL WISEMAN, INDIVIDUALLY AND D/B/A YELLOWSTONE BUILDERS. CAUSE NO. DV-29-2019-11 SUMMONS/CITATION FOR PUBLICATION TO: RUSSELL (RUSTY) WISEMAN You are hereby notified that a Complaint has been filed in cause number DV-29-2019-11 in the Montana Fifth Judicial District Court in Madison County by Skip Parker and Sandy Parker, through the Law Office of Jill Gannon-Nagle, located at PO Box 283, Dillon, Montana 59725. The Complaint requests the Court grant the following relief: a final judgment declaring Wiseman's purported lien as defective and invalid, improperly filed, and that the Parker property is free from any claim of lien by Wiseman; a final judgment in favor of the Parker's against Wiseman for any claim of lien or cloud upon Parker's title, and for attorney's fees and costs. THE STATE OF MONTANA SENDS GREETINGS TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: YOU, THE RESPONDENT, ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action which is filed in the office of the above-named Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to file your answer and serve a copy thereof upon Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default, for the relief demanded in the Complaint. GIVEN under my hand this 11th day of March, 2019 at the hour of 10:30 o'clock, A.M. /s/ Karen Miller CLERK OF COURT By: Carmin Hill, Deputy Clerk of Court (Pub. April 4, 11, 18, 2019) Law Office of Jill Gannon-Nagle MNAXLP

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

TO BE SOLD FOR CASH AT TRUSTEE'S SALE on July 25, 2019, at 02:00 PM at the Front Door to the Madison County Courthouse located at 100 West Wallace in Virginia City, MT 59755, the following described real property situated in Madison County, Montana: Lot 37 of the Virginia City Ranches, Madison County, Montana, the amended plat of which is on file and of record in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, Montana, in plat Book 4, Pages 82-84 Ronald H. Brown Jr., as Grantor(s), conveyed said real property to First American Title Company - Ennis, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Community Bank, a Montana Banking Corporation as Beneficiary, by Deed of Trust dated on June 26, 2017, and recorded on June 26, 2017, as Document No. 173129. The beneficial interest is currently held by Citizens Bank, N.A. First American Title Company of Montana, Inc., is currently the Trustee. The beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust by failing to make the monthly payments beginning September 1, 2018, 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. The total amount due on this obligation as of January 19, 2019 is \$240,383.83 principal, interest totaling \$4,206.72, late charges in the amount of \$340.17, escrow advances of \$831.28, and other fees and expenses advanced of \$274.44, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other costs and fees that may be 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 Grantors. 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, at any time prior to the trustee's sale, may 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 thereby cure the default. The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to 15 days for any reason, and in the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the trustee for up to one-hundred twenty (120) days by public proclamation at least every thirty (30) days. DATED: March 27 2019 By: /s/ Rae Albert, Assistant Secretary for First American Title Company c/o Title Financial Specialty Services PO Box 339, Blackfoot, ID 83221 STATE OF Idaho ) SS. COUNTY OF Bingham ) On this March 27 2019, before me, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Rae Albert, known or identified to me, to be the Assistant Secretary of First American Title Company, who is named as the Trustee in the above described Trust Indenture and executed the instrument on behalf of said Trustee, and acknowledged to me that said Trustee executed the same. Kaitlin Ann Gotch Notary Public of Idaho Residing at Blackfoot, Idaho Commission Expires 07/29/2022 (Pub. April 11, 18, 25, 2019) Title FSS MNAXLP

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

TO BE SOLD FOR CASH AT TRUSTEE'S SALE on August 13, 2019, at 10:00 o'clock A.M. (recognized local time) at the Front Door of the MADISON County Courthouse, located at, 100 West Wallace, Virginia City, Montana, the following described real property, situated in MADISON County, Montana: Lots 11, 12, 13 & 14 in Block 14 according to the amended plat of the Town of Pony, Montana filed in Book 2 of Town Plats, page 144, records of Madison County, Montana. Commonly known as: 203 Broadway St., Pony, MT 59747 Carl L Pearson, III, as Grantor(s), conveyed said real property to First American Title Company, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Kimberly Knapp, a single woman in her own right, as Beneficiary, by Trust Indenture dated September 07, 2017, and recorded September 07, 2017, as Document No. 174387. The Beneficial interest is currently held by Kimberly Knapp, a single woman in her own right. Carl L Pearson, III has defaulted in the performance of said Trust Indenture by failing to provide proof of Fire Insurance to beneficiary. 2) Failure to make the monthly payment in the amount of \$660.00 due for the 1st day of February, 2019 and a like sum of \$660.00 due for the 1st of each and every month thereafter, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation, and other charges against the property or loan. As of March 28, 2019 there is due and owing on the loan an unpaid principal balance of \$66,000.00, accrued interest in the amount of \$1,320.00 and late fees in the amount of \$132.00, for a total amount due of \$67,452.00. Interest accrues on the Note at the rate of 12% per annum with a per diem rate of \$21.70 after March 28, 2019. Interest continues to accrue. All delinquencies are now due together with any late charges, advances to protect the security, and fees and costs associated with this foreclosure. The Beneficiary anticipates and may disperse 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 Grantors. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust.

property, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, may pay to the Beneficiary to the successor in interest to the Beneficiary the entire amount then due under the Trust Indenture 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 thereby cure the default. The scheduled Trustee's sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to fifteen (15) days for any reason, and in the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the Trustee for up to one-hundred twenty (120) days by public proclamation at least every thirty (30) days. DATED: March 27 2019 By: /s/ Rae Albert, Assistant Secretary for First American Title Company c/o Title Financial Specialty Services PO Box 339, Blackfoot, ID 83221 STATE OF Idaho ) SS. COUNTY OF Bingham ) On this March 27 2019, before me, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Rae Albert, known or identified to me, to be the Assistant Secretary of First American Title Company, who is named as the Trustee in the above described Trust Indenture and executed the instrument on behalf of said Trustee, and acknowledged to me that said Trustee executed the same. Kaitlin Ann Gotch Notary Public of Idaho Residing at Blackfoot, Idaho Commission Expires 07/29/2022 (Pub. April 11, 18, 25, 2019) Title FSS MNAXLP

**LEGAL NOTICE: SEEKING COMMENTS**

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) is seeking comments on an Environmental Assessment to conserve native Westslope Cutthroat Trout by removing non-native brook and hybrid rainbow x cutthroat trout from Ramshorn Creek. This EA is available on FWP's website: [http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/environmentalAssessments/speciesRemovalAndRelocation/pn\\_0081.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/environmentalAssessments/speciesRemovalAndRelocation/pn_0081.html) (Pub. April 11, 18, 2019) Montana FWP MNAXLP

**LEGAL NOTICE - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to enhance approximately 40 acres of aspen-dominated forest within the RLWMA (Figure 2) through contracted mechanical removal of competing conifer trees with commercial value and low-landscatter of conifer trees with no commercial value. [http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/environmentalAssessments/developmentImprovements/AndEnhancements/pn\\_0401.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/environmentalAssessments/developmentImprovements/AndEnhancements/pn_0401.html) (Pub. April 18, 25, 2019) Montana FWP MNAXLP

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPLICATION NO. 41B-30118351 BY HELLE LIVESTOCK**

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: JUNE 3, 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: 41B 30118351 Applicant: HELLE LIVESTOCK 1350 STONE CREEK RD DILLON, MT 59725 7332 WATER RIGHT NUMBER(S) BEING CHANGED Water Right Type: STATEMENT OF CLAIM Water Right Number: 41B 30117455 Priority Date: DECEMBER 5, 1907 PAST USE OF WATER: THE ELEMENTS OF STATEMENT OF CLAIM NO. 41B 30117455, AS CLAIMED BY THE APPLICANT, INCLUDE A PRIORITY DATE OF DECEMBER 5, 1907, A PURPOSE OF STOCK, A FLOW RATE OF 100 GPM AND A VOLUME OF 30 GALLONS PER DAY PER ANNUAL UNIT. THE PERIOD OF USE IS FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31. 650 ANIMAL UNITS WERE CLAIMED TO BE SERVED BY THE WATER RIGHT, 250 COWS AND 2000 SHEEP WERE CLAIMED. PLACES OF USE INCLUDING THE REACH OF THE UNNAMED TRIBUTARY FOR LIVESTOCK TO DRINK FROM THE NATURAL CHANNEL AND THREE STOCK TANKS. THE SOURCE IS A GROUNDWATER DEVELOPED SPRING. THE CLAIMED PLACES OF USE (STOCK TANKS) ARE LOCATED IN THE SW OF SEC. 14, T7S, R7W ALL IN MADISON COUNTY. PROPOSED CHANGE: APPROPRIATOR PROPOSED A PLACE OF USE CHANGE TO ADD TWO STOCK TANKS TO AN EXISTING STOCK WATERING SYSTEM

(PIPELINE) THAT HAS THREE STOCK TANKS AND A CLAIMED REACH OF AN UNNAMED TRIBUTARY FOR LIVESTOCK TO DRINK FROM. TWO NEW PLACES OF USE (STOCK TANKS) ARE PROPOSED IN THE FOLLOWING LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTIONS: NESENW SECTION 15, AND THE NWNESW OF SECTION 15, ALL IN T7S, R7W, MADISON COUNTY. (Pub. April 18, 2019) DNRC MNAXLP

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given that in Madison County on May 7th, 2019, school district elections will be held for MADISON COUNTY School Districts in Alder #02 and Twin Bridges #07 only. This election will be conducted BY MAIL. NO POLLING PLACE WILL BE AVAILABLE. BALLOTS FOR THIS ELECTION WILL BE MAILED TO ACTIVE VOTERS ONLY ON APRIL 18th. If you feel that you are registered to vote and do not receive your ballot, call our office immediately at 843-4270. Ballots must be received in this office by 8 pm on MAY 7TH, Election Day in order to be counted. If you are mailing your ballot, please allow plenty of time for it to arrive here. If you have any questions, please contact us at the number above. Dated this 12th day of April, 2019 Kathleen D. Mumme Madison County Election Administrator (Pub. April 18, 25, 2019) Madison County Clerk and Recorder MNAXLP

**ALDER SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 - NOTICE OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned Clerk of Alder School District No. 2, Madison County, State of Montana that the Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 by mail ballot. Ballots may be returned to the following locations, at the following times: Location Prior to Election Day: Clerk and Recorder, 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 and Hours: Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm. Alder School, 36 Upper Ruby Road and Hours: 8 am - 8 pm Electors will consider the following issues at the election: - Mill levy proposition to finance the school's special education costs. Shall the district be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of \$5,390.00 which is approximately 2.25 mills for the purpose of assistance in the payment of special education costs. Passage of the proposal will increase the taxes on a home with the market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$3.03 and on a home with the market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$6.07. The duration limit of the levy is permanent once approved by voters, assuming the district levies the amount at least once in the next five years. - The Trustee election is cancelled as the received nominating petitions and write-in declarations were equal to the number of positions to be elected, there is no other reason for the Trustee election. A qualified registered elector who will be absent from the district during the time the election is being conducted may: a) vote in person in the election administrator's office as soon as the ballots are available and until noon the day before the ballots are scheduled to be mailed; b) make a written request, signed by the applicant and addressed to the election administrator,

that the ballot be mailed to an address other than the address that appears on the registration card. The district clerk/election administrator's office is located at: 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 If you miss this regular registration deadline (30 days prior to the election), you may still register for the election by showing up at the county election office up to and including on election day. Between noon and the close of business day on the day before the election day, you may complete and submit a voter registration card, but you will need to return to the district voting location on election day to pick up and vote a ballot. The county election office is located at: 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 A late registrant may obtain a ballot on election day at the following location: 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 Dated this 5th day of April, 2019 /s/ Kathleen F. Wuelfing District Clerk (Pub. April 18, 2019) Alder School MNAXLP

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Virginia City Rural Fire Department Board, P.O. Box 164, Virginia City, Montana 59755 until 5:00

PM on June 3rd, 2019 for the widening and acquisition and installation of garage door for the Virginia City Fire Hall. Drawings are available by contacting Trustee Toni James Ranks Mercantile, Virginia City. Access to the Fire Hall for the purposes of inspection can be arranged by contacting Toni James Ranks Mercantile, Virginia City (406) 843 5454. Bids will be opened at the regular Trustees' meeting in Virginia City on June 10, 2019. Board of Trustees, Virginia City Rural Fire District. (Pub. April 4, 18, May 2, 16, 30, 2019) VC Rural Fire District MNAXLP



**Attention Current Certified Transportation Security Officers (TSO), \$10,000 Transfer Bonus**  
waiting for you to Transfer to Bozeman MT at BZN airport.  
Trinity Technology Group has immediate openings for current certified TSOs that are willing to relocate to Bozeman, MT. We are offering a **\$10,000 transfer bonus and up to \$3,000 moving expense reimbursement. Limited Offer—Hurry!**  
This Opportunity is for Current Certified Transportation Security Officers in good standing at their location, who wish to move to Bozeman, MT.  
**Apply at [www.TSOjobs.com](http://www.TSOjobs.com).**  
For details contact HR Manager at 703-345-1670. E.O.E.

**Billings Livestock Commission 406.855.1947**  
Billings, MT

**He Sells!**  
April 27  
Loose Sell 8 a.m.  
Loose accepted 24/7 sale week  
[www.billingslivestock.com](http://www.billingslivestock.com)

**South Dakota Unified Judicial System**  
is accepting applications for a **COURT REPORTER**  
PIERRE, SD

Salary is \$22.11 - \$23.22/hour, plus additional compensation per page for transcripts, and a 5% salary increase after successful completion of CRR. Preference will be given to candidates who possess a RPR (Registered Professional Reporter) certification. Duties include performing stenographic work in recording and transcribing verbatim circuit or magistrate court proceedings, hearings and conferences. Requires graduation from high school and an NCRA accredited/certified Court Reporting School; or an equivalent combination of related education and experience. Full benefits package. **Open until filled. Successful completion of a criminal background investigation is required. Apply online: <http://bhr.sd.gov/workforus> Requisition #11748.**

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## DISTRICT COURT ROUNDUP

The Madison County District Court scheduled proceedings for three criminal cases the week of Monday, April 15.

- Dale Davis was charged in October with a fourth or subsequent charge of driving under the influence, a felony, and with driving with a suspended or revoked license. An alternate charge of operating a noncommercial vehicle with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 or higher was later added. A petition to revoke Davis's bail was brought earlier this month after he allegedly violated some of the particulars of his bail agreement. An arrest warrant was issued but later quashed, as the court was made aware that Davis is was not in good health and would be present at his upcoming court appearances. Davis pleaded not guilty to both charges in November.

- Jeremy Michael Juarez was charged in October with felony assault with a weapon for allegedly operating a vehicle in such a way as to cause fear of bodily harm to a passenger. Juarez was also charged with operating a vehicle without liability insurance, a misdemeanor, as well as attempted theft and criminal trespassing associated with a break-in at a Madison County-owned gravel pit, where he allegedly tried to steal more than \$1,500 worth of county-owned equipment. He pleaded not guilty to all charges in October and a jury trial was scheduled, which was later vacated and replaced with a change of plea hearing. That hearing has been continued to a later date.

- Jessica Elaine Kent was charged with felony possession of dangerous drugs in January after she was allegedly found in possession of cocaine in the Arrowhead Mall in Big Sky on New Year's Eve. Her initial appearance has been delayed several times, but she is expected to plead guilty. That hearing has been delayed once more for later this month.

# Madison County DISPATCH

April 7 - 13, 2019

April 7 - Fire Call on Ramshorn Creek Rd., Sheridan; Traffic Complaint on Mill Creek Rd., Sheridan; Traffic Complaint at MT Hwy 41, MM 57, Silver Star; Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 40, Twin Bridges; Accident on Bear Creek Loop, Cameron; Accident in 100 Blk E. Steffens St., Ennis.

April 8 - Suspicious Circumstances in 100 Blk Golf Course Dr., Ennis; Medical Aid in 700 Blk Varney Rd., Ennis; Citizen Assist on Wisconsin Creek Rd., Sheridan; Suspicious Circumstances on US Hwy 287, MM 19, Cameron.

April 9 - Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 50, Ennis; Medical Aid in 300 Blk W. Steffens St., Ennis; Wildlife Complaint on US Hwy 287, MM 57, McAllister; Threats in 500 Blk N Main St., Twin Bridges; Threats in 100 Blk Rainbow Point Rd., McAllister; Medical Aid Out of County.

April 10 - Citizen Assist in 300 Blk N. Meadow Creek Rd., McAllister; Medical Aid in 700 Blk Varney Rd., Ennis; Citizen Assist in 100 Blk Main St., Ennis; Disturbance in 100 Blk Mill St., Sheridan.

April 11 - Disturbance on Cedar Court, Ennis; Animal Complaint on N. Meadow Creek Rd., McAllister; Citizen Assist in 200 Blk Madison St., Sheridan; Medical Aid on Buckboard Dr., Sheridan.

April 12 - Coroner Call in Sheridan; Medical Aid in 500 Blk Tolson Ln., Sheridan.

April 13 - Suspicious Circumstances on US Hwy 287, MM 31, Cameron; Medical Aid on Wisconsin Creek Rd., Sheridan; Suspicious Circumstances at Moore Ln. & Water St., Sheridan; Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 40, Twin Bridges.



Veterans lunch helpers and veterans Bob Reimard, Charlie Rossiter and Chris Mumme. (SUBMITTED)

## Veterans lunch a success

SHERIDAN – On Friday, March 29, 2019, National Vietnam Veteran Day, Sheridan American Legion Post 89 hosted a Veterans' Lunch to not only honor our Vietnam veterans but all veterans in the Ruby Valley.

Past Legion Post Commanders Charlie Rossiter and Chris Mumme served up an Italian sausage tortellini Soup with bread to 18 veterans who attended this inaugural monthly soup/sandwich gath-

ering for local area veterans.

It was an opportunity to show off the Post building improvements, share veteran camaraderie and share information on the VA and American Legion programs.

The Post looks forward to future Luncheons as a way to expand community involvement while supporting our Veterans' needs.

## Chautauqua in Virginia City

VIRGINIA CITY -- On Saturday, April 27, the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center (EHAHC) will host the fourth in the Chautauqua series in the 2019 season.

The monthly event begins with a potluck dinner at 6:30pm and performances start at 7:30 p.m.

Chautauqua brings entertainment and culture for the whole community with speakers, teachers, musicians, entertainers and specialists of the day. First popularized in the late-19th and ear-

ly-20th centuries, Chautauqua is hailed as a sharing of entertainment and intellectual knowledge.

Teddy Roosevelt claimed it was "the most American thing in America."

Today the tradition continues with a variety of writers, musicians and special topic speakers taking center stage at the Elling House.

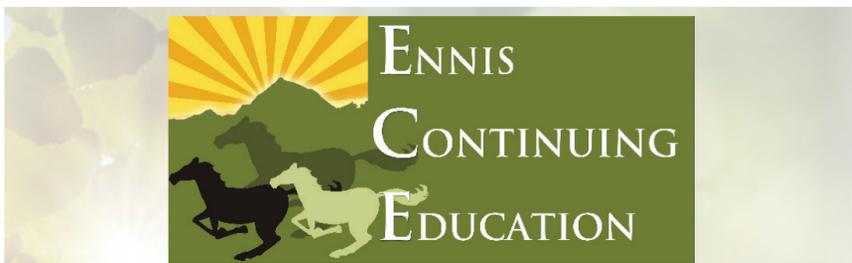
The Chautauqua is open to all seeking entertainment, intellectual or spiritual growth and local culture. Each participant performs a couple of songs or a

five -minute reading.

Nightly performances highlight 10 reserved spots with two swing spots available for impromptu appearances.

Those wishing to be on stage are encouraged to contact Toni James to make reservations at (406) 843-5454, email: ranksmerc@yahoo.com

EHAHC previously hosted Chautauqua in January, February and March



For More Information or to Register now visit [www.ennis-ece.org](http://www.ennis-ece.org) or 406-682-4258

### ECE Spring Workshops

**FINISHING WORKSHOP**  
Saturday, April 27th | 9am-4pm | Kathy Olkowski & Lexie Brundin Commons Room | \$20

Do you have quilt tops sitting around that need to be finished? Do you have quilted quilts sitting around that need the edges finished? If so - this is the finishing workshop for you.

Lexie and Kathy will show you how to layer, quilt, square up and sew on a binding on your quilt. Your quilt top needs to be a baby quilt size or smaller.

If you don't have a quilt that needs to be finished but you want to learn all the steps in completing a quilt project, you can construct a small table runner during class and bring it home finished. Fabric requirements will be provided prior to class if this is your option.

This is a confident beginner or intermediate level class. Remember: A quilt isn't a quilt until it's quilted.

**BEEKEEPING WORKSHOP: HIVE EXPLORATION FIELD TRIP**  
Saturday, April 27th | 3-5pm | Steve Thorson | Meet at Ennis High School | \$10

Meet at Ennis High School to carpool to a local Ennis hive to do a typical hive inspection on a live beehive(s). We will look for brood in various stages of development. Identify the queen and discuss the pros and cons of what we are seeing.

**FLY FISHING ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP**  
Saturday, May 4th | 9am-4pm | Mike Bias | HS RM #3 & Field | \$20

Join us for this instructional workshop on Fly Fishing Entomology. Know a PMD from a BWO? Know the major hatches of southwest Montana? Know when to use a larva, nymph, emerger, or adult? Want to fish with something in addition to your San Juan worm or prince nymph? Just want to increase your knowledge of aquatic insects? Then this is the workshop is for you. This workshop will be presented by ecologist and Montana Outfitter, Dr. Mike Bias. Mike has been

studying the ecology of aquatic insects and teaching Fly Fishing Entomology at guide schools since 1998. \*\*\*Please pack a lunch and bring waders for the river!

**BIRD WATCHING (ALL LEVELS, ALL DAY)**  
Marc Elser | Saturday, May 11th 6:30am | High School Parking Lot

Enjoy a day of birding with some fellow birders. This day will start at the Northwest end of Ennis Lake and continue south up the Madison Valley. The goal of the day is just to get out and look at the variety of birds found in different habitats and get to know fellow birders in the area. Beginners to experts are welcome to join in and help others to identify birds by sight, sound, flight, and habitat. The class limit will be 10-12 students with no prerequisites. Some walking will be necessary with every effort made to ensure everyone enjoys the trip. Plan on bringing a lunch and dress in layers for any type of weather.

**BURMA ROAD GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP**  
Russell Scruggs | Saturday, May 11th | 9am-all day | Meet at EHS Parking lot | \$20

Pack your layers, water, lunches, good shoes, cameras, and rock picks and meet at the High School Parking lot at 9 am on Saturday to carpool! For the Burma Road field trip you will visit all geologic points from Ennis over Virginia City Hill- pegmatites, lava flows and on to Twin Bridges then back towards Dillon to the road for the Pennington Bridge access to the Burma Road that follows the north side of the Big Hole River through the canyon. Valley gravels into pre-Cambrian gneisses and schists, by basalt flows with Colman's, then through failed and folded fossil bearing sedimentary layers; recent age lake bed deposits. Then back over the bench to Twin Bridges and to Ennis.

**MINING GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP**  
Russell Scruggs | Saturday, May 18th | 9am-all day | Meet at EHS Parking lot | \$20

Pack your layers, water, lunches, good shoes, cameras, and rock picks and meet at the High School Parking lot at 9 am on Saturday to carpool!

From Ennis you will head north past the quartz dikes and structures as well as geology over Norris Hill and through the dirt road at the bottom of the hill to the State sheep experimental station that passes through the mines there.

Back through Norris and through Harrison and Sappington and along the river past the gold placers by the Lewis & Clark caverns. Back past Whitehall and to Silver Star mine District and claim areas then back through Virginia City and to Ennis.

**ENNIS TREE SPECIES INFO & PLANTING WORKSHOP**  
Saturday, May 18th | 10am | HS Rm#3 | Tree Planting Workshop - presented by Ennis Tree Board and Montana DNRC

Learn what species of trees thrive in our climate, why diversification is important, and how to properly plant and maintain trees. Town of Ennis residents who participate in the workshop receive a "Tree-bate" voucher \*\* as part of the Ennis Tree Board "Tree-bate Program" - a cost-sharing incentive to plant and maintain trees in the Town of Ennis. \*\*More details to come\*\*

**"FOR THE LAUDIBLE PURPOSES" THE ALDER GULCH VIGILANTES**  
Tuesday, May 21st | 6-8:00pm  
Gary Fomey  
Virginia City Meeting Hall | \$20

The legends of the Alder Gulch Vigilantes serve as an attraction for many of those who visit Virginia City, for others, it becomes an obsession. This program will examine the history of this legendary organization and attempt to separate fact from fiction, and Good from Bad. Join us as we attempt to explore where reality may be a shade of grey. Weather permitting, we will tour a few landmarks associated with the Vigilantes following the program. The address for the Meeting Hall is: 316 West Idaho, Virginia City

The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 68 Calls for Service from April 7-13.

## Student of the Week

Our Student of the Week is Logan Crowley. Logan is a senior at Ennis High School and is the salutatorian of this graduating class. Logan is a compassionate person who steps up to help anyone who is in need. She has been involved in many organizations, golf, FCCLA, etc. throughout high school while maintaining superior grades. Her teachers say that: "Logan is a kind

and gentle soul. She is kind to everyone, and always takes the time to listen. She takes her studies very seriously, utilizing her class time to the best of her ability." from Cindy Pederson. "Logan is the most dedicated math student I have. She is currently enrolled in both Honors Calculus and Stats, and succeeding in both classes. She is a joy to work with, and loves learning and mastering new skills. Congrats Logan!" from Melinda Legg

We are proud of YOU!



## Four SW MT organizations get \$13K in grants

HELENA – The Montana History Foundation has announced its 2019 grant recipients. The following received grants:

- Virginia City — The Thompson-Hickman Madison County Public Library and Archives received a \$5,000 grant to help digitize 30,000 pages of The Madisonian newspaper.
- Dillon — A \$5,000 grant to Adventures in Preservation for a post-flood Banack Ghost Town preservation workshop.
- West Yellowstone — A \$633 grant to the Yellowstone Historic Center to digitize the “Photographs of West Yellowstone” collection.
- Butte – The city-county of Butte-Silver Bow received a \$3,250 grant to restore the 103-year-old prism and stained-glass transom window at the historic Sewell Hardware Building. This highly visible and beloved architectural feature consists of panels of prism glass tiles adorned by “SEWELL’S” in red stained glass.

Since 2012, the Montana History Foundation has awarded annual grants to projects and organizations that work to preserve and protect the historic legacy of Montana. In 2019, the foundation reached

a new record, giving away the largest total amount ever at \$134,451, bringing all-time grant awards to \$843,985.

“Awarding grants is the most important thing we do every year,” said MHF President/CEO Charlene Porsild. “The future of these history projects relies on grant funding, and we are delighted to help preserve Montana history by offering support.”

For a full list of grantees, please visit [www.mthistory.org/grants](http://www.mthistory.org/grants).

For additional information about specific projects, please contact the History Foundation Grants Manager, Carissa Beckwith at [carissa@mthistory.org](mailto:carissa@mthistory.org) or (406) 449-3770.

The Montana History Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation that raises money and provides funding for history and preservation projects across Montana. Funding for the Montana History Foundation Grants Program comes from a variety of private sources, including a grant from the Fortin Foundation, a grant from the Louis L. Borick Foundation, and donations from our generous and dedicated donors.

## Montana Wilderness Association hosts 59th Wilderness Walks program

HELENA - Montana Wilderness Association is excited to announce the 2019 season of Wilderness Walks.

This year, participants will be able to choose from 123 Walks spanning the state from the Cabinet Mountains to the Big Snowies to Makoshika State Park. Walks range from alpine backpacking adventures to trail runs to creekside strolls, ensuring that any and everyone can find a suitable and enjoyable outing.

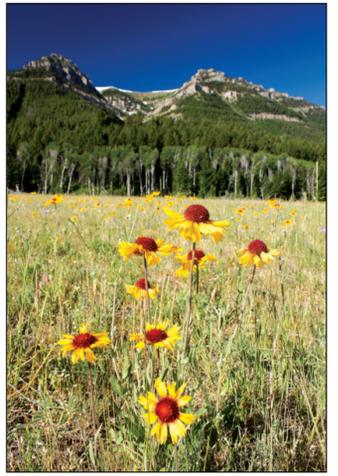
Each Walk will give participants the opportunity to get to know fellow hikers and forge deeper connections to the wild places that make Montana so special. “Exploring Montana on a Wilderness Walk is an unbeatable opportunity to connect with our wild public lands and make wonderful new friends,” says volunteer Lee Boman, who has been leading Walks since 2012. “Forests, peaks, badlands, prairies, gin-clear creeks -- Montana has it all, and it’s a privilege to share the beauty of our state with fellow hikers, whether they’re visiting for the first time or have lived here all their life.”

Wilderness Walks began in 1960,

when MWA founders Florence and Ken Baldwin led 14 hikers into the Crazy Mountains. Since then, it has grown to become one of the region’s flagship outdoor programs, attracting hundreds of participants every year from Montana and beyond.

As part of the 2019 Wilderness Walks season, MWA is also hosting “Spring Into Summer” community events across the state to kick the program off in style. Spring Into Summer events will provide a chance for the community to gather and celebrate the arrival of spring, meet other wilderness and hiking enthusiasts, and purchase a copy of the annual Discover Wild Montana hiking book. Attendees will also be able to purchase raffle tickets to enter to win an ultralight packraft from Alpaca Raft.

All Wilderness Walks are free of charge and open to the public, although MWA members will be given priority sign-up privileges beginning April 15. To learn more about the program, see all the available Walks, and sign up, visit the Wilderness Walks website at [wildmontana.org/walks](http://wildmontana.org/walks).



Centennial Mountains

Founded in 1958, Montana Wilderness Association is a community of people who love the outdoors and champion wild places. MWA is dedicated to protecting our state’s wildlands.

# Find Fellowship With Us



**Christian Science Services**  
**Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m.**  
**ALL WELCOME**  
 Each week a Bible lesson full of healing Christian concepts is read aloud in our Sunday service.  
 4983 US Hwy 287 N. • Ennis, Montana  
[www.ChristianScience.com](http://www.ChristianScience.com)

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
 Sheridan Ward - Visitors Welcome  
**Sacrament Meeting** Sundays, 10:00 a.m.  
**Sunday School** 11:20 a.m.  
**R S & Priesthood** 12:10 p.m.  
**Mutual (Youth Group)** Weds. 7:00p.m.  
 3560 | MT State Hwy 287 Sheridan 842-5860  
 Bishop Shaw 684-5255

**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

**HARRISON COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 Harrison, Montana  
**Adult Bible Study ~ 9:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday School & Church Services ~ 10:30 a.m.**  
 Pastor Joe Miller  
 Come Worship & Sing Praises To Our God. Spread the Word!

**Madison Valley Presbyterian Church**  
 WORSHIP  
 Member - April ~ 11 a.m.  
 May - August ~ 9 a.m.  
 Everyone Welcome, Fully Accessible  
 In communion with ELCA, UCC, RCA  
 Rev. Jean M. Johnson  
 682-4355 ~ Ennis  
 Corner of S. Charles & W. Hugel

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

**Valley Assembly**  
 Love Jesus • Love People • Reach the Valley  
 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 United Methodist Parish**  
 Invites You To Worship With Us  
**Reverend Susan DeBree**  
 Office: (406) 842-5934  
 Home: (406) 842-7732  
**Church of the Valley**  
 Twin Bridges  
 Worship & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
**Bethel UMC**  
 Sheridan  
 Worship 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
**Ready Set Grow Preschool**  
 Contact Julie Russell 842-5876

**Ruby Valley Baptist Church**  
 Tony Shaw, Pastor 842-5602  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
 Worship Service 11 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening 6 p.m.  
 Wednesday Eve 7 p.m.  
 One block behind IGA, Sheridan

**SUNDAY SERVICES**  
 10 a.m. at the Alder School Alder, Montana  
 Sunday School, 9 a.m.  
 Christ Centered Bible Based  
 Tel. 406-842-5915  
 Pastor Tom Luksha

# Get Results. Call 682-7755

## AREA SENIOR MEALS

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

- Thursday, April 18 – Chef Salad, croissant, dessert, Happy Birthday
- Friday, April 19 – Tuna Salad wrap, fruit, dessert, pinochle, at 12:45 p.m.
- Monday, April 22 – Beef enchiladas, rice, salad, dessert, mahjong at 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 23 – Meat Frittata, potatoes, fruit, dessert, pan at 12:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 24 – Chicken cordon blue, rice pilaf, veggies, dessert, mahjong at 1 p.m.
- Thursday, April 25 – Pork fritter sandwich, potato salad, veggie sticks, dessert.
- Friday, April 26 – BBQ Chicken, 3-bean salad, baked potato, 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 a.m. to 3 p.m. for \$4.

- Thursday, April 18 – Chicken pot pie, dessert.
- Tuesday, April 23 – Grilled ham & cheese, tomato soup, dessert.
- Thursday, April 25 – Pork chops with au gratin potatoes, 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, April 19 - Seafood pasta, salad, veggie tray, cherry cheesecake tarts
- Monday, April 22 - BBQ ribs, vegetable casserole, sweet potato salad, lemon meringue pie
- Wednesday, April 24 - Meat Loaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, creamed peas, salad, apple pie

**Monthly Open Bible Study & Discussion**  
 Families, kids & everyone welcomed!  
 4th Saturday each month 2-5pm  
 Twin Bridges  
 Senior & Community Center  
 March 23 topic: Book of Esther  
 Info (406) 684-5181 Scott or Dawn

**3 RIVERS Family Church**  
 NON-DENOMINATIONAL  
 Worship - Sundays - 10:30 am  
 “Join the Revolution”  
 3648 MT Hwy. 287  
 Sheridan, MT  
[3RiversFamilyChurch.org](http://3RiversFamilyChurch.org)

**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**  
 ‘Say: all things are of God.’ This exalted utterance is like unto water for quenching the fire of hate and enmity which smouldereth within the hearts and breasts of men. By this single utterance contending peoples and kindreds will attain the light of true unity. Verily He speaketh the truth and leadeth the way. He is the All-Powerful, the Exalted, the Gracious,  
[www.bahai.org](http://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** Jeffers/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.rvecc.org](http://www.rvecc.org)  
 Prayer requests: 682-4199 843-5296 842-7713

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

L	I	P	D	I	A	L	S	C	A	B	
A	D	E	E	G	R	E	T	A	L	E	
C	A	R	P	E	N	T	E	R	R	O	E
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E	D	O	S	T	A	R	T	E	N	D	

— **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 April 18**  
Maundy Thursday Service and Eucharist, Jeffers  
Please join us for a service which commemorates The Last Supper of Jesus and his disciples. All are welcome, 5:30 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church.

Maundy Thursday Service, Ennis  
Service at Madison Valley Presbyterian Church, 8 p.m. All are welcome.

**Friday April 19**  
Good Friday Stations of the Cross, Jeffers  
Please join us for a prayerful service of the Stations of the Cross, which represents Jesus' walk to Calvary. All are welcome, 3 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church.

**Saturday April 20**  
Easter Egg Hunt, Ennis  
The Ennis Lions Club will hold its annual hunt for hard-boiled and

candy-filled plastic Easter eggs. Kids will be divided into three age groups, and the Easter Lion will be there distributing candy. Everyone welcome, 11 a.m. at Lions Park.

MVHA presents Kitty Eneboe, Ennis  
Kitty Eneboe will speak about her grandfather, Samuel Stewart a former Montana governor. 4 p.m. at the Ennis Public Library, Thexton Room. Sponsored by the Madison Valley History Association.

A Reading with Montana's Poet Laureate, Virginia City  
Lowell Jaeger is the founding editor of Many Voices Press. Expect humor, serious reflection and examination of the human condition. 7 p.m. at the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center, admission by donation.

**Sunday April 21**  
Easter Worship and Dinner, Ennis  
Join Madison Valley Presbyterian Church for Eater morning worship, followed by a ham dinner to celebrate the day. All are welcome! 11 a.m. at 326 Hugel Street.

Easter Service, Jeffers  
Please join us for a joyful celebration of the Resurrection! All are welcome, 11 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church

**Wednesday April 24**  
Brown Bag Lunch with Museum of Mining Staff, Butte  
The Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives continues its brown bag lunch series with Jeanette Kopf and Lindsay Mulcahy of the World Museum of Mining, presenting on some of the buildings on the museum's grounds and their history, as well as recent acquisitions. Guests are encouraged to bring a sack lunch, 12 p.m. at 17 W. Quartz Street.

Community Blood Drive, Ennis  
Sponsored by Madison Valley Presbyterian Church and the MVMC Auxiliary. Contact Judi Stonebraker to make an appointment for a lifesaving donation. Call 406-209-5706 or schedule at vitalant.org. 12-5 p.m. at Madison Valley Medical Center.

**Thursday April 25**  
Mad Gals Luncheon, Bozeman  
Join us at Wasabi in Bozeman for social hour at noon and lunch at 12:30. \$15 cost, bring a friend!

**Saturday April 27**  
Children's Drama Club presents "Dooby Dooby Moo!," Virginia City  
The Thompson-Hickman Children's Drama Club will perform their first ever production, a musical based on the children's book by Doreen Cronin. 3 p.m. at the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center.

Bozeman Health Foundation Hospitality 2019, Bozeman  
Mark your calendars and join us at 6 p.m. for one of our region's largest charity galas. We can be Super Heroes: Celebrating the Hero in Us All, will be held at MSU's Strand Union Ballroom, Benefitting the NICU. Seats are \$150 each and sell out fast! Call 406-414-1085 for tickets.

Chautauqua, Virginia City  
Join us for a potluck dinner and performances by local speakers, teachers, musicians and entertainers. Those wishing to be on stage can call Toni at 406-843-5454. Potluck at 6:30 p.m. and performances at 7:30 p.m. at the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center.

## 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 1 p.m., come play tennis at the Madison Meadows Golf Course. All levels welcome.

**TOPS, Ennis**  
Weekly weigh-ins are at 8:30 a.m.  
Meetings at 9 a.m.  
MVMC in downstairs conference room. Jeanne, 682-3299

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

**Baby Bistro, Ennis**  
First and third Wednesday of the month at the

Madison Valley Public Library and 11 a.m.

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

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

### THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

### FRIDAYS

**Tennis, Ennis**  
9 a.m. til 1 p.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.



**Live Music**  
MUSIC ON 4/26 FULLY COOKED  
3793 US Hwy 287 N  
Cameron, MT | 682-4555



**NEW HOURS!**  
STARTING APRIL 27:  
MONDAY CLOSED  
TUESDAY 4-CLOSE  
WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY 11AM-CLOSE.  
3793 US Hwy 287 N  
Cameron, MT | 682-4555



**PEAK MENTAL HEALTH**  
Ke'lah Savage-Willauer, MSW, LCSW  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker #7713  
Peak Mental Health, LLC  
phone: 406-925-9441  
email: peakmentalhealth@gmail.com

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

**NOW PLAYING:**  
**CAPTAIN MARVEL (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 Mustang (R), Dumbo (PG)  
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

TRIVIA NIGHT EVERY THURSDAY STARTING AT 6 PM  
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, APRIL 19TH: RESTLESS PINES  
FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH: STEVE INGRAM  
FRIDAY, MAY 3RD: HOMEMADE JAM  
FRIDAY, MAY 10TH: WILLIE JAMES  
FRIDAY, MAY 17TH: TODD GREEN  
ASK ABOUT OUR WEEKLY BOTTLING PARTIES



**SPORTSMAN'S LODGE**  
LODGING RESTAURANT CASINO  
ENNIS, MT  
WWW.SPORTSMANSLODGEMT.COM

**Friday May 3rd**  
Join us for  
**Karaoke at the Sportsman's Lodge!**  
9pm to Midnight  
Presented by

**SUNRISE ENTERTAINMENT**

For more information visit us on Facebook:  
facebook.com/sportsmanslodgemt



**Get Results.**  
Call 682-7755

**Bozeman Saddle Outlet**  
BozemanSaddleOutlet.com  
All Major Brands ~ Best Prices ~ Saddles ~ Tack  
Pack Equipment ~ 200 Saddles ~ In Stock, New & Used, along with all the Matching Tack

**YEAR ROUND DISCOUNTS**  
10% OFF Tack, Pads, Reins, Bits, etc. ~ 20% OFF Tack w/ purchase of Saddle ~ 25% OFF Saddles ~ 30% OFF SALE CORNER Saddles & Tack (Some Exceptions Apply)

Circle Y • High Horse • Tucker • Billy Cook • Dakota • Courts  
McCall • Pack Saddles • Pack Equipment

Gift Certificates Available  
2 Mi. South of 4 Corners  
80155 Gallatin Hwy • Bozeman, MT  
Mon-Sat 10-5 • Closed Sundays

406-586-8225 (TACK)  
bzmsaddleoutlet@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 4/19 TODD GREEN  
Acoustic Eclectic  
SAT 4/20 LOGAN DUDDING  
Acoustic Americana  
SUN 4/21 CHARLIE DENISON  
Blues/Roots

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