

The Madisonian.

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

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School water quality

Survey casts concerns over school water quality: Is it safe? Locally, yes

REAGAN COLYER
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ENNIS—A recent federal report surveyed school districts around the country and found that fewer than half of them regularly test for lead in their water supplies.

The Associated Press reports that around 43 percent of districts surveyed did test for lead, and that of those, nearly 40 percent reported elevated lead levels in their water.

In response to the report, Skye Borden, director of the Environment Montana Research and Policy Center, said that one of the most common sources of lead exposure in children is through their school water.

"In all likelihood, confirmed cases of lead in schools' water are just the tip of the iceberg," Borden says. "Most Montana schools have at least some lead in their pipes, plumbing or fixtures. And where there is lead, there is risk of contamination."

Environment Montana

In April, Environment Montana conducted its own survey, taking 221 samples from schools in Montana's most urban centers: Billings, Missoula, Great Falls and Bozeman. Of those samples, over 75 percent tested above 1 part per billion (ppb) of lead.

The EPA's action level for water lead content is 15ppb for public water sources, but, the Environment Montana report states, children are far more sensitive to lead, which can cause a drop in IQ as well as learning disabilities, nervous system damage and stunted growth, among other health problems.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends a 1ppb action level for school water sources. That's about as much as one drop in an Olympic-sized swimming pool. For perspective, the most severe readings in the Flint, Michigan water crisis measured over 13,000 ppb; in the same swimming pool, that's more than 13 cups.

An additional challenge is the fact that once elevated lead levels are discovered, there are no set steps that a school district is required to take to address the problem, says Borden. Schools aren't even required to reveal the results of any tests they choose to voluntarily conduct, no matter how high their readings might be.

"Unfortunately, what that sets up is both an inclination to not test at all, and potentially an incentive to conceal poor results if they have them," says Borden. She says the DEQ has EPA guidelines they can pass along to schools, but recommendations and suggestions are all the further they can go.

"They would certainly make recommendations if a reading was poor," Borden says. "But there's no mechanism to require schools



While a national survey suggests that lead levels in school drinking water may pose problems for students in some school districts, especially where plumbing fixtures are old, local school officials say the water students drink meets or exceeds regulations. (J. TAYLOR PHOTO)

to take any action."

Environment Montana makes suggestions on that front, including requiring that schools test all drinking water outlets, instituting the 1ppb standard for lead content, and proactively removing any parts from their water systems that contain lead. But as of right now, those too remain only suggestions.

There is no state or federal law that requires schools to test the lead content in their water, so any schools that do so are testing voluntarily.

The concern for rural school districts is the fact that many of them—more than 100 in Montana—serve as their own water utility, and often use wells. Those schools are required to conduct tests, since they aren't part of a greater city system that would be tested independently.

Madison County schools

In the Madison and Ruby Valley districts, testing water lead levels isn't the norm. Each town has a required schedule on which they test their public systems, but most of the schools don't conduct any testing, and each

district has its own reasoning for that.

Ennis - In Ennis, the town water supply comes from two public wells. The public works department tests for lead and copper every three years, says public works director Kelly Elser.

"We're lucky our wells are so deep and have pretty good water," says Elser. "We pick sites that were built in the 1960s and 1970s to test, to make sure we're always testing the places where the risk would be the highest."

The city's water has shown such good results that Ennis has been granted a waiver that means they only test for certain substances—fluoride, barium and mercury, for example—every nine years. That's because going back in the test results, those substances have never shown up on any reading.

Lead and copper tests are done every three years on the Ennis wells, and the most recent results are equally promising. The public works department publishes an annual water quality report that is available to the public and includes the results of all water tests.

WATER continued on A2

Big Sky MusicFest Aug. 17, 18

Concert proceeds going to charities

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BIG SKY – Madison County's easternmost community will be the location for a lollapalooza of a music festival come Friday, August 17 and Saturday, Aug. 18, when the inaugural version of the Moonlight MusicFest hits town.

The festival will take place at the Madison Village in Moonlight Basin, at the base of Big Sky's picturesque Lone Peak.

It's being billed as a "festival to remember," and between performers and amenities, there will certainly be plenty to remember.

Performers

Performers include several top name headliners: Bruce Hornsby & the Noise Makers, Grace Potter, The Chris Robinson Brotherhood, Mission Temple Fireworks Revival featuring Paul Thorn & The Blind Boys of Alabama and The Wood Brothers, as well as a number of perhaps lesser known, but equally talented artists.

Hornsby been a constant in music since his 1986 debut album "The Way It Is."

The Virginia-born singer and pianist formed Bruce Hornsby and the Range in 1984 and produced many familiar tunes, including the album's title track, along with "Mandolin Rain" and "Every Little Kiss." The album hit No. 3 in the U.S. by 1986.

MUSICFEST continued on A3



Bruce Hornsby & The Noise Makers are one of several well-known headliners at the Big Sky MusicFest (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

McFarland Curatorial Center transfers to Montana Heritage Commission

McFarland Center curates 1.2 million artifacts

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VIRGINIA CITY—Two weeks ago, the Montana History Foundation facilitated the transfer of

the Lee C. McFarland Curatorial Center into the ownership of the Montana Heritage Commission, which oversees the artifacts, curation and preservation of Virginia City and Nevada City.

The transfer is nominal in the sense that the Heritage Commission has used the facility for artifacts for many years. The center houses historical items, but its primary use and the purpose of most of its space is preservation.

"That's what cool about the curatorial center;

it's not just a storage center," says Anna Strange, community outreach coordinator for the Montana History Foundation. "They bring in artifacts to make sure they're staying intact as long as possible. That's really the purpose of the center: to preserve these things and make sure they stay in good shape."

The McFarland Curatorial Center was built in 1999, made possible by a \$1 million donation from Ruth McFarland in her late husband's memory.

Ruth McFarland, who passed away in 2017, stipulated that the facility would belong to the state of Montana in perpetuity. Before the Center was built, there were no nearby climate-controlled buildings that could house sensitive artifacts and century-old photographs and documents, says museum technician Marge Antolik.

CENTER continued on A2

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First Madison Valley Bank is pleased to have the opportunity to clerk the 2018 Madison/Jefferson Livestock Sale being held on Saturday August 11th at 2:00 PM at the Madison County Fair in Twin Bridges. Come raise your hand in support of the young people committed to making the best better.

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More than 50 people came out to celebrate the opening of D&D Madison River Auto Body on Thursday, July 26. The opening featured a raffle, ribbon cutting, barbecue and ice cream. Left: Dennis and Brenda Dedman (center) cut the ribbon to officially open the D&D Madison River Auto Body shop. The Dedman family also owns Lick-A-Dee Lube and D&D Tire Supply in Ennis, as well as D&D Auto, Inc. in Sheridan. "We really appreciate all the support we've gotten from this community," Dennis said. "And we just want to serve you as best we can." (R. COLYER PHOTOS)

WATER continued from A1: Local schools have safe drinking water for students, officials say

The most recent readings showed less than 1 ppb of lead in the town's water, and less than 0.2 parts per million (ppm) of copper, far below the action level of 1.3. The source of those counts, Elser says, comes mostly from residential plumbing or service lines, which is something the department can't control.

Ennis Schools gets its water from those two public wells, which means incoming water has already been tested by the public works department. In terms of their own tests, however, they don't conduct any.

Borden says one important reason for schools to conduct their own tests is that even though a public water source may show great readings, contamination can often come from a single outdated appliance, like a water fountain with old pieces that contain lead. She's seen instances where a school's water quality is good, but one or two drinking fountains post elevated readings. They're specific problems that are easy to address, but schools won't find them unless they test their water independently and at the sources.

Twin Bridges - Twin Bridges doesn't conduct school-specific tests on water either. Like Ennis, the town's water comes from two public wells, which are tested on a DEQ-established schedule.

The town's most recent reports also show lead and copper readings well within set action levels: 2ppb for lead and 0.5ppm for copper. They fall far under the metrics for public water systems, but slightly above the action level set by the American Pediatric Association for childhood exposure.

Twin Bridges also has another reason for not testing its school water, says public works director Sam Novich. The entire school was replumbed within the last ten years, and any lead piping or fixtures that may have contained lead were removed and replaced.

"Our water is about as close to spring water as you can get," says Novich, comparing the Twin Bridges supply to Big Spring in Lewistown, which is known for its clarity and mineral content. "The only things that measured a little high on our water were iron and calcium, but there was nothing above federal levels."

Like Ennis, Twin Bridges also possesses a waiver that allows for less-frequent testing for certain minerals, because they've never been detected in any of the town's tests.

Sheridan - Sheridan School District also does not conduct school-specific water tests, allowing those reported by the city to suffice. This is within their right, but they may be the district in

Madison County with the most reason to conduct those independent tests.

In 2016, Sheridan's water report was grim when it came to lead levels. The annual test showed readings of 32ppb, more than double the federal action level. Copper was still well within threshold levels, but was still elevated, at 0.37ppm. Public works director Curtis Green attributes those elevated levels primarily to a pump failure in Sheridan's well system.

The city had engineers come to address the problem, and DEQ gave Sheridan a two-year period in which to get levels back to normal. But with some replacements of parts to fix the pump and the installation of a corrosion control system in the pump house, lead and copper levels were back to normal within one year.

Like the rest of Madison County, Sheridan was on a three-year cycle of testing for lead and copper, but Green says he's overcautious now, and conducts tests every six months.

"We want to keep a handle on it, so it doesn't catch us off guard," he says. "With this kind of thing it's always better to err on the side of caution and be aware of it."

Those levels have since been addressed and the town's 2017 water quality report—this year's

hasn't been released yet—reflects this: Sheridan's water lead level was reported at 4ppb and its copper level was the lowest of all the Ruby Valley communities at 0.08ppm.

But, Sheridan faces other water concerns now that the lead and copper issues have been resolved.

Of the town's four wells, only one is currently usable, and it's running near capacity just to keep up with the current rate of use. The mayor issued a code red restriction over water use, temporarily suspending all lawn watering in an effort to conserve water.

Those wells serve to fill a 300,000-gallon tank that serves its users, and that tank is currently less than half full, which puts a damper on the fighting of any structural fires that may occur. There's a possibility of a new well in the future, but that remains uncertain.

Harrison - *The Madisonian* was unable to obtain a water quality report for Harrison or Norris by press time.

For those who are interested, the annual water quality reports published by each Madison Valley community can be found either on the towns' respective website or by calling county or city public works departments.

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CENTER continued from A1: Facility was transferred from state control to local control

When a huge donation came from the estate of Charles and Sue Bovey, who are credited with making Virginia City the destination it is today, some artifacts had to be sent to other cities because there was nowhere to preserve them. Now, all the area's artifacts can be kept locally for care and preservation.

"Charlie and Sue Bovey wanted to make their collection accessible to the people, and we're able to do that," says Antolik. "Ruth giving her money to have this built was a huge step toward being able to preserve things here in Virginia City without having to send them out."

Projects like this are part of the Montana History Foundation's mission. They also provide grants for preservation work like that of the McFarland Center. When extensive repairs or refurbishment is needed on an artifact, the Center hires expert conservators to assist, using money from a couple of significant donors and grants supplied by both the Foundation and the Montana Preservation Association.

Antolik says the Center also received some money from the state legislature last year to aid preservation efforts. Over the years, thousands of volunteer hours have been donated as well, including the work of Rhodes scholars, AmeriCorps volunteers and visitors so dedicated they fly from as far away as Alaska every summer just to help.

The plot of land on which the center sits was already state-owned; with the transfer, the ownership of the building, its fixtures and everything inside it shifts to the Heritage Commission, which is a state-owned entity.

The Montana Heritage Commission, while a state entity, is



The Lee C. McFarland Curatorial Center is located between Virginia City and Nevada City. (R. COLYER PHOTO)

also a nonprofit organization. The Commission has been paying rent to use the curatorial center, which executive director Elijah Allen says is the largest such facility in the state, responsible for the care of over a million artifacts between Virginia City, Nevada City and the Reeder's Alley district in downtown Helena.

It's an important resource for the communities of Virginia City and Nevada City, because it is not something many other communities have, especially communities of that size. But many people drive right by, not realizing what it is or what it does.

"It is certainly one of our most overlooked and underutilized resources in the county," says Leona Stredwick, county planner and one of Nevada City's lead living history interpreters. "It was a crown jewel of

the county when they built it."

Nevada City is essentially a living museum, and since so many visitors interact with the artifacts in person, many of the items on display are reproductions or replicas. But, Stredwick says, the Curatorial Center has done repairs in the past when interpreters' genuine period costumes have begun to fall apart, or when new items were discovered with extraordinary value. As the Heritage Commission gains new artifacts every year, there is a constant demand for the cataloging and research to determine the items' stories and their future.

Because of the nuances of being both a state-run program and a nonprofit, the Heritage Commission does not receive its funding from the state's general fund or general tax revenue. Its operational budget is funded by bed taxes and the visitation

fees of the thousands of tourists who come through Virginia and Nevada cities every year, as well as grants and private donations like the one Ruth McFarland made back in the 1990s.

As a result of the transfer, maintenance fees and upkeep of the facility will fall to the Heritage Commission. Antolik says that most of the "bills" are now theirs, but most of those were already being paid by the Commission as tenants of the building.

The MHC will continue to utilize the McFarland Center as it has in the past, offering educational programs and displays along with its preservation efforts. The McFarland Curatorial Center is also open for visitors to tour Monday through Thursday, where they can view some of the artifacts and meet the curators.

MUSICFEST continued from A1: Headliners coming to Big Sky Aug. 17, 18

In "Scenes from the Southside," Hornsby and the Range's 1988 effort, the hit song "The Valley Road" is one most will remember. Hornsby's association with the Range ended in 1991, and he began touring with the Grateful Dead, through the early 1990s, released solo albums in the middle and late 1990s, and since 1998 has been with the Noise Makers.



Grace Potter

Grace Potter has been described by Spin magazine as "one of the greatest living voices in rock today." The Vermont-born performer continues to wow critics and audiences with her music and captivating live shows. Potter has played every major music festival from Coachella and Lollapalooza to Bonnaroo and Rock in Rio. She's shared the stage with Willie Nelson, Robert Plant, the Allman Brothers, Neil Young, Mavis Staples, and The Roots. She performed with Sheryl Crow a tribute to the late Glenn Frey at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Musical creds, this gal has. Yet Potter refuses to be defined by genre: During the last three years, she's performed with the Flaming Lips, been in a Tim Burton film, written songs, produced soundtracks and theme songs for film and TV, done multi-platinum, Grammy-nominated country duets with Kenny Chesney, even joined The Rolling Stones on stage for a rendition of "Gimme Shelter."

Citing Miles Davis, Dylan, the Beatles, Bowie, Blondie and Beck as prime examples, Potter says she is drawn to artists who make sonic leaps from record to record.

With her original band, the Nocturnals, Potter has released four studio albums – in 2006, 2007, 2010, and 2012 – through Hollywood Records. Potter is well-known to country music fans, having duets with Kenny Chesney on his Grammy-nominated, platinum-selling, "You and Tequila," and 2015's, "Wild Child," also a No. 1 on Billboard's country chart.



The Chris Robinson Brotherhood

The Chris Robinson Brotherhood (CRB) is in the middle of one of their most prolific periods, riding a creative wave of studio and live records amidst a rigorous tour schedule that only seems to fuel their fire. CRB emerged in 2011 as a California band, and played nearly 50 shows during the course of nine weeks before releasing their first album. "Barefoot In The Head," marks the CRB's third studio release, and follows their critically acclaimed 2017 album. "Barefoot" showcases the band's stunning musicianship and infectious energy, blending Americana funk, elegant pedal steel, classic rock, country, blues and psychedelia, even some freewheeling 1960s folk. One source described CRB as "T-Rex dressed in overalls living on a West Coast commune."

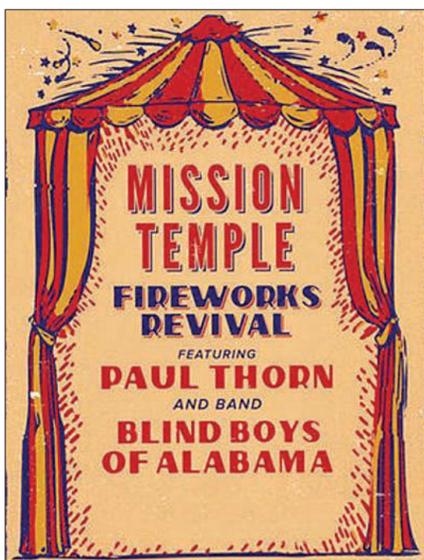
"The music that we make, the concerts that we play, it's this world we've created for ourselves and our people," explains Robinson. "We want everybody to understand that no matter where you are in your life that you can always be barefoot in your head. There's always this other place you can go. Is that place it real? That's your decision to make, what you're going to let be real to you."

Mission Temple Fireworks Revival with Paul Thorn & Blind Boys of Alabama is a five-time Grammy award-winning band created by the collision of Southern raconteur, former boxer and literary "son of a preacher man," Paul Thorn, and the Blind Boys of Alabama.

Thorn's special blend of rock, gospel, blues and country spans not only genres, but generations, with soulful performances and heartfelt songs of redemption and healing having earned his band high praise from fans and critics alike.

The Blind Boys of Alabama are recognized worldwide as living legends of gospel music.

What happens in their performances is that Thorn's versatile, veteran band provides the backing for both Thorn and the Blind Boys, a one-of-a-kind experience that Thorn says is like "taking a 6-pack to church."



Amenities

MusicFest attendees will have free water for drinking – bring your empty plastic water bottles to a filling station buy one at the merchandise tent – portable toilets, hand sanitizing stations, trash pickup and recycling stations, and free WIFI, although this tends to be spotty in the area.

No cars will be permitted past the Big Sky Resort area, but a 10-minute shuttle ride from Big Sky Resort to the festival grounds will put you on the scene, and the shuttles will be running continuously, beginning two hours before the opening act each day. Visitors are urged to come early... and expect a little bit of a wait.

Big Sky Resort parking will be available, but carpooling is recommended due to ski lift construction. The town of Big Sky will have free Skyline Shuttles running to the resort, and extended bus service.

All festival goers will have tickets checked before boarding the shuttles to the Madison Base Area. Wristbands for entry will be provided, keep it on and you can come and go to the festival as you please.

Adult beverages are available for sale, including all-local beers. A valid ID, proving age 21 and older, is required. If you "lose" your car, or have had a few too many... have a friend drive you home, take a shuttle or check for room availabilities at the resort. We want you back next year.

No coolers are allowed, but there are plenty of food vendors available, including: Island Noodles, Moe's BBQ, Paella Fantastica, Totally Tasty Truck, Trucko Montes, Z's Gyro's, Vickie's Pierogies, Rancho Picante, The Big Cheese, Seven, Cosmic Cookie Creations, Emperor of Ice Cream, Inaltza Switchel, LUXE, Mountain Fresh Italian Ice, Unicorn Kettle Corn.

Bring a portable chair, so long as it doesn't block other's view. MusicFest is requesting "dancers up front, blankets and low chairs next, taller chairs behind the rest." Same for umbrellas and shade tents. All tents and chairs need to be removed each night.

Also, please, no dogs... not even in cars or campsites. It is simply too hot to leave a pet unattended. No firearms, fireworks or drones, too.

Best of all

Two things make this festival really worth visiting for Madison County residents:

- The proceeds from the festival are not lining some cigar-chomping music raconteur's pockets, but go to support the Moonlight Community Foundation and the Big Sky Arts Festival,
- To make it easier for folks from western Madison County to go east, the Jack Creek Road is being opened to those who purchase a pass prior to the start of the festival weekend. The pass is \$20 through the website. Those using Jack Creek Road will be directed to park at Big Sky Resort and take a festival shuttle from there.

To buy tickets for the Festival and Jack Creek Road, or for more information about the festival, visit <https://moonlightmusicfest.com/festival-info> or email info@MoonlightMusicFest.com. Day tickets are available at Big Sky Resort.

Volunteers for this event are needed, for more information, contact Leslie Kilgore at 617-835-4243 or lkilgore@lonemountainland.com.

Schedule

Friday, Aug. 17

- 2p.m. - Gates open, shuttles begin running from Big Sky Resort
- 4 p.m. - Hawthorne Roots performs
- 5:30 p.m. - Mission Temple Fireworks Revival featuring Paul Thorn & The Blind Boys of Alabama
- 7:30 p.m. - The Wood Brothers
- 9:30 p.m. - Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers

Saturday, Aug. 18

- 10 a.m. - Gates open, shuttles start from Big Sky Resort
- 12 noon - Kylie Spence
- 12:45 p.m. - The Well
- 2:00 p.m. - The Suffers
- 3:30 p.m. - Anderson East
- 5:15 p.m. - Chris Robinson Brotherhood
- 7:00 p.m. - Sam Bush Band
- 9:30 p.m. - Grace Potter

* It is recommended that you come early to allow time for the shuttle to the festival grounds.



The Ghosts of the Madison Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation hosted a banquet at the Ennis Rodeo Arena in Ennis. About 100 people attended and the money raised at the banquet will go to improving and protecting mule deer habitat. Mule deer numbers have been declining across the West for a number of years. (J. TAYLOR PHOTO)

Mule Deer Foundation's Ennis banquet draws good crowd to Rodeo Arena

ENNIS - The Mule Deer Foundation's (MDF) Ghosts of the Madison Chapter held its third annual fundraising banquet at the Ennis Rodeo Grounds Saturday, July 28.

The banquet offered the approximately 100 attendees a chance to visit, socialize, share hunting and fishing stories and perhaps gain a few prizes while raising money for mule deer conservation.

MDF's mission is to improve and protect mule deer habitat, through easements and land acquisitions

So far, MDF has helped restore or enhance more than 1.5 million acres of critical mule deer habitat in 19 western states, including Montana.

One of the chapter's most recent local efforts was helping Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks complete an ongoing effort to improve sagebrush grassland habitat critical to area

mule deer herds on the Robb-Ledford Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Using hand loppers and chainsaws, volunteers removed conifers that were beginning to shade out large tracts of sagebrush grasslands on the WMA. This project was part of a larger effort by local MDF chapters to improve and enhance intermountain and sagebrush grasslands across southwestern Montana in hopes of reversing a continual decrease in mule deer populations.

This habitat provides a critical food source for mule deer almost year around but most importantly in the winter months.

During 2018, MDF chapters have contributed more than \$70,000 to habitat enhancement work in SW Montana.

MDF is the only conservation group in North America dedicated to restoring, improving and protecting mule deer and their habitat, with a focus on science and program efficiency.

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Poster designed by Kate Arpin Graphics

Join us at the Woodson Ranch Visitor Center for the latest event of the 6th annual Wildlife Speaker Series. At 5:30, there will be a potluck dinner (we'll provide meat & beverages) and we will host a speaker at 7:00. The topic this year is **Trout** and we will discuss it in the context of local agriculture. Directions: Go 2 miles north of Laurin bridge on Ruby River Drive—visitor center is on your right.

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ENNIS, MONTANA

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•There are no guarantees that press releases will be published.

•*The Madisonian* may edit submissions for grammar and content.

•*The Madisonian* reserves the right to make all determinations relative to the above policy.

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OPINION

Editor:

Recently, I had the unfortunate opportunity to spend almost a week at Madison Valley Medical Center.

It had been years since this former nurse was an inpatient; and I fought my admittance tooth and nail. I knew that if I could just have one more day at home, I would improve greatly. Fortunately, my non-medical husband had the foresight to ignore me completely. He loaded me into the car and drove me from Virginia City to the Madison Valley Medical Center Emergency Room. We even entered the wrong door, but we were met immediately by two of the many angels who were to care for me over the next six days.

The ER nurses began caring for me immediately and knew exactly what to do based on my symptoms of bronchitis and pneumonia. Marty Hensel, PA was at my bedside almost immediately and "recommended" hospitalization. Between my husband and Marty, I didn't have much of a choice; but I was feeling so poorly physically that I was in no shape to fight for my right to just one more day at home. By the way, Marty was an absolute miracle worker. Not only is he very intelligent and knowledgeable, Marty has a heart of gold and truly "listens". I'm not certain I would have made it without the man.

I guess I was fairly ill and quite congested. It took almost a week of steroids, antibiotics, etc. to get me well enough to enjoy many more than just one more day at home.

My husband and I live in a large city during the winter months, where we enjoy excellent medical care. Ennis is a small town and I must admit that I was somewhat apprehensive at the level of care I would receive in this undersized medical environment.

Was I ever wrong!

From the minute I was admitted to Madison Valley Medical Center to the minute I was released, I felt like I was the only patient these caring, intelligent nurses, CNAs, and staff had to concern themselves with. I would especially like to thank Kiley, Jennifer, Lynette, Carla, Jenny, Quinta, Joan, Jimmie Sue, Amber, Linda, Patti, and Sarah. To a fault, each member of this nursing staff made me feel like they were not just doing a job; they made me feel like they were genuinely concerned about my health, how I felt physically, how they could make me feel better, how they could make me feel more comfortable; what little extra things they could do to ensure my comfort, relief, and well-being.

Time after time, each and every one of them went out of their way to find ways to manipulate administration of my medications (within doctor's orders) to help me achieve additional relief, to get the most out of the drugs my doctor had provided. Each member of the staff knew exactly when and how much to push me to help me reach the level of independence required for my discharge; at the same time, each one was there to offer additional support, conversation, solace, advice, and an "ear" when it was needed most. They just seemed to know the right time to be there. Each nurse and CNA working at Madison Valley Medical Center is very intelligent, up to date with their nursing knowledge, and skills; each one was extremely professional and excellent at their jobs.

Thank God for these angels sent to heal me! I had my fabulous Dr. Marks caring for me but it was only through the supplementation of these wonderful nurses and CNAs that I was able to return to excellent health.

Never, ever feel an ounce of apprehension should you find the need to enter the doors of Madison Valley Medical Center as a patient. You will find some of the best, most thoughtful, kind, concerned, helpful, resourceful, funny, marvelous nurses I have ever had the pleasure to meet! I am eternally grateful to each and every one of them, as well as to Marty and Dr. Marks.

Nita Ann Moore, Virginia City

Editor:

I entered law school in 1983 when I was 40 years old and a number of years after I had received my medical degree. I chose to attend the University of the Pacific law school in Sacramento, Calif. because I knew I would have Anthony Kennedy who was on the 9th Circuit Court Of Appeals for one of my law professors.

One of the first things I noticed was that the majority of my classmates were political science majors. I also learned that around 90 percent of my law school professors were also political science majors. The political science majors I associated with tended to be progressive thinkers. I found out

State violated judge's order to suspend Medicaid cuts

By MT Health Care Assn.

The state of Montana has violated a judge's order to halt Medicaid reimbursement rate cuts to assisted-care facilities, the Montana Health Care Association (MHCA) says.

MHCA represents more than 100 organizations that serve elderly and disabled Montanans, filed new legal documents in its lawsuit against the state, calling the state's decision to reimpose cuts a "flagrant violation" of the judge's order.

The association demands that the state Department of Public Health and Human Services comply with a temporary restraining order issued in June.

MHCA in June sued the state, the department and its director alleging violations of law in cutting Medicaid reimbursement rates for nursing facilities and assisted-living facilities.

District Judge James Reynolds of Helena issued a court order halting the new reimbursement rates "pending further order of this court."

The state, however, informed the plaintiffs in July that it was re-imposing the cuts to reimbursement rates for both nursing facilities and assisted-care facilities, even though its own claims on the validity of the restraining order had still not been heard by a judge.

While the state will provide some additional funding to nursing facilities through the increased bed tax, it wrongly claims the judge's temporary restraining order expired.

"The department's unilateral decision to resume reimbursement under the invalid and enjoined rules violates the law and is an affront to the authority of the court," the association says. "In short, what is illegal on June 30 does not

become legal on July 1 through the mere passage of time."

The plaintiffs are seeking a new court order affirming that the TRO is still in place and is demanding that reimbursements after July 1 be in compliance with that order.

They are also seeking attorneys fees and expenses associated with responding to "the department's flagrant violation of the TRO."

The lawsuit follows the 2017 Legislature's budget cuts that prompted the department to propose lowering Medicaid reimbursement rates. Initially, the department proposed reductions of 3.47 percent that it said were necessary to implement budget cuts included in Senate Bill 261.

It later reduced those cuts to 2.99 percent after many objections, including from the Legislature's Interim Committee on Chil-

dren, Families, Health and Human Services.

Initially, the lower rates were meant to last for only a matter of months, but the department later said it would extend the cuts through fiscal year 2019 - doubling the impact of the initial cuts.

However, the department failed to justify the extension and intentionally denied the public an opportunity to review and comment on the decision.

The MHCA said such public scrutiny would have proven the extension was unnecessary.

A hearing was initially scheduled for July 11 but was delayed after the state requested a new judge. The hearing will now be held August 2 before Judge Michael McMahon.

MHCA is a non-profit association that serves long-term care.

Support for these large farming operations works against other USDA programs, like beginning farmer loans, rural development programs, and more. The positive impact from those programs is diminished when corporate agriculture is strengthened by excessive and unnecessary farm program payments.

Taxpayer dollars shouldn't be misguided to further drive farm consolidation, increase barriers for beginning farmers, and decrease the number of true family farms in our agricultural system. Instead, sound, effective payment limitations should be implemented and enforced to ensure taxpayer dollars aren't funding the squandering of rural America.

Consider what Democrats support for improving our rural areas:

- Healthcare and most importantly Medicare and Social Security are critical to sustaining our way of life. We support Medicaid for Montana, our hospitals and nursing facilities.

- Schools, K-12, must be fully-supported at the state and Federal level - no more putting our kids' education on the backs of local taxpayers.

- We must invest in our roads, bridges, water and sewer systems - the backbones of our communities. Digital infrastructure and the opportunities that come with it are critical investments in rural areas.

- And here's what Democrats support for our farm and ranch economy: No trade deals about us without us. Agriculture is being used as a pawn in the current trade war and that is unacceptable.

- We demand fair trade policies.

- We support Country of Origin labeling.

- Democrats support a farm bill that works for Montana producers in the new farm economy - crop insurance that fits the reality of Montana producers' risk; a farm bill that includes partners for SNAP, WIC, and the Conservation Stewardship program.

Sustaining our rural areas, and our farmers and ranchers, should never be a Red vs. Blue thing. We need to elect people to our school boards, to our county commissions, to our legislature, and, yes, to the United States House of Representatives and the Senate who sincerely understand rural Montana and who will fight like hell for us.

As you look at candidates - both Democrat and Republican - ask about school funding and infrastructure. How are your rural hospitals doing? Are you worried about the very real possibility of a trade war with China? Are your neighbors? Rural folks have good reason to be uneasy in these challenging times, but Democrats will never stop working to protect our way of life.

Mary Sexton, Teton County, Chairperson, Montana Democratic Party

OBITUARIES

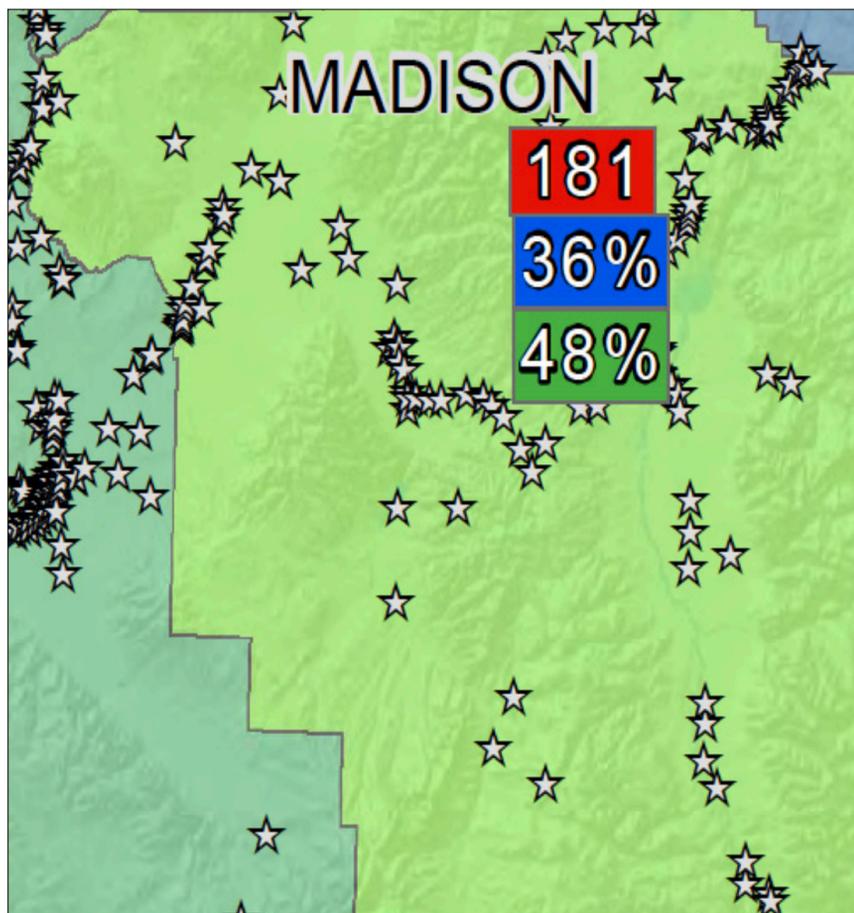
Fred Balkovetz

Funeral service for former Twin Bridges resident Fred Balkovetz will be held August 11 at 10 a.m. at Notre Dame Catholic Church in Twin Bridges followed by a graveside ceremony with U.S. Army military funeral honors.

ers rely on this money as part of a safety net, which helps them mitigate risks involved with working in agriculture. Congress put in place common sense limits on farm program payments, but left

damaging loopholes. Currently, farmers are required to be actively engaged in farming to receive these payments. "Actively engaged" farmers should be on the farm or in the tractor, as well as investing in land, equipment, or providing capital for the farming operation.

Each corporation, LLC, or individual farmer meeting "actively engaged" eligibility criteria can receive payments. In 2015, USDA paid \$3.7 million to one farming operation comprised of two individuals and 32 corporations. The operation reported that 25 members (plus 10 spouses) contributed active personal management, but no personal labor in the field.



This map shows the locations of fatality and serious injury crashes in Madison County between 2007 and 2016. Madison County saw 181 of those crashes over that decade, with 36 percent of them involving an impaired driver and 48 percent involving a passenger not wearing a seatbelt. The line of stars in the northeast corner of the county shows the concentration of crashes along the roads between McAllister and Norris on Highway 287 and along Highway 84 from Norris to Bozeman. (MAP COURTESY OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION)

Teen dies in rollover crash near McAllister

Norris, McAllister stretches of road remains particularly crash-prone

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

MCAILLISTER—An out-of-state 19-year-old died on Friday, July 27 in a single-vehicle rollover crash between McAllister and Norris after taking an abrupt left turn and running off the road.

Ember Johnston was heading southbound toward Ennis on Highway 287 when she left the road near milepost 58 around 4 p.m. on Friday. Her car rolled and came to rest on its roof in a field off the highway.

Madison County Sheriff Roger Thompson says all available response teams reported to the scene, including Ennis Fire, Ennis Ambulance, Montana Highway Patrol, a life flight helicopter and the sheriff's department. Thompson says it is unknown whether alcohol was a factor in the crash.

This was the latest in a particularly difficult week on Montana's roads. Another 19-year-old was killed in a crash northwest of Butte on Thursday, and a head-on collision near Columbia Falls, also on Thursday, killed two people.

The statewide trend in fatalities and serious injury car crashes has been on a downward trajectory for several years, and that has continued

into 2018. But Madison County has a disproportionate number of fatalities considering its population, and one of the highest concentrations of deadly crashes is on Norris Road, the 25-mile corridor leading from Norris to Bozeman, as well as the stretch between Norris and McAllister where Johnston crashed last week.

Declining Fatalities

Across Montana, fatalities have fallen by 19 percent in the past decade.

As of July 23, 84 people have died in car crashes this year, compared to 101 at the same time in 2017, so Montana State Patrol's "Vision Zero" project seems to be heading in the right direction. But over this weekend, that number rose by at least four.

Between 2007 and 2016, 45 people were killed in crashes within Madison County. Of those, 44 percent involved an impaired driver and 62 percent involved someone not wearing a seatbelt. Neither of those appears to have been a factor in Friday's crash.

During that same decade, crashes that resulted in serious injuries have also plummeted, by 44 percent. In 2008 more than 1,300 people were seriously injured on Montana roads, and in 2017 that number was 731.

For the most part, Madison County has remained relatively stable in terms of fatalities due to the county's small population. But compared to other counties in the state, Madison—which falls 27th in terms of population—ranks 13th for number of fatalities.

Norris Road

There are a variety of reasons for the elevated crash rate along the roads surrounding the Norris junction, says Thompson. Norris Pass one of two genuine passes in Madison County—the other traveling between Ennis and Virginia City.

In theory, the Norris pass should be the safer of the two, but the amount of traffic there swings the crash rate up significantly. The road between Norris and Bozeman has seen an upward trend in traffic for the past several years, and usually sees more than 2,000 vehicles per year.

"Norris has more guardrails and straighter roadways," says Thompson, comparing it to the Virginia City pass. "But because it gets so much traffic as both a commuting and a tourist route, the difference between the number of crashes on that pass is significant."

Also, Thompson says, truckers use the Norris pass far more than they do the Virginia City route. That adds both more traffic and more uncertainty around corners and going up and down hills.

Thompson also attributes many of the crashes to speed, and drivers simply getting too comfortable with a roadway that, in theory, should be safer.

"My guess is that just due to speeds involved, we get a lot of crashes that you think just wouldn't be, because visibility is good and it's relatively straight," he says. "In this case, there wasn't really anything out of the ordinary except people just going too fast. This was just extremely unfortunate."

Safety First When Operating UTVs

ALEXANDRIA, VA. - Utility task vehicles (UTV) are modern day workhorses that haul heavy loads, transport materials and make jobs easier. As they grow in popularity in rural, suburban and urban areas, it's important for operators and passengers to keep safety in mind.

"While UTVs are a lot of fun to drive, they should be treated like work vehicles, not toys," reminds Kris Kiser, President and CEO of the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI), an international trade association representing more than 100 power equipment, engine, and utility vehicle manufacturers and suppliers.

OPEI offers the following safety tips:

Read your owner's manual. Follow all guidelines and familiarize yourself with the controls. Misplaced manuals can be found online and saved on your computer for future reference.

Inspect your UTV before operation. Pay attention to tires, lights, and other systems. Check for missing or damaged parts. Replace any parts needed or take equipment to a qualified service representative.

Only responsible, adult drivers should operate UTVs. Take a safety course for UTV operators. Do not allow a child to operate a UTV.

Always wear your seat belt and utilize handholds. UTVs are equipped with a seat belt for the operator and with seat belts for any passengers. Passengers should be tall enough to reach handholds in the UTV while their backs are against the seat and feet are flat on the floorboards.

Remember "all in." Keep hands, arms, legs and feet inside the UTV at all times.

Exercise caution, especially on slopes. Drive completely up or down a slope or hill before making a turn. Do not turn the vehicle in mid-slope, and stay clear of ditches and embankments. Regardless of inclines, drive slowly and turn smoothly. Pay attention when backing up.

Pay attention when hauling a load. When hauling cargo the vehicle's center of gravity is raised, so you may need to slow down and adjust your driving. Materials you are hauling should be in the cargo box and secured.

Use care when towing a load. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for weight limits, and make sure the cargo box is loaded to assume good traction for driving and stopping. Tow a load at a speed slow enough



UTVs are becoming a more popular way to carry loads, transport materials and travel into the backcountry, but drivers need to keep safety in mind.

to maintain control. Remember, the stopping distance increases with the speed and weight of a towed load.

Only operate your UTV in clear conditions. Do not operate your UTV in poor weather, when tired, or when intoxicated.

Maintain your UTV and fuel it properly. Follow manufacturer recommendations for maintenance, and only use E10 or less fuel. Some gas stations may offer 15 percent ethanol (E15) gas or higher ethanol fuel blends, but any fuel containing more than 10 percent ethanol can damage — and is illegal to use in — small engine equipment (like a UTV) not designed for it. Also, never put "old" gas in your UTV. If you don't know the date of purchase, dispose safely of the fuel in the can and buy fresh fuel.

For more safety tips, go to www.opei.org. And for further information on proper fueling, go to www.LookBeforeYouPump.com.

About OPEI

The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) is an international trade association representing more than 100 power equipment, engine and utility vehicle manufacturers and suppliers. OPEI is the advocacy voice of the industry, and a recognized Standards Development Organization for the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and active internationally through the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) in the development of safety and performance standards.

Madison County DISPATCH

July 22 - 28, 2018

July 22 - Medical Aid on Hayfield Loop Trail, Ennis; Fire Call on Jack Creek Bench Rd., Ennis; Suspicious Circumstances in 400 Blk Shining Mtns. Loop Rd., Ennis; Fire Call on US Hwy 287, MM 14, Cameron; Trespass Complaint on Upper Ruby Rd., Alder.

July 23 - Suspicious Circumstances on Baldy Mtn. Court, Ennis; Accident in 1500 Blk, MT Hwy 287, Virginia City; Fire Call at Van Buren St. and W. Wallace St., Virginia City; Suspicious Circumstances on Sundance Bench Rd., Cameron; Traffic Complaint on US Hwy 287, MM 43, Ennis; Accident at MT Hwy 287 and Sand Coulee Rd., Sheridan; Suspicious Circumstances on Bald Mtn. Court, Ennis; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 359, MM 12, Harrison.

July 24 - Welfare Check in 7500 Blk, US Hwy 287, Harrison; Medical Aid in 400 Blk, W. Hugel St., Ennis; Dog Complaint on South Meadow Creek Rd., McAllister; Citizen Assist in 500 Blk, S. First St., Ennis; Citizen Assist in 200 Blk E. Hugel St., Ennis; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 87, MM 7, Cameron; Fire Call at North/South Meadow Creek Rd., McAllister.

July 25 - Abandoned Vehicle in 300 Blk S. Main St., Sheridan; Medical Aid on Cottonwood Lane, Ennis; Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 14, Virginia City; DUI on MT

Hwy 287, MM 4, Ennis; Vandalism/Criminal Mischief in 700 Blk Madison Ave., Ennis; Welfare Check in 300 Blk, Jefferson St., Sheridan; Wildlife Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 26, Laurin.

July 26 - Disturbance in 100 Blk E. Idaho St., Virginia City; Suspicious Circumstances on Slide Rock Rd., Cameron; Welfare Check in 100 Blk, Mill St., Sheridan; Traffic Complaint in 4700 Blk, US Hwy 287, N. Ennis; Traffic Complaint on US Hwy 287, MM 55, McAllister; Dog Complaint in 300 Blk, W. Main St., Ennis.

July 27 - Welfare Check on Cutoff Rd., Twin Bridges; Accident in 100 Blk Middle Rd., Sheridan; Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 41, MM 52, Silver Star; Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 58, McAllister; Medical Aid in 100 Blk Ennis Lake Rd., Ennis; Alarm Call on Laurin Loop Rd., Sheridan; Medical Aid in 200 Blk Nevada St., Nevada City; Disturbance on North Ridge Rd., Ennis.

7/28/18

Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 19, Alder; Accident in 100 Blk W. Main St., Twin Bridges; Animal Complaint on US Hwy 287, MM 28, Cameron; Disturbance in 100 Blk N. Main St., Twin Bridges.

The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 98 Calls for Service from July 22-28, 2018.

DISTRICT COURT ROUNDUP

The Madison County District Court vacated a series of three hearings set for Monday, July 30 and rescheduled them for a date later in August. All three cases concern charges brought against Job Floyd Smithson beginning in June of 2017.

Last June, Smithson was charged with felony criminal possession of dangerous drugs for methamphetamine. He faced a corresponding charge of misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia for pipes and syringes also found in his possession. The same day, he was charged with unauthorized use of a vehicle that didn't belong to him, failure to properly secure the license plates on that vehicle, a seatbelt violation and a traffic violation for speeding.

A separate case also concerning Smithson began in December of 2017 when Smithson failed to register as a violent offender, also a felony in the state. A warrant was issued for Smithson's arrest back in December, and he was arrested and posted bail earlier this year.

In January, Smithson faced two additional charges from 2017: felony theft for stealing a motorcycle and a misdemeanor charge of obstructing a peace officer for giving false information during a traffic stop that same day. Smithson has pled not guilty to all of the charges against him, and the rescheduled hearing in August will begin trial motions and will include a change of plea hearing for at least one of those charges.

The court did hold one hearing on Monday, a non-jury trial hearing for Zane Jay Pasma. Pasma is charged with felony attempted theft for trying to steal a CAT excavator from a business's property back in November of 2017. He is also charged with two counts of criminal trespassing on that property. The state issues several subpoenas to parties involved in the case, including the owner of the CAT excavator, and Pasma pled not guilty to all three of the charges against him.

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Invasive Species Council issues recommendations for eDNA testing, policies on invasive mussels



HELENA, Mont. – The Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC) today issued recommendations to guide the use and development of environmental DNA testing for the early detection of invasive mussels.

The recommendations address both policy development and scientific protocols for eDNA sampling, analysis, communications, and verification of test results, said MISC Chair Bryce Christiaens.

“At this time, the use of eDNA as a tool to detect the presence of mussels holds both promise and uncertainty. The technology is evolving rapidly, and invasive species managers across the West have struggled with how best to utilize or interpret test results,” Christiaens said.

MISC, in coordination with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and the Flathead Lake Biological Station, assembled a panel of nationally-recognized scientists in the field of eDNA for a two-day workshop in April. Christiaens said the Council’s recommendations were developed from the input of the panel.

“This is a major step forward for mussel detection and monitoring, and not just for Montana,” he said. “We’re laying the foundation for a knowledge base that will benefit state and federal agencies and stakeholders across the country.”

MISC will now work to share the eDNA recommendations through a regional work group, in coordination with the Western Regional Panel, the Western Governors’ Association, and the Pacific Northwest Economic Region.

A summary of the recommendations appears below.

Challenges

- Lack of standardized protocols
- Field collection
- Lab analysis
- Communication of results (between researchers/labs and managers)

- Management response
- Balance of risk and uncertainty
- Understand the costs of false negatives or false positives to assess risk tolerance

- Perspective on terms false negatives and false positives

- Detection threshold of eDNA for false negatives is not known and varies with sampling/analysis methods

- A limited number of labs are conducting eDNA analysis for early detection of dreissenids and use different protocols

- No coordinated dreissenid eDNA group to help address gaps and encourage communication

- Few published peer reviewed studies for dreissenid eDNA
- Communicating what a “positive” eDNA sample means

Recommendations

- Develop, refine, and agree upon method/standards with adaptive capacity

- Decontamination protocols (utilize existing US Fish and Wildlife Service for Asian carp effort)

- Field collection

- Lab analysis including Quality Assurance/Quality Control standardization

- Data reporting requirements and standards

- Develop consistent language (for both within lab and out)

- Develop a communication plan between managers and lab

- Approach eDNA results as a link in a chain of evidence

- Clearly define the steps to be taken following a detection. An eDNA detection could result in further sampling or directly lead to a management action, depending on these pre-defined steps

- Coordinate across western partners and cross-border partners via the suggested avenues

- Coordination among managers: Utilize existing venue of Western Regional Panel on ANS and/or

Western Governors Association

- Coordination between managers and researchers: Establish forum to continue conversation

- Coordination among researchers: Develop a system to share information

- Identify risk tolerance and map management actions for detection scenarios and trends

- Test assays with round robin process to assist with lab/manager confidence, identify areas for improvement in consistency, and relationship building

- Gene sequence any positive result to confirm

- Optimal conditions for eDNA detection is during dreissenid spawning

- Use eDNA to contribute to the weight of evidence to determine presence of dreissenids

- Develop/utilize a decision tree that incorporates monitoring results from different methods, likelihood of invasion, etc.

- Suggested parameters of a standard method

- Grab samples are thought to be better than plankton tows, but further evaluation is needed

- Surface water collection is preferred and is less problematic

- Bleach best for decontamination (50% solution)

- Minimize contamination with on-site processing

- Best to canvas waterbody with smaller samples

- Standardize assays using markers from different regions of the genome that are suited to answer question of study

- Use controls in the field and take replicate samples

- Use qPCR vs. conventional PCR

Conclusions

The MISC eDNA Science Advisory Panel was a successful step in better understanding the role for eDNA in management of aquatic invasive species for the future. The management of invasive species, specifically dreissenids, presents unique management and political challenges. Clear acknowledgement of gaps and recommendations from the advisory panel provides a path

forward for developing this technology into an operational tool that managers are comfortable using for dreissenid monitoring. Action on this issue will require international effort and include both managers and researchers to address gaps and needs in the development of this technology as an early detection tool. This is an issue that affects aquatic invasive species prevention and management beyond the boundaries of Montana, and steps forward will benefit agencies and stakeholders across jurisdictions. MISC will encourage action on these issues, but interested partners nation-wide will need to help push this effort forward.

Next Steps

MISC has identified the following steps to utilize the information from the panel:

- Make all information generated from the scientific advisory panel available to all interested parties

- Encourage the development of open dialog among eDNA dreissenid scientific community to promote further standardization of this tool

- Encourage the completion of a laboratory round-robin project among appropriate partners to promote further standardization of this tool

- Engage the Western Regional Panel on ANS and/or the Western Governors Association to assist in the promotion/implementation of the next steps identified by the panelists

- Continue the discussion regarding the use of eDNA and promote coordination and cooperation as the development of this method moves forward

The Montana Invasive Species Council was founded by an executive order from Gov. Steve Bullock to identify priority invasive species issues and make recommendations for improving prevention and management. The 2017 Legislature tasked MISC with creating and coordinating a science advisory panel to evaluate and provide recommendations on key invasive species issues and topics.

Stay vigilant to protect Montana’s waterways

HELENA - With summer half over, more than 50,000 watercraft have been inspected at Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks aquatic invasive species inspection stations around the state.

“The wet spring delayed a lot of boating activity, but boaters are enjoying the water now that hot and dry weather is here,” said FWP’s AIS Bureau Chief Thomas Woolf. “Get out on the water and have fun but remember to stop at any open watercraft inspection station that you encounter in your travels.”

To date, 12 boats with invasive mussels have been intercepted in Montana. Most recently three boats with mussels were found at the Anaconda inspection station July 18.

“It’s important that people adhere to the watercraft regulations and get their boats inspected when they come into the state and when they cross the Continental Divide into the Columbia River Basin,” Woolf said. Watercraft must also be inspected when entering into the Flathead River Basin.

Additionally, FWP’s AIS monitoring program is in full swing. More than 500 samples have been taken across the state for aquatic invasive mussels, and analysis is ongoing. So far, no positive samples for invasive mussels have been detected this year.

Reminders:

- Watercraft leaving Tiber and Canyon Ferry reservoirs must be inspected and decontaminated at an FWP decontamination station.

- Clean, Drain, Dry – every time. Be sure your boat is clean, drained and dry every time it leaves the water. Make sure to clean off all weeds and debris, drain all water and dry all compartments. Pay close attention to live wells, ballast tanks and anywhere that can hold water. Do your part to help protect Montana’s waterways.

For more information about Montana’s efforts to defend against aquatic invasive species, visit cleandraindrymt.com and the “Protect Our Waters Montana” Facebook page.

Lake Powell boats to undergo extra checks

HELENA - With the proliferation of adult quagga mussels in Lake Powell, located on the border of Utah and Arizona, watercraft from this lake entering Montana will be subject to additional measures at boat inspection stations to ensure they are free from aquatic invasive species.

Invasive mussels are found throughout Lake Powell. Adult quagga mussels are now commonly found on watercraft exiting the lake, even day-use boats; also adult mussels are also being found in ballast tanks of wakeboard boats.

This new development causes significant challenges due to difficulties inspecting and decontaminating ballast tanks.

In response, boats with ballast tanks entering Montana from Lake

Powell will be subjected to additional dry time to ensure they are not transporting live mussels. Any boat with ballast tanks that has visited Lake Powell in the previous 30 days will be thoroughly inspected, the ballast system flushed, and a dry time will be required to ensure no live mussels remain on the boat. Boats with ballast tanks will be locked to the trailer to ensure it does not launch until the required dry time is met. Dry time will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and can range from seven to 30 days.

All watercraft entering Montana are required to be inspected for invasive species, including a thorough inspection of live wells, anchors and ballast systems. Learn more at CleanDrainDryMT.com.

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Driver must be 18 to qualify. Applicants must submit required documentation to qualify, and passes are subject to approval. All festival attendees must have a printed pass in their vehicle and stop for security checks. Passes must be acquired in advance and will not be issued over the festival weekend.



South view of new Ruby Valley Medical Center. The public is invited to share in the facility's grand opening. (RVMC PHOTO)

Ruby Valley Medical Center to celebrate grand opening

Aug. 18
celebration to
highlight local
healthcare
improvements

SHERIDAN – The Ruby Valley Medical Center will celebrate its Grand Opening on August 18, starting at 11 a.m., at the Medical Center's main entrance at 321 Madison Street in Sheridan.

The event will include self-guided tours of the center, speakers and a ribbon cutting ceremony, refreshments and commemorative gifts.

"This Grand Opening represents many years of diligent planning by the board of trustees and administration of the Ruby Valley Hospital to provide a facility that can meet regulatory, healthcare technology, and financial requirements while delivering optimal healthcare services to the next generations of Ruby Valley residents," said Ken Walsh, President of the Ruby Valley Medical Center Board of Trustees.

The Grand Opening ceremony will include presentations by Walsh; Les Gil-

man, President, Ruby Valley Healthcare Foundation; and Bob Olsen, Senior Vice President, Montana Hospital Association.

Additional speakers may be added to the presentation roster.

The ribbon cutting ceremony will be performed with surgical skill by Dr. Warren Swager and Carol Braach, RN, both retired from the Ruby Valley Hospital.

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, attendees will be invited to take self-guided tours through the new Ruby Valley Medical Center.

Refreshments will be served between the main and emergency entrances of the Medical Center.

"The Board of Trustees, administration, medical providers, staff and auxiliary of the Ruby Valley Hospital are very excited to show our community how the new medical center will enhance the our quality healthcare services," said John Semington, Chief Executive Officer. "With our tour map, visitors today can meet with staff from each department to learn what's new and what will be coming soon to the Ruby Valley Medical Center."

The Ruby Valley Medical Center is the culmination of a year's planning and develop-

ment to provide the residents with a healthcare facility that meets regulatory standards, provides current and upcoming healthcare technologies such as telemedicine, and allows for growth of services.

The new Medical Center serves Sheridan, Twin Bridges, Alder, Laurin, Silver Star, Virginia City, Nevada City and Waterloo.

The hospital's current facility, which was opened in 1964, is no longer able to meet the healthcare needs of the 2,200 residents of the Ruby Valley.

The Ruby Valley Medical Center was built with a \$9.95 million loan from the U. S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Community Facilities Program and \$2,500,000 raised by the Ruby Valley Healthcare Foundation and the Ruby Valley Hospital Auxiliary.

The loan will be financed at 2.375 percent over 37 years. New equipment for the Medical Center cost \$1.5 million. The equipment purchases were funded by a \$1.1 million loan from the USDARDCF financed at 2.375 percent over 15 years and a \$400,000 donation from the Ruby Valley Healthcare Foundation.

The Medical Center is a critical access hospital with five in-patient beds, two observation beds, in-house CT

and radiology diagnostic imaging, and laboratory.

The medical center's emergency department has expanded to three trauma rooms and has a decontamination area.

The new helistop pad will provide much more efficient access to helicopter medical transport for patients needing emergency surgical or specialized care. The new clinic includes seven examination rooms plus areas for visiting specialists and telemedicine. The physical therapy department has four dedicated private treatment rooms and a much larger gym facility.

Visit the Ruby Valley Hospital's website at www.RubyValleyHospital.com for more information about the current hospital and the Medical Center. (The website will change to www.RVMC.org in late August.)

The healthcare providers support patients through the Ruby Valley Medical Center and the clinic in Twin Bridges. The Ruby Valley Medical Center also provides mobile emergency medical services through Ruby Valley Emergency Medical Services. The Ruby Valley Medical Center receives financial support from the Ruby Valley Healthcare Foundation and the Ruby Valley Medical Center Auxiliary.

Norris Hot Springs August music lineup offers much

NORRIS – Norris Hot Springs has the following musical line-up for August:

- Friday, Aug. 3 - Karaj describes himself this way - "I'm a bay area songwriter with a taste for spare arrangements and insightful lyrics. Many songs are inspired by open spaces and western states. Playing along the Pacific Coast and beyond, new and old original songs, plus more by great songwriters near and far."

- Saturday, Aug. 4 - The Ennis City Ramblers, a local trio, will bring their Western folk music to the Poolside Stage, playing American folk music and cowboy songs.

- Sunday, Aug. 5 - Mandy Rowden is an Austin, TX-based Americana singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist.

- Friday, Aug. 10 - Bozeman native singer songwriter Tom Kirwan performs a blend of Folk Country and Americana. Tom's songs evoke nostalgia of long ago dreams and people, while weaving stories of human longing both past and present.

- Saturday, Aug. 11 - San Francisco-based musician Amy Obenski is most known for her song Carousel, airing on the hit TV show, Grey's Anatomy. With lyrics about the experience of being human, her music has a way of connecting with pretty much anyone on a deeply personal level. She's compared frequently to Carole King or Norah Jones.

- Sunday, Aug. 12 - "Like Lucinda Williams in a Carhartt jacket, Christy Hays works rugged metaphors into emotionally charged country folk." Hays' music has folk and country tinges, thoughtfully penned stories and a full band sound that is both driving alt country and moody folk rock.

- Friday, Aug. 17 - Dan Henry, a native Montanan, is a one-man-band playing guitar, harmonica, and vocals.

- Saturday, Aug. 18 - Lang Termes vocal style ranges from mellow folk ballads to growling boogie blues. His music comes deep from the heart, in a wide variety of styles.

- Sunday, Aug. 19 - Five Letter Word is a Portland-based folk trio who plays harmony-driven music ranging from blues to bluegrass and beyond.

- Friday, Aug. 24 - A truly American roots writer, Heather Lingle has a good story and a lot of heart in each of her songs. Her music encompasses heartache and conquest reflecting the rugged independence of the West through good times and bad... a soulful, rebellious, genuine Americana artist.

- Saturday, Aug. 25 -The Road Agents are a Southwest Montana acoustic rock and roll band who play upbeat original tunes on guitar and mandolin and on the best nights they are joined by friends on fiddle, harmonica, and stand-up bass.

- Sunday, Aug. 26 - Johnny Dango plays red dirt country and rock, with a hefty sense of self-satire

Friday, Aug. 31 - Aaron Williams plays a variety of tunes including rock, folk, reggae, and instrumentals.



Amy Obenski

FIND YOUR wild



Rachael Efta:
A life built around rock climbing, backcountry skiing and trail running
By Abigail Dennis

"Madison County is a mecca for discovery," Rachael said. "There are so many places you can end up and wonder if anyone has ever even been where you are."

Rachael grew up in Central Washington, where the Cascade Range was her playground. Eight years ago she moved to Big Sky to take full advantage of a part of the Rocky Mountains that are still wild.

"My lifestyle is based around rock climbing, backcountry skiing and trail running," Rachael said. "I recently read an article that called rock climbers 'masters of the useless,' and I guess that's pretty accurate for my outdoor practices."

Rachael committed to the Madison Valley three years ago, moving down the hill to Ennis from Big Sky. It is her belief that Madison County locals appreciate the great outdoors, through fishing, horseback riding, hiking, hunting and more.

"It's a different culture of outdoor recreating here than any other place that I've lived," she said. "I've really had an exciting time being a total newbie at all of the things that folks out here are experts at."

Though some activities are new to Rachael, skiing is not.

"My mom skied with me when she was pregnant, and my dad hauled me around in a backpack until I could slide around on my own," she said. "Ski bumming was passed down to me and it's really been the catalyst to other outdoor recreation."

During the winter, Rachael's passion for skiing is also her job – she is a ski patroller at Big Sky. The relationships she made through skiing have contributed to her comfort in the mountains.

Climbing, on the other hand, is a new endeavor, in the last five years, that is.

"I am not that great at it and the learning curve has not been gentle to me," she said. "But it's a way for my husband and (me) to connect to the outdoors together – perhaps that's my favorite part."

Fortunately, living in Madison County has brought a wealth of adventure-minded individuals into Rachael's life.

"I am grateful to have ample opportunity and partnership to be able to wander around on skis and ropes or on foot," she said. "The cherry on top is that nothing ever feels like competition in this town."

At the end of the day, Rachael's why is simple.

"Life is too short to say no to a day on the river or walking through the woods," she said.



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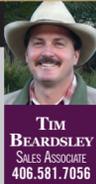


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Visitors at last year's Madison Valley Arts Festival. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Madison Valley Arts Festival

ENNIS – Mark your calendar for the 23rd Annual Madison Valley Arts Festival, to take place on Saturday, August 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This fun event will be held at the tree-shaded Peter T.'s Park, in historic downtown Ennis.

Artists from Montana as well as nearby states will be offering their quality work at this juried event. Items offered will include paintings, pottery, furniture, jewelry, photography, stained glass and fiber art among others.

In addition to the 45 juried artist booths, there will be several food vendors, face painting, and live musical entertainment by the talented and popular local Tune Tangles. An Ennis Arts Association Member's Gallery Booth will display a variety of

quality art for sale.

This annual festival, sponsored by the Ennis Arts Association, will also include a raffle of special donated art pieces.

Ticket holders will have the opportunity to win a Copper Sculpture by Trudi Gilliam, Framed Photographic Print by Gerry Mooney, Pottery Sculpture by Sue Kinn-Brown, Framed Fish Print by Harvey Eckert, or a Beaded Bracelet and Earring Set by Linda Maydak.

The generous use of the park is courtesy of the First Madison Valley Bank of Ennis. All proceeds from the festival will aid the Ennis Arts Association in local promotion of the arts. For more information please go to www.ennisarts.org.

EPA, parties reach 'conceptual settlement' for Anaconda Smelter Superfund site clean-up

DENVER (July 29, 2018) — On July 28, 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the State of Montana, Anaconda Deer Lodge County, and the Atlantic Richfield Company reached a conceptual settlement framework that addresses final cleanup actions at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund site and thereby provides the potential for significant benefits to the local community. The process by which the settlement framework was negotiated is substantially similar

to that followed by Atlantic Richfield, EPA, the State, and Butte Silver Bow County for the Butte Superfund site.

"This is another win for the people of Montana," said Montana Governor Steve Bullock. "I'm pleased we are finally taking action to get the cleanup done in Anaconda."

"This agreement secures a clear path forward for achieving final cleanup actions and a post-Superfund future for the people of Anaconda," said EPA Regional Administrator Doug Benevento. "We will now work diligently with our partners to begin finalizing and sharing details about the agreement and complete all necessary Superfund actions in the community."

"Working under EPA oversight for many years, we have made tremendous progress in cleaning up historic mining and smelting waste in the Anaconda area. We believe this agreement provides a clear path forward for finishing the job, with additional benefits to the community," said Patricia Gallery, Vice President of Atlantic Richfield Company. "We look forward to continuing to work with the EPA, State of Montana and the leadership of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County to make this happen."

"My gratitude and respect go out to all principals involved in the negotiations. The time and resources spent to achieve a conceptual settlement framework was immense," said Terry Vermeire,

Chairman, ADLC Commission. "I know all the members of our team believe we reached an agreement that is in the best interest of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County."

EPA and Anaconda Deer Lodge County will host a public meeting on Tuesday, July 31, at 6:30 p.m. in the Anaconda High School Little Theater to present next steps in developing a consent decree and sharing information with the public.

Details of the conceptual settlement framework are currently subject to a court confidentiality order issued in a lawsuit between the U.S. and the Atlantic Richfield Company. The parties will work quickly to seek court approval to modify the order to allow information about the proposed final remedy and other benefits to the community to be shared with the public. Under the framework, the parties will begin negotiating and drafting a consent decree and other documents representing a binding cleanup agreement. If the parties succeed in that effort, the public will have an opportunity to review and comment on such a decree before it becomes final and on any modifications to EPA's remedial action decision documents.

For more information on the Anaconda Area Superfund site visit: <https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/CurSites/csit-info.cfm?id=0800403&mssp=meda>

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Living History and Natural Wonders at Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park

WHITEHALL – Montana State Parks will host another week of campground interpretive programs open to the public at Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park.

• On Friday, August 3 at 8 p.m., learn about “John Colter: Hunter, Trapper, and Long-Distance Runner” with John Russell. Colter craved adventure, and when he signed on with the Lewis and Clark Expedition for \$5 per month, he got his fair share of it – and then some. Colter is best known for his infamous run from Blackfoot Indians near the Three Forks in 1808, but his role with the Corps of Discovery, the northwest fur trade and early explorations of what is now Yellowstone National Park are just as important.

A 40-year Bozeman resident, John Russell is best known as a broadcast journalist and former director of the Gallatin County Historical Society and Pioneer Museum. During his radio career, John won awards from the Society of Professional Journalists and the Montana Broadcasters Association. Beginning in 1997, he put his history degree to direct use by taking over the directorship of the Historical Society, where, among other things, he expanded membership, oversaw the fundraising and construction of the museum’s research center, enlarged the local oral

history collection, and designed the first ever magazine devoted to local history, the Pioneer Museum Quarterly. Since leaving the museum in 2014, John has been working on several historical writing projects.

• On Saturday, August 4 at 8 p.m., take an evening walk to appreciate two of the park’s night-loving residents. When most people think of caves, the first animal that comes to mind is the bat. Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park has 10 of Montana’s 15 bat species, and most of those live outside of the cave. The night dwellers are not just the bats, however. The park also hosts habitats for night-blooming Giant Evening Stars, a wildflower that makes up an essential piece of the ecosystem that supports our winged friends.

Through this hike (roughly a mile) you can expect to see the vast array of bats, birds, flowers and bugs. Clothes appropriate for the weather, a flashlight, water and binoculars are recommended. Visitors will be driving between stops, so transportation will be needed.

For more information about these or other events at Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park, call (406) 287-3541 or visit stateparks.mt.gov.



It’s a whopper!
Jenny Marie Henry Kroll, daughter of local fishing guide, Michael T. Henry, caught this beautiful brown trout on the Madison River, July 3, between Palisades and McAtee Bridge.

Pet of the Week

Because it's time to meet your match

Been laying around here for quite a spell and waiting, but alas and alack no one has come for me. Don’t know why as I’m a nice lady, good inside and outside and purrrer both. Tested neg. for FIV/FelV, got my vaccinations for this year, spayed and like getting petted. I’m a great mouser and would work for you

as well as give you loves. Please call Misty at 439-1405 about me and purrrty please come quickly. Summers getting over way to quickly. Purrraying, McCoya



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Horseshoe Tournament 9 AM • To Pre-Register Call Ricy @ 596-0085
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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Madison Valley Woman’s Club –
The Nearly New Shoppe

Members of the Madison Valley Woman’s Club, which owns and operates Ennis’s Nearly New Shoppe, all by volunteer hours. PHOTO COURTESY OF SANDRA PEREZ

The Madison Valley Women’s Club opened the Nearly New Shoppe on Ennis’ Main Street back in 1971. The building’s previous owner was so certain that the endeavor would fail that he didn’t charge any rent for the first month. The rest is history. “We paid off the mortgage on the building in 2016,” says Shirley Storey Masson, one of many MVWC volunteers who helps run Ennis’ oldest thrift shop. “We sure proved them wrong.”

The Nearly New Shoppe sells everything from clothes and books to kitchen supplies, and stationery. Members of the MVWC, including current and former presidents of the organization like Sandra Perez, volunteer in four-hour shifts to man the shop and sift through the countless donations that come in—the store has no paid employees, and chances are there’s a different mix of volunteers working depending on what day you stop by.

Proceeds from the Nearly New Shoppe benefit a huge variety of causes; the MVWC donates over \$100,000 per year to high school scholarships, community safety projects, local resource conservation and the arts, with over half of that coming from the store’s revenue. It’s all in keeping with their organization’s motto: “volunteer to serve our community.” It’s what the MVWC has been doing for over 100 years, and they have no intention of stopping.

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“It’s easy to make a buck. It’s a lot tougher to make a difference.” ~Tom Brokaw

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Officials band together to fight veterans fraud

HELENA — Montana Attorney General Tim Fox joins the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), law enforcement officials and charity regulators from across the U.S. in announcing “Operation Donate with Honor,” a sweeping new donor education campaign to help donors avoid phony fundraising solicitations claiming to help veterans and service members.

Operation Donate with Honor is an initiative that pairs enforcement actions with an education campaign to help consumers recognize charitable

solicitation fraud and to identify legitimate charities. It offers a video that highlights how to research charities and give wisely.

Veterans fundraising fraud schemes target potential donors online, via telemarketing, direct mail, door-to-door contacts, and at retail stores, falsely promising to help homeless and disabled veterans, to provide veterans with employment counseling, mental health counseling or other assistance, and to send care packages to deployed service members. Many schemes solicit nationwide.

When donating, ask questions, like charity’s name, website, and physical location, how much donation goes to the program, search the charity online with the word “scam” or “complaint.” Check out the charity’s ratings at the Wise Giving Alliance, Charity Watch, or Charity Navigator.

To report scams, call your local law enforcement or the Montana Consumer Protection at (800) 481-6896 or (406) 444-4500, or visit <http://dojmt.gov/consumer>.



Remembering the Buffalo Soldiers... Buffalo Soldier’s Day was July 28. African American troops – known as Buffalo Soldiers – were among the first people patrolling new national parks in the West. With duties ranging from evicting poachers and timber thieves to extinguishing forest fires, Buffalo Soldiers carried out many roles similar to modern-day park rangers at Yosemite, Yellowstone and Sequoia national parks. The presence of these soldiers as official stewards of park lands brought a sense of law and order to the mountain wilderness and their accomplishments – often complicated by racial animosity – helped lay the foundation of the National Park Service. (US DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR PHOTO)

Make it a Big Sky weekend!



August 10 & 11
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August 10, 11 & 12
8th Annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival



Artisan Festival
August 10 & 11

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bigskyartisanfestival.com

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August 10, 11 & 12

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bigskyarts.org

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Consider These Financial Tips for Single Women

If you’re a single woman, most of your financial challenges and aspirations may resemble those of single men. Men and women face the same economic stress factors of modern life, and both groups have similar financial goals, such as the ability to retire comfortably. But women still face specific obstacles. You need to be aware of these challenges – and do everything you can to overcome them.

For example, women still face a wage gap. In 2017, women earned 82% of what men earned, according to the Pew Research Center. However, the wage gap narrows among younger workers, and may even disappear for highly educated women, especially those in the STEM fields – science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Another financial concern for women is connected to their role as caregivers. Women spend an average of 12 years out of the workforce to care for children, elderly relatives and even friends, according to an estimate by the Social Security Administration. Other studies report different figures, but all the evidence points to women being the ones who take time off from work to care for loved ones. This means fewer contributions to Social Security, 401(k)s and other retirement plans.

Faced with these and other issues, what can you do to help yourself move toward your important goals?

Consider these steps:

- Develop good financial habits. Establishing good financial habits can pay off for you throughout your lifetime. These habits can include maintaining a budget, keeping your debts under control, and putting aside some money for a “rainy day.”
- Take advantage of available opportunities. If

you work for an organization that offers a 401(k) or similar plan, contribute as much as you think you can afford. At the very least, put in enough to earn your employer’s matching contribution, if one is offered. And every time your salary goes up, increase the amount you invest in your plan. Also, think about opening an IRA, which, like a 401(k), can offer tax-advantaged investment opportunities. If you have children, you’ll also want to explore college savings vehicles, such as a 529 plan.

- Educate yourself about investing – and get professional advice. Some people think investing is just too complex and mysterious to be understandable. Yet, with patience and a willingness to learn, you can become quite knowledgeable about how to invest, what you’re investing in and what forces affect the investment world. And to help you create an investment strategy that’s appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, you may also want to work with a financial professional.

- Discuss financial issues with your future spouse. If you get married or re-married, you’ll want to discuss financial issues with your new spouse. Specifically, you’ll want to answer questions such as these: What assets and debts do each of you bring to the marriage? Do you plan to merge your finances or keep them separate? Are your investment styles compatible? Do you have similar long-term goals? You and your new spouse don’t need identical views on every financial topic, but you both need to be willing to work together to advance your common interests.

Ultimately, you have a lot of control over your own financial future. And making informed choices can help make that future a bright one.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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School News

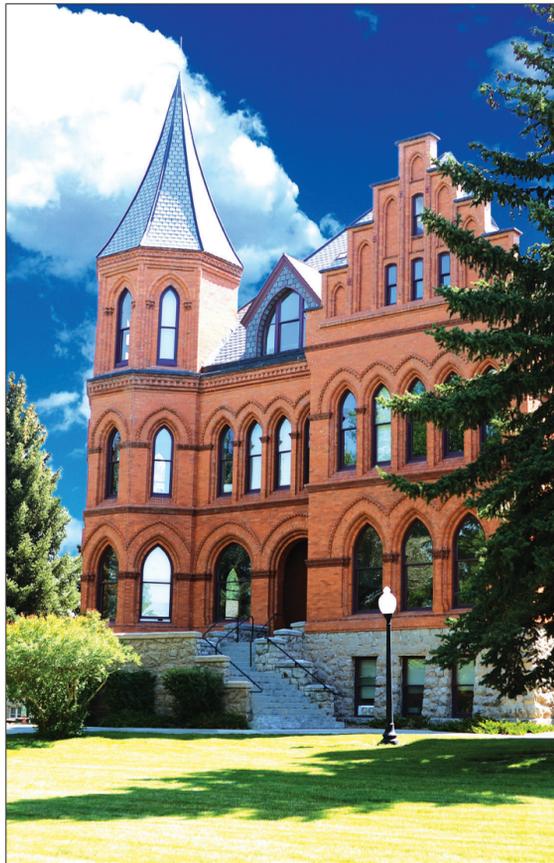
Montana Western ranked among the best four-year colleges

DILLON — The University of Montana Western was recently ranked third among the top ten “Best Four-year Colleges in Montana” by Schools.com, an online education resource. The ranking is based on factors including affordability, flexibility and student services. The other four-year Montana colleges in the top three are Montana State University, listed first, and the University of Montana, listed second.

U.S. News & World Report has also bestowed The University of Montana Western, a public institution founded in 1893, with several impressive rankings in the Western region. The rankings include #8 in Best Regional Colleges, #4 in Top Public Schools, #5 in Best Value Schools, and #6 in Best Colleges for Veterans. One of the most unique aspects of Montana Western is the Experience One program, an innovative class scheduling system that allows students to focus on a single course at a time.

The fields of academic study at Montana Western include Biology, Business and Technology, Environmental Sciences, Education, English, Equine Studies, Health and Human Performance, Fine Arts, Mathematics, and History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences.

Students at the University of Montana Western enjoy a tight-knit community atmosphere and small class sizes where they work closely with peers and professors alike. Montana Western focuses on serving students, achieving academic excellence, and promoting experiential ed-



Montana Western main entrance

ucation. The 20-acre campus is an excellent choice for students to take advantage of the immersive learning opportunities offered by the Experience One program, where they can build on critical and creative thinking skills to prepare for real-world

job and graduate school opportunities.

For more information about Experience One and the University of Montana Western, or to schedule a visit, call 877-683-7331 or visit www.umwestern.edu.

Twin Bridges Alumni Association Scholarship Recipients

TWIN BRIDGES - The Twin Bridges Alumni Association has announced the recipients of the Alumni Association Scholarships:

- The \$500 Salutorian Scholarship recipient went to Sierra Rinta who will serving in the military starting this fall.
- The \$500 Class of 1946 Fine Arts Scholarship went to Raeanne Bendon who will attend Western Montana College this fall to pursue a degree in Elementary Education and play basketball for the Bulldogs.
- The \$250 Science, Technology and Math Scholarship went to Eddy Kelly who plans to attend Mon-

tana State University starting this summer to begin his studies in the field of engineering.

- The \$700 scholarship was awarded to Noah Harbor who is attending Montana Tech and pursuing a degree in computer programming.
- The \$1000 was awarded to Kjersten Sandru a junior at Montana State who is pursuing a degree in Accounting.

The Association congratulates all these Scholarship recipients and sends a heartfelt thank you to the Alumni members who continue to support our Scholarship program.

Frecker named to Central Oregon's Dean's list

TWIN BRIDGES - Andrew Frecker, of Twin Bridges, was named to Central Oregon Community College's (COCC) Spring 2018 Dean's List.

The Dean's List recognizes students enrolled in 12 or more graded credits who receive a term GPA of 3.60 or better.

Local students among MSU spring graduates

BOZEMAN — Students from the following Montana hometowns were among the 1,561 Montana State University undergraduates who received diplomas during MSU's 2018 spring commencement ceremony held May 5 in Brick Breeden Fieldhouse.

Bill Pullman, a renowned Hollywood actor who started his career at MSU, received an honorary doctorate in arts and delivered the charge to the graduates at the morning ceremony. And Martin Goldsmith, a classical music ra-

dio announcer whose voice has graced Montana's and the nation's airwaves for decades, received an honorary doctorate in arts and delivered the charge to the graduates at the afternoon ceremony.

Students with two asterisks after their name (**) graduated with highest honors. To graduate with highest honors, undergraduate students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.70. Undergraduate students graduating with honors have a single asterisk (*) after their name. To qualify for

graduation with honors, students must possess a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 to 3.69.

Area students who graduated included:

- Ennis - Kurtis Koenig, Chelsea Martello
- Silver Star - Christopher Co
- Three Forks - James Corbett*, Rebecca Delaitre*, Jeremy Ditto*, Matthew Pilarczyk-Griffin, Cady Sayers, Tim Stover
- Twin Bridges - Jarrett Payne
- Whitehall - Haylee Estey, Bryce Murphy*

Third class of MSU Hilleman Scholars includes locals

BOZEMAN — Two local students — Eddie Kelly, of Twin Bridges and Emily Ryan, of Three Forks — have been selected for their effort and potential as the third class of Montana State University's Hilleman Scholars Program, named after Maurice Hilleman, one of the state's most influential, but least known, native sons.

“More than 70 years ago, a farm kid from Miles City changed the di-

rection of his life thanks to a scholarship to MSU,” said MSU President Waded Cruzado. “In so doing, he also changed the direction of the world, saving hundreds of millions of lives along the way.

Hilleman was born on a farm near Miles City in 1919.

He'd planned to work at a local department store there until his brother told him that MSU — then Montana State College — offered

scholarships. Hilleman applied, won a scholarship and graduated in 1941.

Over the course of the next 43 years, Hilleman became the world's leading vaccinologist, developing more than 40 important vaccines for human and animal health. Of the 14 vaccines commonly given to children, Hilleman developed nine, including those for measles, mumps, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, meningitis and pneumonia.

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MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

Thursday	Mostly sunny - High 87, low 51, Winds SSW 14 mph, 20 percent chance of rain.
Friday	Sunny - High 84, low 49. Winds WSW 13 mph, 0 percent chance of rain.
Saturday	Sunny. High 76, low 47. Winds WSW 9 mph, 0 percent chance of rain.
Sunday	Sunny. High 81, low 51. Winds WSW 7 mph, 0 percent chance of rain.
Monday	Sunny. High 84, low 53. Winds SW 10 mph, 0 percent chance of rain.

Quote of the Week:
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PANORAMA



A marathon weekend for the record books

Engaged couple wins three of four marathon titles, setting three course records

REAGAN COLYER
news@madisoniannews.com

ENNIS—The Greater Yellowstone Adventure Series continued over the weekend of July 21-22 with its double marathon weekend, the only one of its kind in Montana. The Madison and Big Sky marathons saw their 11th and 4th annual iterations, respectively, and two out-of-towners nabbed three of the four marathon titles between them.

Vanessa Garlick and Kevin Hartstein both hail from Montpelier, Vermont. Both tackled the double marathon, running the Madison course on the Gravelly Range Road on Saturday, July 21, then turning around to run the Big Sky Marathon on Sunday. They were two of nine brave athletes who were up to the challenge.

On Saturday, Garlick shattered the Madison Marathon course record by nearly five minutes, lowering the new best time to 3 hours, 44 minutes and 12 seconds.

"I really liked the Madison course: it was nice and hilly and beautiful," says Garlick. "It was easier to turn over relatively fast miles as compared to some of the more technical trails."

She's unique from most of the people who run the Madison.

The vast majority of racers prioritize simply finishing at an altitude like that. "Turning over fast miles," is on the minds of very few. Garlick proved that on the Gravelly Range Road: the second-place woman was about 40 minutes behind her.

She became one of only five women in race history to dip under 4 hours for the notoriously challenging course, which begins at an elevation of 9,250 feet and only dips below 8,500 feet once in its 26.2 miles. It's a race where it's easy to set a PW—a personal worst. But, says race director Sam Korsmoe, "it will be the one PW race that you'll remember for the rest of your life."

Garlick then won the Big Sky Marathon the next day, a race that is noted for the opposite: its extreme elevation loss. It begins along the same route as the Madison, but instead of staying high, the course winds all the way down into Ennis, losing nearly 3,700 feet and making it the significantly faster version of its sister race.

With one marathon already on her legs, Garlick snapped another course record by four minutes, lowering the Big Sky



Above - Lynda Andros-Clay and Eric Huff enjoy a post-race beverage after the Big Sky marathon on Saturday, July 21. (S. KORSMOE PHOTO)

Below - The course for the Madison Marathon offers some spectacular views, following the Gravelly Range Road along the ridgeline, which averages around 9,000 feet of elevation. (R. Colyer photo)



mark to 3:30:46. The former Butler University track athlete missed her personal best of 2:58, which she set at the Geneva Marathon in Switzerland, but says the challenging terrain and the beautiful views made it a worthy investment.

On the men's side, Hartstein continued a string of major accomplishments.

Just two days before the Madison Marathon he proposed to Garlick in Glacier National Park, and she accepted. Garlick is enjoying her only month of vacation between completing medical residency in Vermont and beginning a job as a pediatrician, so the pair took advantage of the time off with a trip that began at Lake Tahoe, then swung up through Yellowstone, Glacier and Grand Teton national parks.

Hartstein was edged out in the Madison Marathon by Bozeman's Adam Sepulveda, who was 14 minutes off a fourth course record of the weekend, but still the sixth fastest person to ever cover the course. But he took the victory the next day in a Big Sky course record of 2:55:55. He was the only person to break three hours on the downhill course since the inaugural winner in 2015. He missed his

personal best—2:48, set at the Boston Marathon in 2016—but the downhill was exactly the kind of terrain on which he excels.

"I really like downhill running," Hartstein says. "I think I go faster downhill, so relative to the field it's one of my strengths. I just went hard from the beginning, but my legs were definitely sore." After running all those hills the day before, he figures that's to be expected.

Hartstein didn't begin running seriously until he graduated from college, but once he did he got completely wrapped up in racing. Now, he says, he looks for interesting races whenever he travels. As he and Garlick planned their trip west, the Madison's unique double-race weekend caught their interest.

The couple's overwhelming success over the weekend led Korsmoe's post-race newsletter to the title "Vermont Invasion."

Garlick and Hartstein earned a couple bottles of Willie's Distillery reserve bourbon for their efforts; the distillery has been supplying "trophies" in the form of full bourbon bottles to the winners of each of the Greater Yellowstone Adventure Series races.



Vanessa Garlick (left) and Kevin Hartstein hold their prizes: commemorative bottles of Willie's reserve bourbon. Garlick won both the Madison and Big Sky marathons on July 21 and 22, while Hartstein placed second in the Madison Marathon and won the Big Sky Marathon. (S. KORSMOE PHOTO)

For a few of the weekend's racers, the Madison Marathon meant they were one step closer to another goal. The marathon is the second leg of the Madison Trifecta, sandwiched between the Madison Duathlon and Triathlon (the latter of which takes place this weekend, on August 4).

Only 24 people have earned the accolade of trifecta finisher, and so far in 2018, eight intrepid souls are still working their way toward their first title. That number was higher at the start of the summer but has dropped due to injuries and time constraints.

Unfortunately, the unlucky few who have dropped includes your intrepid community reporter. Maybe the elevation got me, maybe the distance, but mine was definitely a personal worst, considering I didn't even reach the finish line. But Lynda Andros-Clay, a four-time trifecta finisher and the first person to attempt to do all six of the GYAS races in a single season, has a good mindset when it comes to a personal worst.

"It's so beautiful," she says of the course. "You just have to take your time and enjoy it." It's a common feeling among racers, few of whom come to chase a fast time. The spectacular scenery that fol-

lows the course is what keeps runners coming back. Andros-Clay also pulled off the double marathon last weekend and has two more races before she can claim the six-race distinction.

On the half marathon side, three of the four champions came from Montana, including Virginia City's Jeff Millisap, who won the Big Sky half marathon with a stellar time of 1:42:27. The Madison half was won by John Wallace of Missoula for the men and Billings' Jessica Raty for the women. The only out-of-state champion was Nancy Robinson of Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, who won the Madison half for the women in 1:44:50.

Like most years, the Madison Marathon weekend drew runners from all over the world. The field between the two marathons continues to grow every year, and this year athletes came from nearly 40 states, as well as Denmark, New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain. It's exactly the kind of group Korsmoe had in mind when he started the GYAS.

"You can run double or triple marathons all over the place," Korsmoe says. "That's not the hard part. The hard part is having a double mar-

athon like this one, with this scenery and this terrain and this challenge. That's what keeps drawing people back year after year."

The final events in the GYAS for 2018 will take place over this weekend, and there's still time to register.

The weekend will kick off with the Madison Triathlon on August 4, which begins with a swim in Ennis Lake, transitions to a bike ride from Ennis to Harrison and finishes with a 6-mile run from Harrison to the iconic Pony Bar. If they can make it through that, the trifecta participants will be done.

The next day, August 5, will be the only race not involving a single step of running: The Tour de Gravelly. The 57-mile bike race goes up and over the Gravelly Range, beginning in Ennis and ending at the Vigilante Station in the Ruby Valley. After that, a lot of athletes will have a lot of resting to do before next year's GYAS.



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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Zane Miller

Madison Valley Manor Volunteer of the Year



Zane Miller

By Dr. Melody J. Clark, Madison Valley Manor, Activities Director

ENNIS - Zane Miller was recently chosen as the Madison Valley Manor 2018 Volunteer of the Year.

Zane is a friend to all at the Manor. Zane plays music three times per week and also tells stories and reads one night. He has been playing music at the Manor for 41 years! Zane says he likes performing his gigs at the Manor because he likes being there and his music is very pleasing to this generation.

Most importantly, Zane is a reliable, trusted and true friend to all of the residents at the Manor. They look forward to gathering together

to hear songs from a variety of songwriters and many sing along as he strums his guitar and brings back so many good memories.

Zane also worked at the Manor as a CNA and in the Activities Department for six years.

The Manor is special to Zane as his Grandmother, Grace and Mother, Bev both lived at the Manor.

Zane is certainly special to the Manor and to our community. He is an inspiration to many for his tireless efforts and dedication to making lives a little richer through his music and stories.

Study associates frequent digital media use in teens with ADHD symptoms

Two-year study of more than 2,500 high school students shows heavy digital users most likely to develop ADHD symptoms

By Dr. Francis Collins

WASHINGTON, D. C. - The rise of smart phones, tablets, and other mobile technologies has put digital media, quite literally, at the fingertips of today's youth. Most teens now have ready access to a smartphone, with about half spending the majority of their waking hours texting, checking social media sites, watching videos, or otherwise engaged online.

So, what does this increased access to digital media—along with the instant gratification that it provides—mean for teens' health and wellbeing?

In a two-year study of more than 2,500 high school students in Los Angeles, NIH-funded researchers found that those who consumed the most digital media were also the most likely to develop symptoms of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

ADHD makes it difficult for a person to pay attention, sit still, or control impulsive behaviors. Symptoms of ADHD often occur in young children, but they can also arise in adolescence or even adulthood.



A study is linking teen digital media use with ADHD symptoms.

Earlier studies revealed a modest association between ADHD and the time that teens spend watching television or playing video games. In the study now reported in JAMA, Adam Leventhal at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, Los Angeles, and colleagues wondered how today's expanded menu of digital media—with their rapid operational speeds, constant mental stimulation, and potential for excessive use—had affected teens.

Leventhal's team enrolled students at 10 racially diverse Los Angeles high schools to participate in the Happiness & Health Study, a survey-based effort to explore various factors influencing addiction and other behavioral risk factors for disease. The students, aged 15 and 16, completed an initial survey about their recent engagement in 14 popular digital media activities, including texting, visiting social media sites, streaming or downloading music or TV shows, and chatting online.

The students were also surveyed about whether they'd experienced symptoms of ADHD over the past six months. To look for links between digital media use and the onset of new ADHD symptoms, the researchers then asked the approximately 2,600 high school students who initially self-reported no significant

symptoms of ADHD to complete additional ADHD surveys every six months. They did so from the start of their sophomore year through the middle of their senior year.

About half indicated that they check social media and send text messages, the most popular media activities, many times per day. Importantly, the researchers found that heavy use of each additional form of digital media increased the possibility that a teen would subsequently experience significant ADHD symptoms.

Overall, 9.5 percent of 114 teens who reported seven high-frequency digital media activities subsequently developed significant ADHD symptoms. Among 51 teens who said they frequently participated in all 14 of the digital media activities evaluated in the study, 10.5 percent later reported new ADHD symptoms. That's compared to 4.6 percent of teens who reported no high-frequency digital media use at the start of the study.

This study represents a starting point, and there are some potential caveats to the findings. For example, we always have to remember in studies like this that association doesn't prove causation—it's possible that these were the teens who would develop ADHD signs anyway, and their increased digital use was an effect, not a cause.

Also, 80 percent of participants self-reported heavy use of digital media. But most didn't develop signs of ADHD. Are there certain types of teens that are more prone to developing symptoms of this troubling condition?

Nevertheless, the findings suggest that the recent rise in popularity of digital technologies could play a role in ADHD. The findings also serve as an important warning for teens, parents, teachers, and others as increasingly stimulating forms of digital media become ever more prevalent in our daily lives.

Adolescence is a time of extraordinary physical, emotional, and intellectual growth, and the more we can learn about the factors that lead to healthy adolescence, the better. The NIH recently released an unprecedented dataset representing thousands of participants in the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study [4], the largest, long-term study of brain development in children and adolescents in the U.S. The 10-year study is designed to explore how drug use or other experiences, including screen time, affect the adolescent brain. I look forward to the many discoveries sure to come as the data continue to come in, allowing researchers around the world to continue exploring these important questions.

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The optimal test for diabetes management

Local diabetes educator explains diabetes tests

By Janet Howard-Ducsay, RN Certified Diabetes Educator

Patients are quite surprised when they are diagnosed with diabetes. A common complaint is that they have been monitored annually with a fasting glucose level and they were advised that the results were always within normal levels. However, it has been long known that the fasting glucose levels are just one of the measurements of the lab abnormalities indicating diabetes.

Fasting glucose is often the last blood measurement to change to an out of normal range. This blood test identifies how the body adjusts after an 8 - 12 hour fast and identifies if the body produces extra glucose. The results of a fasting glucose level are: less than 100 mg/dl no diagnosis, 100-125mg/dl diagnosis of pre-diabetes, > 125mg/dl diagnosis of diabetes. Other diagnosis criteria blood tests are 2 hour plasma glucose level >200 mg/dl or a random glucose level of >200 mg/dl in patients with symptoms of high blood glucose or in hyperglycemia crisis.

Since 2010, the American Diabetes Association recommends Hemoglobin A1c (Hb A1c) testing for the diagnosis and monitoring of diabetes according to the "Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes."

Hb A1cs a blood test that does not require fasting. It is a measure of the last three month's concentration of glucose that is in the red blood

cells. This average takes into consideration more of the factors that are part of type 2 diabetes. It takes into account the post meal glucose values, insulin resistance, overall reduction of insulin production, as well as excessive glucose production by the liver due to stress, such as illness, pain poor sleep, and or infection.

- Hgb A1C results are:
- < 5.7% Within normal limits
 - 5.7-6.4% -- diagnosis of pre-diabetes
 - 6.5% and greater -- diagnosis of diabetes.

This valuable test identifies pre-diabetes and diabetes much earlier and in turn allows patients to begin life style behaviors to manage their diagnosis. This test requires no preparation or concern about patient compliance. It is an approved and reliable screening and diagnostic tool. Hgb A1C is also used as an excellent measure for treatment guidelines and success of treatment the patient with diabetes. The test should be performed every 6 months for patients with diabetes meeting treatment goals and quarterly for those who have not met goals or are changing therapy.

Elevated results will assist the determining the treatment plan with oral glucose lowering agents or insulin therapy. The higher the A1c, especially great than 9%, should be aggressively treated to avoid complications of neuropathy-damage to nerves, retinopathy-damage to retinas of the eye, and Micro-albuminuria-damage of the kidney.

At your next visit to your health care provider, discuss having this simple test to be proactive in screening and monitoring your average glucose level. Seek out the support of your health care provider and your local Certified Diabetes Educator to create a plan for your best prevention and support.

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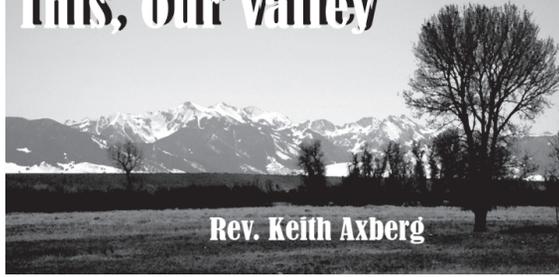
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COLUMNS



This, Our Valley



Rev. Keith Axberg

"I am running away, but I prefer to call it a strategic retreat" – Tennessee Williams

I was scanning the internet the other day. Sometimes this activity is known as killing time, although, to be honest, time has been killing me for years. If you don't believe me, come on over and take a look. So I found myself tumbling through some random spots online and found a gif (a brief moving picture or clip that runs for about 1 or 2 seconds). It was the picture of a sailboat where the sail was adjusted for the wind, and as the canvass swung from one side to the other, it caught and tossed a sailor into the sea.

That's all there was to the image, and I found myself briefly wondering, hoping (and presuming) the sailor was retrieved by his fellow yachts-

men. Beyond that, though, I found it quite comical and entertaining – not unlike some Buster Keaton or Charlie Chaplin bit.

As we head into the dog days of summer, it occurs to me that some folks may be struggling with bouts of boredom and looking for ways to stay busy. As a service to my readers, then, I thought I would provide you with my top ten list of things to do when the mosquitos are biting and the fish aren't – and you're looking for some sort of reprieve from those flaccid days of summer. In no particular order, here goes:

Coming in at No. 10, go inside, close the drapes and blinds, select a decade, and binge watch your favorite TV show. Bonanza will probably take you almost to Halloween!

At No. 9, do a search on Tumblr, select a topic of interest, and follow the Links, Likes, and Followings until you get back to where you started – or Christmas (whichever comes first).

At No. 8, hop in the car or truck and see how far into the mountains you can get. Then hop out and see how long it takes for anyone to notice you're missing. Remember, your local Search and Rescue team needs practice, so this would be a genuine community service. And for all those times your better half has asked you to Get Lost, you can show them how much you really DO listen!

At No. 7, when telemarketers call, ask them to hang on; then go water your lawn, wash your dishes, plan a deck party, or run to the store and do some grocery shopping. Warning: Do this only with your landline. Charges may apply against your cellular plan, so check with your attorney first.

At No. 6, sit down and address your Christmas cards. Begin your

annual Christmas letter, starting each paragraph with a succeeding letter of the alphabet. Your friends and family will LOVE it!

Coming in at No. 5, close your windows, turn off your lights, climb into bed with flannel sheets and turn on your electric blanket and pretend it is winter. You may not get much rest, but you'll quickly drop a few pounds and fit into those clothes you've been storing since 1977.

At No. 4, head over to your favorite community service organization and ask them how you can (gasp) be of service. Offer them the gift of your time, talent, or treasure (whichever works best for them). Make a commitment and stick with it.

At No. 3, take a stroll downtown, block the sidewalk and talk with visitors and friends. Grab a soft drink or water, look at traffic on the main drag through town, take a deep breath, and remember that's what folks in big cities deal with all year long. Exhale, and offer God a note of thanks.

At No. 2, call a friend or family member you haven't seen or talked to in a long time, and catch up. Note: Hang up on the telemarketer first.

And finally, coming in at No. 1: Go outside and when the first star appears, don't make a wish. Just be thankful, and enjoy the view, for you're closer to heaven than you can possibly know.

There you are. Enjoy these waning days of summer, don't play with fire and, for heaven's sake, watch out for pranksters in this, God's valley.

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

COMMODITY INSITE: To my chagrin

BY JERRY WELCH

The commodity markets per se, to my chagrin, continue to wallow around aimlessly with a downward bias. In the past few weeks, the CRB Index that is to commodities as the Dow Jones is to stocks, shares and equities, fell to a new, five-month low. Just as recently, soybean prices hit a 10-year low; copper, a leading indicator for the Dow Jones and commodities hit a one-year low. I can tout other hard asset markets that have also stumbled badly but won't.

Certainly, the Trump tariffs and the growing trade war with China and others has been weighing heavily on the commodity markets preventing them from rising much at all. Nonetheless, yours truly has been forecasting the rebirth, the resurrection if you will of a new, dynamic Super Cycle for commodities since late March and it has yet to unfold.

However, history suggests the emergence of a Super Cycle for commodities per se is not an event so much as a process.

For example, from Haunted By Markets in a chapter entitled, "Spectacular Bull Market Ahead For Wheat," that I wrote on July 10, 2000 come the following tidbits

of history:

"The past two months have not been kind to the agricultural markets. In the grain complex, for example, soybean prices since the highs set on May 3 have dropped a whopping \$1.37 a bushel, corn prices have slumped \$.74 a bushel and wheat prices are off at least \$.39 cents a bushel. And from May 25, cotton prices have collapsed more than 11 cents with nearby futures dropping back to where they were in December of last year."

"Price erosion on a large scale has also taken place for coffee with prices dropping from \$1.50 a pound in December, to Friday's low of 87 cents. Lumber prices have also taken a hard hit with a decline in the past five months of \$346 per board foot to this week's low of \$254."

"And within the past two weeks, hog futures fell to an eight-month low, while nearby cattle prices hit their lowest levels in nine months. In the case of the cattle market, 1999 ended with prices at a 3.5-year high and the outlook quite bright for 2000. But thus far, cattle along with most ag-markets have been sloppy."

"It has been an ugly period for the agricultural

markets. But with the Federal Reserve pushing interest rates upward in an effort to slow the U.S. economy, with Mother Nature blessing the Midwest with timely and ample rainfall and with the U.S. dollar rising to a 16-year high in May, it should not be much of a surprise that commodity prices are struggling."

The paragraphs above, though written 18 years ago aptly describe the commodity markets the past few months. The only "inaccurate" comparison is with the US dollar.

Back in May of 2000, the dollar hit a 16-year high.

This year, the best the dollar could do is a one-year high posted in mid-July. Otherwise, comparing the market environment of July 2000 with July 2018 and it is nearly an identical situation.

In today's market environment for grains there are two big stories quickly unfolding: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) now pegs global stocks of corn at their lowest levels since 1974, 44 years ago. USDA also suggests that "stock-to-usage ratio" for wheat in Russia, the Ukraine, Australia and Europe is the smallest since 2007.

In 2007, Kansas City wheat futures bottomed in March around \$4.33 but in December touched a high of \$10.29 a bushel. And two months later, in February 2008, the market peaked out at \$13.84 a bushel. Wheat prices rose around \$9.51 a bushel in nine months. Or, \$47,550 per futures contract.

Will history repeat itself now that the stocks-to-usage ratio in several major wheat producing regions are the tightest since 2007?

Only with the benefit of hindsight will we know for certain how the wheat market performs over the coming months. But a general rule of thumb is that history does indeed repeat itself.

Those interested in learning the history of the Big Four: stocks, bonds, currencies and commodities from 1990 to 2015 should check out www.commodityinsite.com. It is there you find Haunted By Markets and a special offer available to those that step up and buy the book.

Check it out so the history of a market does not catch you by surprise when it repeats itself. ...

And despite being chagrined, I continue to believe commodities per se are as low as they will go.

National Farmers Market Week

Rural farmers markets harvest demand for healthy food

By Cody Smith, Center for Rural Affairs

(National Farmer's Market Week is Aug. 5 - 11.)

Large, hand-painted signs lean against a tent, the

buzz of friendly conversation cuts through the humid air, and the smell of fresh produce drifts in the breeze – you've found yourself at a farmers market.

Farmers markets are common in urban and rural communities around the nation. In urban areas, they provide an authentic, natural alternative for consumers to connect with those who produce their food.

In rural areas, farmers markets provide these same opportunities among many others – they serve as a stimulant for local businesses and farmers, an attraction for strangers and locals alike, and, perhaps most importantly, they offer direct, secure access to nutritious food for rural Americans.

Food security – defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as having access to enough food to maintain an active, healthy lifestyle – is an ever-present challenge in rural communities. According to Feeding America, 12.9 percent of Americans were food insecure in 2016 and three-fourths of counties with the highest rates of food insecurity were in rural areas.

There are programs designed to help alleviate food insecurity, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). However, research suggests that rural participation in SNAP is significantly lower for eligible recipients in rural areas than in urban ones. Policies that support SNAP acceptance at more farmers markets

are a proven way to make progress.

As we celebrate National Farmers Market Week from Aug. 5 to 11, we praise these events that serve a key role in feeding rural communities nationwide.

Cody Smith is a Policy Assistant at the Center for Rural Affairs. He grew up on a sheep and cattle farm in rural Indiana where he developed a deep passion for rural communities and advocating for solutions to the challenges they face. Contact him at codysc@cfra.org, Center for Rural Affairs

Montana Night Sky - The Perseid Meteor Showers -

BY RICHARD STOUFFER

The biggest highlight of the Montana night sky in August is the Perseid Meteor shower, the best meteor shower of the year. August includes planetary highlights as well, with Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn shining brightly in the evening sky and speedy Mercury coming into view in the morning sky during the last few days of the month.

As the month begins, four bright planets, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and Mars, form an arc across the sky from West to East. As the sky darkens in the summer evening, the brightest planet, Venus, shines brilliantly low in the western sky. Look for Venus to come close to Spica, the brightest star in the constellation Virgo, by the end of the month.

Higher up in the southwestern sky, look for the giant planet Jupiter shining brightly accompanied by the much fainter but brightest star in the constellation Libra.

As the sky darkens further, look for the ringed planet Saturn shining in the southern sky located above the teapot shape of the constellation Sagittarius. Rising in the east, just after sunset, is brilliant Mars, which just passed its closest approach to Earth in 15 years at the end of July and which is also at its brightest in 15 years. Although Mars fades in brightness as the month progresses, it continues to be brighter than Jupiter all month long. With Mars so bright, it provides a rare opportunity to see three brilliant planets, Venus, Mars and Jupiter, all in the sky at the same time. This planetary show continues until Venus sets about an hour and three quarters after the Sun as the month begins and about an hour and a quarter after the Sun as August comes to a close.

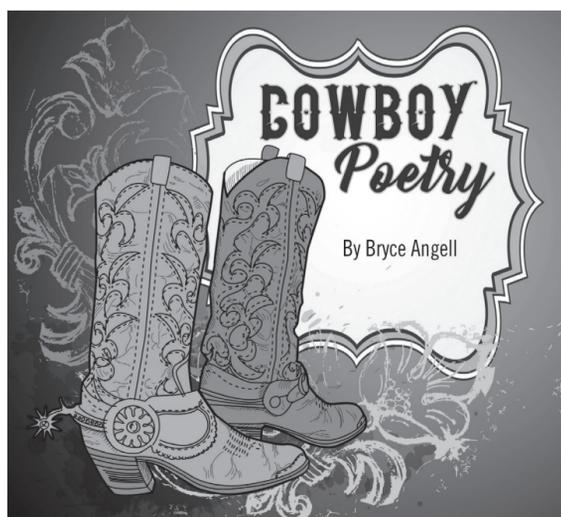
Following Venus, Jupiter sets about 12:35 a.m. at the beginning of the month and about 10:40 p.m. at the end of the month. Next to set is Saturn, which sets

about 3:30 a.m. as August begins and about 1:25 a.m. as August ends. Mars is the last to set of the four bright planets, when it sets about 50 minutes before sunrise as the month begins and about 3:00 a.m. at the end of the month. To cap off the planetary show of planets, for the last few days of the month, tiny Mercury makes an appearance in the morning sky, rising about 90 minutes before sunrise as August comes to a close.

For those who have been waiting patiently for an exceptional meteor shower, the real highlight of the Montana night sky in August is the Perseid Meteor shower, the year's best meteor shower. On top of that, 2018 will be a great year for observing the Perseids with no interference at all from the moon, which is new on August 11. The meteor shower is at its peak the morning of August 13 when an observer may see upwards of 60 Perseids per hour.

For some lucky observers who are observing from a very dark site and who happen to be looking up when the shower is at its strongest, they may get to see 100 or more meteors per hour. As an added bonus, the shower should be almost as strong on the previous morning of August 12. To observe the meteor shower, just go to the darkest site you can find, get out your lawn chair or blanket, lay back and look straight up in the sky facing generally northeast and enjoy! You will be looking at left over dust from Comet Swift-Tuttle, a comet that won't return to the neighborhood of Earth until 2122.

As for the moon, the moon passes to the right of Venus on August 13 and above Venus the very next evening. The moon passes to the right of Saturn on August 20. The moon passes to the upper right of Mars on August 22 and to the upper left of Mars the next evening. The moon is full on August 26.



The Hayin' Crew

I've listened to my father tell of how they put up hay. They stacked it loose, then tromped it down. That was the only way.

He said, "We had a hayin' crew of ten to twelve good men. Those country boys weren't scared of work. That's all they knew back then."

The men would get an early start, but first came ham and eggs. "They ate a lot," my father said. "They all had hollow legs."

The work was nothing new

to them, and now it's never seen. They worked so well together like a finely tuned machine.

Someone was always kidding 'cuz they loved to joke around. But they knew how far to push it. Might get pounded in the ground.

At twelve o'clock the workers stopped to rest and get renewed. The horses ate their bags of oats. The men wolfed down their food.

They'd take an hour, then back to work right up to sup-

per time, then line up at the water trough to wash off dirt and grime.

There were no skimpy appetites. Those men sure loved to eat. At night the cook out-did himself, with chunks of beefy meat.

The men slept in the bunkhouse. Some played checkers up till dark. But most of them were sound asleep before night made its mark.

It wasn't just about the hay. 'Twas camaraderie. But those hayin' days have changed, I'd

say, from pure necessity.

And now I look out in the fields and watch a farmer hay. So much is automated. We've sure come a long, long way.

I wonder if he ever thinks about those days of old when men would rather work than play. I guess God broke the mold.

And I'll bet he'll tell a story, when his hayin' days are through, of how he put the hay up with his dang near one-man crew.

COMICS & PUZZLES

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 They may be proper subjects
- 6 Distorted
- 12 Circus tent
- 13 Utica's county
- 14 Mistreat
- 15 Cat in 9 Lives commercials
- 16 Antelope's playmate
- 17 Rowing team
- 19 Biblical verb suffix
- 20 Take heed of
- 22 Profit
- 24 Air safety org.
- 27 History chapters
- 29 Inauguration recitation
- 32 "The Gold Bug" author
- 35 Policy expert
- 36 Stead
- 37 Gender
- 38 Item for 17-Across
- 40 Genesis creator
- 42 Billboards
- 44 Camel feature
- 46 — podrida
- 50 Second of two
- 52 Acre's acres?
- 54 Hateful
- 55 Original

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50			51				52	53				
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56							57					

- 10 Tend texts
- 11 T, in Morse code
- 12 Auction action
- 18 True-to-lifestyle
- 21 "— the ramparts ..."
- 23 Plenty of time?
- 24 Not many
- 25 Commotion
- 26 Doubter
- 28 Dormant
- 30 Pirouette pivot
- 31 Whammy
- 33 Alias abbr.
- 34 Summertime mo.
- 39 Watery discharge
- 41 Heart line
- 42 Oodles
- 43 Arp's art
- 45 — Major
- 47 Den
- 48 Tax
- 49 Hearty brew
- 51 Excessively
- 53 Bando of baseball

DOWN

- 1 Cleo's river
- 2 Lecher's look
- 3 One-eighty
- 4 Ph. bk. data
- 5 Ghostly
- 6 One or more
- 7 Famous
- 8 Always, in verse
- 9 Bugs

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



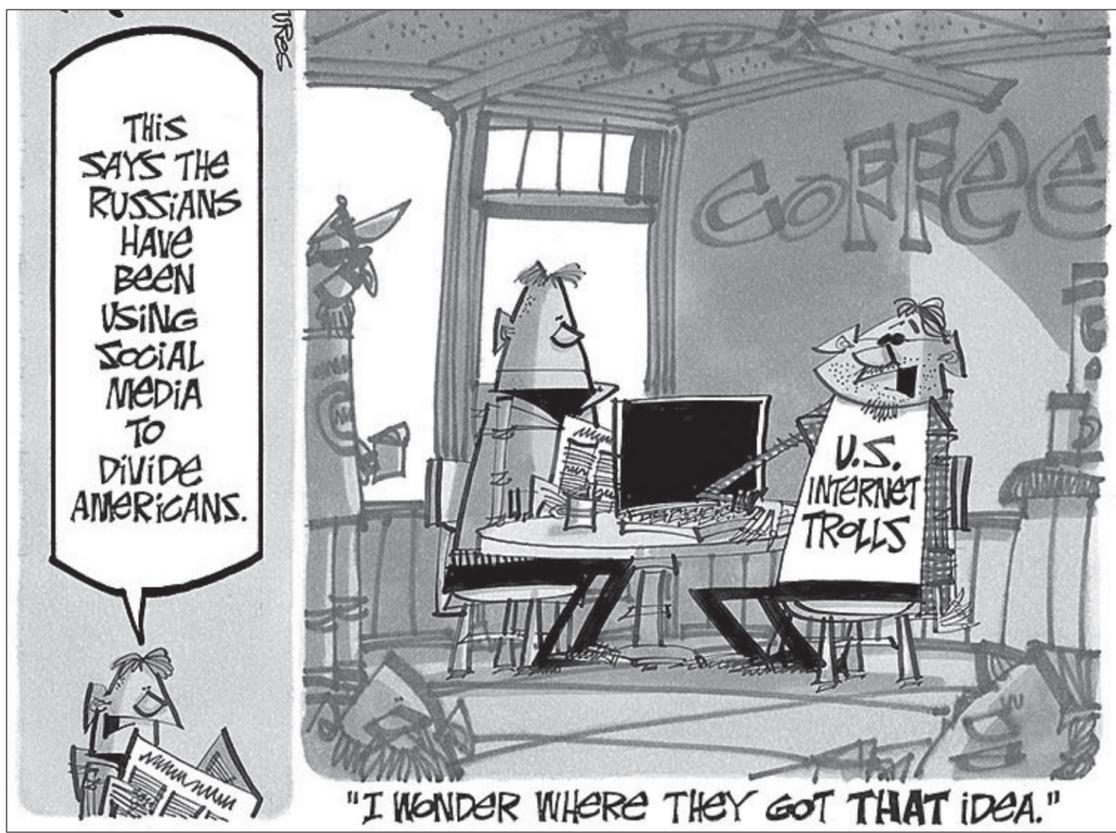
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8	2	3	9	7	1	5	6	4
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All puzzle answers on B7



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HELP WANTED

Madison Valley Rural Fire District

The Madison Valley Rural Fire District, Ennis, MT is accepting applications for a part-time Bookkeeper/Clerk. This position is responsible for completing accounts payable and accounts receivable, payroll, month end journal entries, provides monthly financial reports to the Trustees at regularly scheduled monthly meetings, prepare agendas, attend Board meetings, take notes and prepare draft minutes for approval, submit quarterly and annual reports to State and Federal Government, perform other clerical duties as assigned. Experience with government accounting, knowledge of Montana State BARS System, 2018 QuickBooks, Word, and Excel, approximately 20-25 hours per month, with additional hours when reports are due, quarterly. Salary placement depending on experience. Submit application (link to form: <http://www.madisoncountymt.gov/documentcenter/view/643>) to Madison Valley Rural Fire District, PO Box 849, Ennis, MT 59729. Closing date 5:00 p.m. on August 3, 2018. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Madison Valley Manor is Hiring!

Housekeeper - Full-time/Part-time Dietary Aide/Cook - Full-time/Part-time Certified Nursing Assistants - Full-time/Part-time RN - Full-time/Part-time This is a great opportunity to work in a personal healthcare setting. Excellent Pay Government retirement. Benefits including life and health insurance, Paid holidays, vacation, and sick leave. If you are interested in a rewarding career, Madison Valley Manor is the place. Please contact Jayne Forsythe at 682-7271 for more information or the online employment page at www.madisoncountymt.gov EOE

Sheridan School District is accepting applications for an Assistant Cook. Information and employment applications can be obtained on the Sheridan School website sheridan.k12.mt.us. If you are interested in applying for this position, you may also contact Rebecca E. Larsen, District Clerk, Sheridan School District, PO Box 586, Sheridan, MT 59749, or call 406-842-5302.

Harrison Public Schools is seeking a head cook for the 2018-19 school year. The school year starts on August 22nd but the position will start the week prior and will involve some training prior school starting. The starting pay is \$11.25 per hour plus \$450 per month towards health insurance. If you have health insurance already, you may take the \$450 as salary or put it into a medical savings account. Harrison High School is also seeking a Head Volleyball Coach for the 2018 season which begins August 10th. The stipend sum is \$2,569.40. If anyone is interested in these positions, they should contact Mr. Hofman at the school at 406-685-3428 or stop by the school Monday - Thursday between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm.

The West Yellowstone Chamber/CVB is looking for a part-time Marketing Assistant who will work independently and collaboratively with our Marketing team assisting in marketing plans, campaign management, reporting, and social media accounts. Flexible hours. Wage DOE. Strong local West Yellowstone knowledge essential. Position will remain open until qualified candidate is hired. Full description available at <https://www.destinationyellowstone.com/job-postings/>. Please send resumes with "MARKETING ASSISTANT" in the subject to jobs@destinationyellowstone.com.

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Old metal tub - for flowers
Lg. Wooden sunflower
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10 am - 4pm

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 Aug 3 - Aug 5
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REQ. FOR BIDS

REQUEST FOR BIDS: Sheridan School District No. 5 is accepting sealed bids, until August 14, 2018, for a Cub Cadet lawn mower with rear bagger (\$2,000 reserve bid). Items are being sold on an "as-is, where-is" basis. Written bids must be submitted by 12:00 noon on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 to: Sheridan School District, PO Box 586, Sheridan, MT 59749. Bids must be sealed and clearly marked. Bids will be opened at the Sheridan School on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, read and recorded.

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Ad #257
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Ad #258
 Ranch Foreman wanted: Montana Mexican John Ranch (200 pair cattle operation) located 6 miles West of Harlowton, MT is looking for a ranch foreman. Irrigation done with pivots. We are looking for cattle & farming knowledge. Mechanical & welding skills a plus. Must have experience in managing a cow/calf operation including calving, managing cattle grazing, feeding, shots, vaccinating, sorting, penning, moving, winter-feeding, vet care and branding. Regarding farming, must operate, maintain, & repair farm equipment, machinery, tools, and equipment (tractors, loaders, swathers, sprayers, backhoes, skid steers, and excavator). Regarding hay production (185 irrigated and 230 acres dryland). Additional work will include maintenance and repair of fences. Must communicate via email/text and must have a smart phone to communicate with ranch manager & ranch owner. Must pass criminal/drug background check and have valid driver's license with no restrictions. Must relocate to Harlowton, MT vicinity. Salary depends on experience. Email resume to Steve Coale (ranch owner) at: scoale@apsec.com. Cell: (281) 451-8243.

Ad #259
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oldhotel@3rivers.net

For More Information: Call **Paula or Bill Kinoshita at 406.684.5959**

Ennis Town Pump has expanded to better serve the Ennis community. To fill this need, we are hiring in the following positions; assistant manager, grocery merchandiser, bookkeeper, and cashiers. These are full-time positions with full-time benefits. We offer a generous 401(k), profit sharing, flex accounts, health insurance, dental and vision plans, life insurance, paid vacation, education assistance and more. To start your career with Town Pump, call 682-7439 or apply online at townpump.com.

Silvertip Lodge
 Housekeeper wanted for season part time. 3-5 hours per day, seven days a week depending on work load through hunting season. The hours could be split up if I find more than one person. Weekends are a must. This is also a potential opportunity to pick up some winter hours which would be very flexible and put a few hundred bucks in your pocket per month if not more through May. The successful candidate earns \$10/\$15 hr DOE. If this fits your schedule please call 406-599-8754.

MADISON VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER

Madison Valley Medical Center
 Full Time and Part Time Nurse Aid-Admitting Clerk (CNA)
 Full Time Cleaning Specialist
 To apply for these positions, complete an Employment Application and submit your resume to careers@mvmedcenter.org or call Madison Valley Medical Center. 305 Main St, Ennis, MT 59729 (406) 682-6862 www.mvmedcenter.org

MADISON VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER

Madison Valley Medical Center seeks Patient Registration Position. Applicants to complete an employment application and submit a resume to careers@mvmedcenter.org or call Madison Valley Medical Center at 682-6862.

Hay Camp Ranch in Jeffers, MT is looking for a dependable full time ranch hand. This position requires someone who is self-starting, has the ability to take direction and be willing to work in all conditions. Qualifications include calving experience, the ability to care for and treat animals, horse experience, fence repair, and knowledge of modern having equipment. Wages DOE. Apply by sending your resume to Hay Camp Ranch at 406 Windy Pass Lane, Ennis, MT 59729 or contact us at 406-579-9708.

FOR RENT

1 BR Duplex for rent downtown Ennis. W/D included, pets negotiable. \$500 per month plus deposit. Avail. June 15.
 406-270-0910
 28-TFC-B

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

For rent: 720 sf apartment
 No pets, no smoking
 Call 498-0676 for information

BARKER VILLAGE APARTMENTS:

1 bedroom unfurnished apartments available in Ennis. A/C, washer/dryer equipped, private location. 1 year lease, \$650 per month plus security deposit, utilities included, non-smoking, no dogs. Call Erich Vogeli, Manager at 406-682-5737.
 15-tfc

BARKER VILLAGE APARTMENTS:

1 bedroom furnished apartments available in Ennis. A/C, washer/dryer equipped, private location. 4 month lease, \$700 per month plus security deposit, utilities included, non-smoking, no dogs. Call Erich Vogeli, Manager at 406-682-5737.
 15-tfc

PETERSON'S DISCOUNT STORAGE

Indoor & Outdoor RV/Boat storage, storage units. Ennis, 581-9254
 18-tfc-b

MADISON MANAGEMENT

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

14' x 48' storage unit. 12' x 14' doors. \$165 per month. Call Bob
 925-1362
 47-tfc-b

Shop for rent in Sheridan. Highway 287 frontage. New building 32 x 44, roll up door, restroom. References required. 750.00 per month. Call 842.5936
 28-TFC-B

Sheridan apartment for rent 1 bedroom, W/D in unit \$420/month, no pets Call 406-596-4495
 35-tfc-b

FOR SALE

MOVING SALE
 6 ft. grand piano \$4,595 Piano keyboard \$695. Misc. furniture, recumbent bike & XLGlider, 2 sets M/S tires on rims P215/75R15. Montana antiques, Call 406-579-8411.

For Sale:
 Vice - Reed Mfg 96 lbs 5 inch jaws, 8 inch opening. \$250
 Call 317-514-1323

Ladies Circle Y Saddle. \$450. Will trade other saddles if available. Call 406-287-3524 or 803-422-5314.

2010 29 foot StarCraft camper trailer with slideout \$8000. Call 406-685-3784 for information

RARE BIRD IN TOWN
 Unique property in Ennis with guest/rental unit for home business or investor. Shady trees and birds galore in town, 2 lots, over 1/2 acre, sunrooms, cabins/sheds, studio and huge garage. 640 Nicole Way. Motivated seller. Contact Kerie Hagler, Realtor 406-570-6133

2007 Classic Chevy Silverado 2500HD, 4x4 Extended Cab. Original owner. 201,000 miles with Snug-Top Shell. Excellent condition. \$8500. Call 406-200-1364.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The children of Arnie and Mary Rosdahl wish to invite you to join in the celebration of their parent's 60th Anniversary on August 18, 2018, at the El Western Conference Center in Ennis. 2 pm to 5 pm. Requested no gifts, please.

SERVICES

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

GOPHER EXCAVATING
 Mini excavator
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 No job too small!
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 29-tfc-b

Expert Tree Care
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 406-865-0000
 60' Lift Truck
 Spring is the ideal removing and pruning time!

MADISON COUNTY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Madison Valley Manor, Ennis**
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time
 - Housekeeping/Laundry-Full-time
 - Dietary/Aide/Cook-Full-time/Part-time
 - RN/LPN-Full-time or Part-time

- Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center, Sheridan**
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time
 - Housekeeping/Laundry-Full-time
 - RN/LPN-Full-time or Part-time

- Madison County**
- Communications Officer Sheriff's Office-Part-time
 - Ennis Road Crew-Road and Bridge Technician-Full-time Permanent Position
 - Information Systems Computer Support Specialist-Part-time
 - Planning Clerk-Full-time

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

PUBLIC NOTICES AUGUST 2, 2018

NOTICE OF RATE INCREASE AND PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 9, 2018, the Town Council (the "Council") of the Town of Sheridan, Montana (the "Town"), adopted a Resolution of Intention of the Town of Sheridan, Montana to Modify the Basis on Which Water Charges are Imposed and to Adjust Rates for the Users of the System. The Town has determined to undertake certain improvements to its municipal water system (the "System") and anticipates issuing a series of water system revenue bonds to pay the costs of those improvements, to fund a reserve for the bonds, and to pay costs of issuance. The Council has determined it will be necessary for the Town to collect sufficient revenues to pay debt service on the bonds, and other outstanding bonds, to pay the costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the System, and to establish appropriate reserves.

The Council has determined it is in the best interests of the Town to modify the basis on which water charges are imposed and adjust the rates and charges for the use and availability of the Systems.

The Town currently charges users of the System a monthly rate and charge for water service based on an equivalent dwelling unit ("EDU") methodology. The Council charges users of the System a monthly flat rate of \$30.00 per EDU (the "Base Rate Charge"), as follows:

Diameter	Cost per EDU	Multiplier	Base Rate Charge
3/4"	\$30.00	1.00	\$30.00
1"	\$30.00	1.79	\$53.70
1 1/2"	\$30.00	4.00	\$120.00
2"	\$30.00	7.14	\$214.20

In addition to the Base Rate, the Town currently charges users of the System a monthly water usage charge of \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons consumed per connection or proportionate charge for gallons of water consumed in excess of any 1,000 gallon increment (the "Usage Charge").

Effective as of the with the September 2018 billing water billing, the Town proposes to increase the Base Rate Charge from \$30.00 to \$45.00 per EDU as follows:

Diameter	Cost per EDU	Multiplier	Base Rate Charge
3/4"	\$45.00	1.00	\$45.00
1"	\$45.00	1.79	\$80.55
1 1/2"	\$45.00	4.00	\$180.00
2"	\$45.00	7.14	\$321.30
3"	\$45.00	16.00	\$720.00

In addition, the Town proposes to modify the monthly usage charge for the use and availability of the System, with the charge per 1,000 gallons of water (or increment thereof) to be based each month on the number of gallons of water used per service connection in such month, as follows:

Number of Gallons Used	Cost per 1,000 Gallons or Increment Thereof
0 to 20,000 gallons	\$1.25/1,000 gallons
20,001 to 40,000 gallons	\$1.50/1,000 gallons
40,001 to 60,000 gallons	\$1.75/1,000 gallons
Greater than 60,000 gallons	\$2.00/1,000 gallons

As an example, a user using 30,000 gallons of water would be charged a Proposed Usage Charge of \$40.00 (20,000 x \$1.25/1,000 = \$25.00, plus 10,000 x \$1.50/1,000 = \$15.00).

Effective with the September 2018 billing, the monthly charge is proposed to be the sum of the Proposed Base Rate and the Proposed Usage Charge (such sum, the "Proposed Monthly Charge").

For a user with a 3/4-inch service connection using 10,000 gallons of water a month, the Proposed Monthly Charge represents an increase of \$17.50 per month over the current Monthly Charge (or approximately 43.75% percent).

On August 14, 2018, commencing at 6:00 p.m. at the Sheridan Elementary School Cafeteria, 211 Madison, in Sheridan, Montana, the Council will conduct a public hearing and pass upon all protests against the proposed water rate increase.

Further information about the proposed rate increase may be obtained by contacting Ginger Galiger, Town Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Sheridan, at (406) 842-5431.

Done by Order of the Town Council of the Town of Sheridan, Montana, this 9th day of July, 2018.

/s/ Ginger Galiger
Town Clerk-Treasurer
Pub. July 19, 26, Aug 2, 2018) tos
MNXALP

NOTICE OF FINAL BUDGET MEETING

On Wednesday, August 15, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. the Ennis School District 52 Board of Trustees will meet in the Ennis High School Room #3 for the purpose of considering and adopting the final budget of the district. The regular August meeting will also be conducted at that time. The trustees' budget meeting may be continued from day-to-day until adoption of the final budget no later than August 25th. Any taxpayer may appear at the meeting and be heard for or against any part of the budget. For further information please contact: Casey Klasna, Superintendent, P.O. Box 517, Ennis, MT 59729 (406-682-4258).
Pub. July 26, Aug 2, 9 2018)es
MNXALP

NOTICE OF FINAL BUDGET MEETING

The 2018-2019 Final Budget Meeting for the Harrison School will be held August 13th in the Montana Room at 7:30 pm. Any taxpayer may attend and give testimony on the budgets. The regular August meeting will be held in conjunction with the Final Budget Meeting. This meeting may be continued from day to day until final information becomes available.
Judi Ward, District Clerk
Pub. Aug 2, 2018) hs
MNXALP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON IN RE ESTATE OF: VICTORIA J. KELLY, Deceased.
Cause No. DP-29-2018-14

That the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against said decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to CHERYL S. WADE, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 430 S. Main Street, Camp Hill, Alabama 36850, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court.

Dated: June 26, 2018
/s/ CHERYL S. WADE
Personal Representative
STATE OF ALABAMA

:ss

COUNTY OF Lee

CHERYL S. WADE, being first duly sworn, upon oath, deposes and says:

That she has read the foregoing NOTICE TO CREDITORS and that the facts and matters contained therein are true, correct, accurate and complete to the best of her knowledge and belief. I make this declaration under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana.

/s/ CHERYL S. WADE
Personal Representative
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 26 day of June, 2018.

/s/ Melinda Sykes
Notary Public for the State of Alabama
Residing at: Lee County, AL
My Commission expires: January 23, 2021

(SEAL)
Personal Representative's Attorney:
Karen McMullin
Post Office Box 55
Ennis, MT 59729

Telephone: (406) 682-7878
Pub. Aug 2, 9, 16, 2018) km
MNXALP

INVITATION FOR BIDS:

Sealed bids will be accepted at the Madison County Commissioners' Office, P.O. Box 278, 103 W. Wallace, Virginia City, Montana, until 1:00 PM on August 21, 2018, for acquisition and delivery of one 2018 or newer Motor Grader to Madison County. Please contact the Commissioners' Office at (406) 843-4277 or email madco@madisoncountymt.gov for bid specifications and terms. Bids will be opened at the regular Commissioners' meeting in Virginia City on August 21, 2018, at 1:00 PM. Pub. Aug 2, 9, 2018) mcc
MNXALP

INVITATION FOR BIDS:

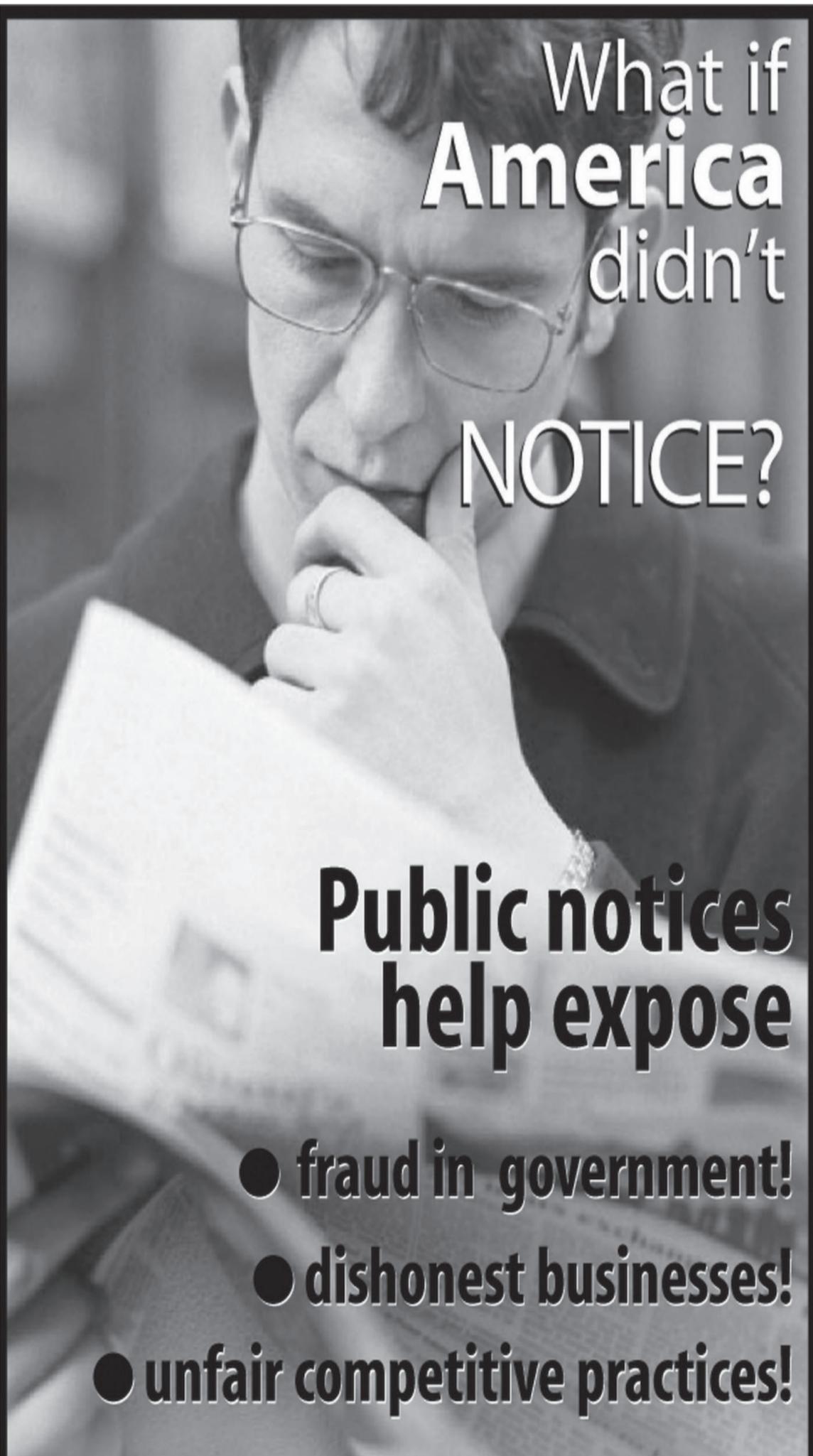
The Madison County Solid Waste District will be accepting sealed bids until August 14, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. for (1) one new heavy duty diesel truck and (2) one new hook system for hauling forty (40) yard containers.

Truck and hook system may be a separate bid or combined. If combined, the bidder must show individual prices for each item. Bidders may bid on one or both items. Truck and hook system shall meet or exceed the minimum requirements and specifications. Delivery must be made within 90 days of bid acceptance.

All bids must be sealed and marked (1) Bid for Heavy Duty Diesel Truck or (2) Bid for Hook System. Madison County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all portions of bids and/or waive any or all irregularities in bids.

Please contact the Sanitarian's Office at (406) 843-4275, email sanitarian@madisoncountymt.gov, or visit our website at www.madisoncountymt.gov for bid specifications and terms. Bids will be opened at the regular Madison County Commission meeting on August 14, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room at the Madison County Administration Building, 103 West Wallace St., Virginia City, Montana.

PM. Pub. Aug 2, 9, 2018) mcs
MNXALP



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NOTICE?

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help expose**

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Gov. Steve Bullock sues IRS and Department of Treasury over 'Dark Money'

HELENA – Governor Steve Bullock today filed a lawsuit against the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the U.S. Department of the Treasury over their decision last week to abandon disclosure requirements for major donors to dark money groups.

"We're coming up on the most momentous midterm election in a generation. The IRS, and the administration, are sending absolutely the wrong message at the wrong time: spend money to get corporate interests elected, and we'll work to cover your tracks," said Governor Bullock. "Well, I say not on my watch."

"When the federal government makes big changes that have been in place since Nixon

was President, it has to follow the rules. The IRS didn't follow the rules, so we're suing to enforce them," Bullock continued.

The suit seeks to block the Trump Administration from upending the rules that have been in place for almost 50 years that require 501(c) dark money groups to disclose their major donors to the IRS. Absent that disclosure, so-called social welfare groups could be taking unlimited corporate, or even foreign, contributions to influence elections, contrary to the requirements that grant them tax exempt status.

A copy of the lawsuit is attached.

Governor Bullock has been called "the biggest threat to

Citizens United," and remains committed to ensuring Montana's elections are the most transparent in the nation. As Attorney General, Bullock led the effort to preserve Montana's 100-year-old Corrupt Practices Act, taking the case for the state's citizen democracy all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In an exceedingly rare bipartisan effort, Governor Bullock worked with Republicans and Democrats to pass the DISCLOSE Act to require the disclosure of donors to independent group spending money on state-level elections. The Act requires any group, regardless of their tax status, that spends money or resources to influence an election within 60 days

of when voting begins, must disclose how they are spending money and the source of the money.

Most recently, Governor Bullock signed a first-of-its-kind executive order requiring the recipients of major government contracts to disclose dark money spending in elections. The order represents a significant new step for transparency in government. Under the executive order, government contractors who have spent over \$2,500 in the past two years in elections will be required to disclose their donations. The order covers contributions to so-called "dark money" groups that are otherwise not required to disclose their donors.

HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

From **\$49⁹⁹**/mo. **25** MBPS

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(800) 386-7222

Restrictions apply. Call for details.



Trinity Technology Group seeks professional & career oriented individuals for **Transportation Security Officers** in

Glasgow, Wolf Point, Glendive, Sidney, Havre, Bozeman, & Kalispell.

Excellent salary and competitive benefits. Duties include providing security and protection for air travelers. EOE
Apply at www.trinitytechnologygroup.com



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Find Fellowship With Us



Dayspring Church

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

Check website for ministries:
dayspringsheridan.com

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

Rocky Mountain Baptist Church

Will Stevens, Pastor
682-4949
Sunday School 9:45am
Morning Service 11am
Afternoon Service 1:30pm
Tuesday Womens Bible Study 6pm
Wednesday Night Prayer Group 6pm

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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

MADISON COUNTY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY'S MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Services: 4:00 P.M. AT ST. JOSEPH'S IN SHERIDAN
Sunday Services: 11:00 A.M. AT NOTRE DAME IN TWIN BRIDGES
9:30 A.M. AT ST. MARY'S IN LAURIN
8:00 A.M. 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
September - April ~ 11 a.m.
May - August ~ 9 a.m.
Everyone Welcome, Fully Accessible
In communion with ELCA, UCC, RCA
Rev. Jean M. Johnson
682-4355 ~ Ennis
Corner of S. Charles & W. Hugel

Phil 2:16
Holding forth the word of life:
Dr. Ray Teston
Pastor
Nathan Nutter, Minister of Music and Youth
Sunday School ~ 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ~ 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Nights: (dinner provided)
Kids Club (K-6): 5:30-7:30pm
Youth Group (7-12): 6-8pm
5050 Hwy 287, PO Box 668, Ennis, MT
Phone 682-4244 SBC
MADISON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
Aides for the hearing impaired

Valley Assembly

Love Jesus • Love People • Reach the Valley
114 N. Main, Sheridan 842-5845
Pastor Duane B. Dasher
Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Valley Kids - after school to 6:45 p.m.
Ruby Valley Food Pantry - Saturdays 10 a.m.-Noon

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

Ruby Valley Baptist Church

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

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

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Ennis Branch
Sacrament Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 11:20 a.m.
R S & Priesthood 12:10 p.m.
Family History Center
682-4911, 682-7415, 682-3614
President Chandler 682-3020

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

THE BAHAI FAITH

When our thoughts are filled with the bitterness of this world, let us turn our eyes to the sweetness of God's compassion and He will send us heavenly calm!
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 9:00 a.m.
Christ Church Sheridan 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
www.rvec.org
Prayer requests: 682-4199 843-5296 842-7713

SUNDAY SERVICES COWBOY CHURCH

10 am
Christ Centered - Bible Based Teaching
Located between Virginia City and Nevada City
Tel. 406-842-5915
Pastor Tom Luksha

GET RESULTS.

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

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— King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.
ENNIS FAMILY and FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP
100 Prairie Way, Ennis (599-3659)
For those who have a loved one struggling with any type of addiction
Tuesdays ~ 5 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meeting Every Thurs. at 8 p.m., Church of the Valley, Twin Bridges
ALANON MEETING
Same Time - Same Place
ALANON
Twin Bridges • Church of the Valley
Thursdays, 8 pm
ALANON
Pony School House • Weds. 7 pm
Suzy 685-3692
"Keep it Simple."
A.A. MEETING
Bethany Hall, Sheridan
(behind Methodist Church)
Wednesdays ~ 8 p.m.

Vennis Over The Hill Unity Group

Faced with a drinking problem? Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help.
SUN. - 10 a.m., No Smoking, Virginia City Library
MON. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking
WED. - 7:30 p.m., Trinity Church in Jeffers
FRI. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking
682-3490, 682-7023 Ennis
843-5352 Virginia City



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4H AND FFA!

**GOOD LUCK TO
OUR FAIR KIDS!**



*From
Ray
Shaw,*
**HOUSE
DISTRICT
71**

RAY SHAW

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shaw@3rivers.net | 251 BIVENS CREEK RD | Sheridan, MT 59749

Deemo's  Meats

Owner, **Chris DiMichele**
682-7306

We can butcher your
fair animals!



160 N. Main St. - Ennis, MT
Call for an appointment

RED, WHITE & BLUE...
THIS FAIR IS FOR YOU!!!
August 4-12, 2018
**MADISON COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS,
TWIN BRIDGES MONTANA**

For more information, call 406-684-5824

<p>Saturday, August 4: 9 a.m. - 4H Horse Show</p>	<p>Sunday, August 5: 10 a.m. - Youth Rodeo</p>
--	---

Wednesday, August 8:
6:30 p.m. - Barrel Racing

Thursday, August 9:
4 p.m. - Women's Calf Blooming
5 p.m. - Madison County Ranch Rodeo/Open Stock Saddle
Bronc Riding
Following Ranch Rodeo - Madison County Fair Lawn Mower Tractor Pull

Friday, August 10:
8 a.m. - NRA Slack
3 p.m. - Madison Co. Sheriff's Department Police Dog Demonstration
6 p.m. - Meet the Artist T-shirt signing: Michelle Frank
7 p.m. - Jacobs Livestock NRA Rodeo
(Men's Stock Saddle Bronc Riding)
* Play with Gravity Motorcycle Stunt Shows (Throughout the day)
* Bounce Off The Wallz Entertainment (by the River)
9 p.m. - Benny Reynolds Wild Cow Milking
9 p.m. - EXIT 53 Band (Beer Garden Stage)

Saturday, August 11:
8 a.m. - Horseshoe Tournament
9 a.m. - Jacobs Livestock Team Roping
7 p.m. - Jacobs Livestock NRA Rodeo
(All Girl's Stock Saddle Bronc Riding -Sponsored by IMOC
Building Supplies \$1,000 added money to winner)
9 p.m. - Benny Reynolds Wild Cow Milking
* Play with Gravity Motorcycle Stunt Shows (Throughout the day)
* Bounce Off The Wallz Entertainment (by the River)
9 p.m. - EXIT 53 Band (Beer Garden Stage)

Sunday, August 12:
10:30 a.m. - Parade on Main Street
12 p.m. - Cowboy Church (Jeffers Building at Fairgrounds)

We will have open class shows, vendors, 4H/FFA Shows, Bingo, stick horse
rodeo, hog scramble, bouncy horse races, 4H/FFA heifer calf scramble, 4H/FFA
ewe lamb scramble, quilt show, petting zoo, and much more...

Madison/Jefferson
County Fair's 4-H and FFA
Livestock Show Buyer's
Appreciation Lunch



**LUNCH &
LIVESTOCK SALE!**
**Saturday,
August 11th**

**LUNCH 12-2 p.m.
Sale 2 p.m.**

**Jeffers Building at the
Madison County Fairgrounds
in Twin Bridges, MT**

Lunch is \$10.00 for
the public or **FREE**
for last year's buyers.




FOLLOW THE RULES, STAY SAFE DURING THE FAIR

SUBMITTED BY
THE MADISONIAN

According to fairgrounds manager Dana Escott, parking is in the main parking lot by the front entrance to the fairgrounds.

"All campers need to be parked in order – no circles – in the campground to allow for more," Escott said. "And per the fire chief."

All horse trailers must be parked in the arena infield and in order.

During the fair, there will be no through traffic around the grounds – you must park in the parking lot and walk from there. In addition, bicycles, ATVs, UTVs and other vehicles of that nature are not allowed on the grounds during the fair.

Safety first!

Madison County Sheriff Roger Thompson said fair time is always looked forward to in Madison County.

"We will have many people from ours, and surrounding counties coming to visit the fairgrounds," Thompson said. "The Madison County Fair has been trying to improve camper parking and may have a few small changes to improve safety and fire access on the fairgrounds."

Traffic around Twin Bridges always increases during fair time.

"We appreciate the extra added attention to the vehicles and pedestrians in Twin Bridges during this time," Thompson said. "Please don't drink and drive and save your texting to when you are parking and resting."

FAIR OFFICIALS PREPARE FOR THE BIG EVENT

SUBMITTED BY
THE MADISONIAN

It is the event of the summer. The one that merges two valleys for a week of showmanship, rodeo and fun. It is the Madison County Fair.

History of the fair

The Madison County fair and the fairgrounds extend clear back to the late 1880s, when past Madison County residents used the grounds to congregate for social gatherings. In 1889, Madison County held its first fair. After a few name changes, come 1901, the event would come to be known as it is presently: the Madison County Fair.

The earliest fairs were solely based around showing stock with the exception of some impressive produce. Now, the Madison County Fair has grown to include animals for show and sale, shooting sports such as air rifle and archery, woodworking projects, craft and sewing works and even baked goods.

Final grounds prep

Dana Escott, Madison County Fairgrounds manager, and her team have been busy all year, preparing the grounds for not only the fair but for events that take place year round. With weddings and flotillas and more, Escott and the crew work around it all to stay ahead and ready for the fair.

"We start preparing for the fair a year in advance," Escott said. "Looking for entertainment, bands, keeping facility up to date, etc."

Whether it is preparing the arena for the horse show or the rodeo or even the lawnmower tractor pull, the grounds crew is all hands on deck. All the pens are set and ready to go in the animal barns, and tables and chairs are ready for all the crafts and open indoor projects.

"There is a lot of paperwork and behind the scenes work that goes on which no one sees," Escott said. "There is a lot of communication with rodeo contractors, entertainers, vendors, advertisers, arena

sign sponsors, fair sponsors and special award sponsors who we are always trying to encourage being part of our big event. There's painting, staining, mowing, trimming, washing down buildings and more as well."

Getting ahead

Once this year's fair ends on Sunday, Aug. 12, it is back to step one: getting ready for the next one.

But for now, everyone involved in preparing for the fair is just ready and excited for a fun-filled week.

From pack horse and police dog demonstrations, to magic shows, to the petting zoo, to the youth rodeo and beyond, this year's Madison County Fair is bound to be a good time.



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REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

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

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

Children's Story & Craft Time for babies, 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

Madison Meadows Ladies Golf Assn.
Thursday play 9 a.m. (morning league) 5:30 p.m. (evening league), May - Sept.

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

FRIDAYS

Tennis, Ennis
9 a.m. til 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.

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Fish, Wildlife & Parks: Be safe on Montana's waters this summer

HELENA - As the summer heats up, boaters, floaters and swimmers are hitting the water to cool down. Montana's many rivers, lakes and reservoirs offer fun recreational opportunities like swimming, boating and floating, but it's important to remember to be safe while enjoying the water.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that drowning is the fifth leading cause of unintentional injury/death for people of all ages, and that potentially, half of all boating deaths could be prevented with the use of life jackets. The CDC also states that among children 14 and under, drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury/death (after motor vehicle crashes).

Parental/adult supervision alone is not enough to prevent water accidents when swimming, boating and floating in Montana's many bodies of water. Using the proper size and type of life jacket is crucial for all swimmers to be safe while recreating.

"It's critical for everyone to wear the proper-sized life jacket when recreating on the water," said FWP Boat Education Coordinator Sara Smith. "A jacket that is too big can easily slip off."

To properly fit a life jacket, hold your arms straight up over your head and ask a friend to grasp the tops of the arm openings and gently pull up. Make sure there is no excess room above the openings and that the jacket does not ride up over your chin or face.

Here are additional tips to keep you safe when you're on the water:

- Make sure an adult is constantly watching children swimming or playing in or

around the water. Have children playing near water wear life jackets as there may be steep drop-offs you are unaware of.

- Don't consider your children to be "drown-proof" because you enrolled them in swimming class. A child who falls into water unexpectedly may panic and forget learned swimming skills.

- Always swim with a buddy. Never swim alone or unsupervised.

- Know the local weather conditions and forecast before swimming or boating. Strong winds and thunderstorms with lightning strikes are dangerous to swimmers and boaters.

- Don't use air-filled or foam toys, such as water-wings, noodles, or inner-tubes, in place of life jackets. These are toys and are not designed to keep a swimmer safe.

- When boating, children under 12 years of age must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket, but it is recommended that everyone on the boat wears a life jacket.

- Jumping from cliffs or bridges is dangerous because of shallow water, submerged rocks, trees, or other hazards. Never dive head-first into water.

- Never drink alcohol before or while swimming or boating. Never drink alcohol while supervising children.

For more information about boating safety, contact FWP Boat Education Coordinator Sara Smith at 406-444-9948, sarsmith@mt.gov.

23rd ANNUAL Madison Valley Arts Festival

SATURDAY
AUGUST 11TH, 2018

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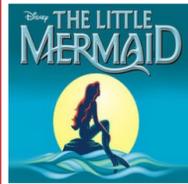
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OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

SEE Page B 11 for regularly scheduled events

Go to outpostevents.net for a complete listing of events

Thursday, August 2
Land/Water Fitness Class, Ennis Paddle and Pilates on stand-up paddleboards on Ennis Lake. 75-minute classes every Thursday at 7 a.m. Call Christine at 406-600-6379 to reserve your spot!

Summer Reading: Libraries Rock! Virginia City
This week's theme is "Name that Tune." Join us Tuesdays for babies through pre-K and Thursdays for elementary schoolers!

Business After Hours, Ennis
Hosted by Gallery 287. Come by for refreshments and networking. 5 p.m. at 50 Hwy 287.

Friday, August 3
Lucky Valentines Concert, Virginia City
The Lucky Valentines are Montana native songwriters Shaun and Jamie Carrier. Crafting songs rooted in honest, raw emotion and blending alt-country, rock-n-roll, indie and folk, they span themes of joy and pain in the face of life's trials. Admission by donation and open to the public, concert at 7 p.m. at the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center.

Saturday, August 4
Field Trip to Wall Creek Game Range, Ennis
Field trip to Wall Creek Game Range, with a speaker at the headquarters. Leaving Lions Club Park at 9 a.m., bring a chair, water and lunch. Call 682-5780 for more information.

First Saturday at the Butte Archives, Butte
The Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives is open the first Saturday of every month. The archives will be open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for your researching needs, with staff on hand to assist. You can also view our "100 Butte Objects" exhibit! Admission is free, call 406-782-3280 for information.

Bale Beer Festival, Virginia City
Beer Festival under the big tent 12-5 p.m. featuring some of the newest brewers and cider houses. Dirk Alan playing classic rock and country to entertain you while en-

joying great beers. Information at the Bale of Hay Saloon.

Sunday, August 5
Brunch Fundraiser, Sheridan
Jackson's Garden in Sheridan is hosting its 9th annual brunch fundraiser from 10 a.m. to noon. Church service at 9 a.m., brunch by donation, plus raffle and silent auction items! Call 842-7956 for more information.

Tuesday, August 7
Friends of the Library Book Sale, Ennis
Annual book sale, \$1 books! 9 a.m. at the Madison Valley Public Library, 210 E Main St.

Wednesday, August 8
Brown Bag Lunch Series, Butte
The Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives continues its lunch series with a presentation by The Root and The Bloom Collective's summer interns. All students from Butte High, they recently returned from a trip to New York City, where they conducted research for personal projects to be presented during August's Art Walk. Presentation at 12 p.m. Call 406-782-3280 for information.

Thursday, August 9
Book Club: Justice, Ennis
The Ennis Book Club will be discussing "Justice: What is the Right Thing to Do?" by Michael Sandel. This book is required reading for incoming freshmen at Montana State University this fall. Presentation at 1 p.m. followed by discussion, at the Madison Valley Public Library.

Wildlife Speaker Series, Lima
Join us for the fourth of our annual Summer Speaker Series! We'll kick off at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner at the Lima School, so bring a dish to share. Speaker Matt Bell at 7:30, followed by an optional bat walk at 9 p.m. Contact Kara at 715-681-0975 or Quincey at 682-3437.

"Pluck and Stamina: The Life of Eve Cameron," Virginia City
Evelyn Flower Cameron traded a life of English wealth and privilege for a homestead cabin in the

badlands of eastern Montana. She soon learned glass-plate photography and produced some of the first photographs of North American birds. Historic interpreter Mary Jane Bradbury brings Evelyn to life through living history and a look at some of her photographs. Admission by donation and open to the public. 7 p.m. at the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center.

Friday, August 10
Virginia City Art Show, Virginia City
Stroll along the boardwalks and through the Community Center on the corner of Idaho & Van Buren streets to enjoy the work of artists from all over Montana and the Pacific Northwest. Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-7 and Sunday 10-4. Call 406-834-5555 for information.

Saturday, August 11
Madison Valley Arts Festival, Ennis
The Ennis Arts Association is holding their 23rd annual arts festival! In addition to the 54 juried artist booths, there will be live entertainment, delicious food, face painting and an art raffle from 10-5 at Peter T's Park. Visit ennisarts.org for more information.

Larry Gibson, Virginia City
Playing both kinds of music: country and western. 9:30 p.m. at the Bale of Hay Saloon.

Sunday, August 12
You Knew Me When, Ennis
Husband and wife indie folk-rock duo You Knew Me When is hitting the road with their latest album "Into the Looking Glass," and will be performing at Willie's Distillery 312 Main Street at 2 p.m. No cover charge!

Tuesday, August 14
Idaho Old Time Fiddlers, Virginia City
The Idaho Old Time Fiddlers started in 1962. They play for nursing homes, assisted living centers, local community events and private parties. Come enjoy the evening at the Elling House Arts & Humanities Center with wonderful music and good fun. Admission by donation and open to the public. Concert at 4 p.m.

Thurston Insurance Ribbon Cutting, Ennis
Formerly Jack Daugherty Insurance, Thurston Family Insurance is opening its doors to meet community members. This family-run business is excited to meet and network with the community! 5 p.m. at 201 E. Main Street.

Wildlife Speaker Series, Laurin
Join us at the Woodson Ranch Visitor Center for the next event in the 6th annual Wildlife Speaker Series. At 5:30, there will be a potluck dinner (we'll provide meat & beverages) and we will host a speaker at 7:00. The topic this year is Trout, and we will be discussing it in the context of local agriculture. Directions: Go 2 miles north of Laurin bridge on Ruby River Drive—visitor center is on your right. Contact dave@rubyhabitat.org for more information.

Wednesday, August 15
Budget Meeting, Ennis
The Ennis School Board will combine its monthly meeting with its annual budget approval. 5 p.m. at Ennis High School, 223 Charles Ave.

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Fri. 8/10, Willie's Distillery, Ennis, 5:30-7:30 pm
Fri. 8/24, Ted's Grille, Bozeman, 6:30-9:30 pm
Thurs. 8/30, Gravel Bar, Ennis, 6:00-8:00 pm

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