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

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Jefferson Valley Museum showcases area history

Museum tells story of how Whitehall, Cardwell came to be

REAGAN COLYER
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WHITEHALL - Ron Hunt was born in 1936. As a child, he helped out his mom and dad with their dairy business in Waterloo, a few miles north of Silver Star. They would freeze blocks of ice in their 1940s refrigerator in order to pack their cream and butter and get it—nice and cold—to markets 40 miles away in Butte. That same refrigerator now sits in the Jefferson Valley Museum.

Janice Carmody was born in Cardwell, to Cardwell-native parents, in 1942 and has loved it and the Jefferson Valley ever since. She was a member of one of the last graduating classes in Cardwell before all the area's surrounding students started coming to the high school in Whitehall, where a failed beet factory's staff dormitory was used to house students instead. She and Hunt love their home so much, they've been devoting their lives to preserving its history, making it come alive for visitors for nearly 30 years.

The Jefferson Valley Museum first opened in 1996 in the renovated Brooke Barn just south of Whitehall's main street. But for four years before that, volunteers donated every hour of work to make the barn suitable as a museum: painting, rebuilding portions, adding rooms and updating fixtures. Carmody and Hunt were both there helping and have been ever since.

The museum is organized into a variety of themed rooms: a doctor's office, a music room, a railroad room and even a retro-style kitchen, where Hunt's childhood fridge sits next to an old-fashioned pea-shelling device.

There are countless artifacts from as far back as the Civil War era (a rather suspicious shotgun whose origins remain a mystery) telling the story of how Whitehall, Cardwell and their surrounding area came to be. There are some firsts, some lasts and everything in between, plus an air of nostalgia, a yearning for the way things used to be in small-town Montana.

The town of Whitehall itself grew up around the Northern Pacific Railway, which used the spot to house three reserve "helper" engines, which used to assist trains heading over the area's passes toward Butte. The first railway passenger went through in 1889, while Montana was still a territory.

Later on, in 1919, a sugar

beet processing factory was built in the new town, the bastion of a new industry and a beacon of Whitehall's bright future. But built that year, it was demolished the next, having never processed a single beet. Reasons why are numerous, from the unwillingness of local farmers to pledge their land to the expense and difficulty of processing beets. But the only evidence the factory ever existed, however briefly, is the smokestack, a shorter, skinnier and cleaner twin of the one that stands over Anaconda. Even the old dormitory is now gone.

In the doctor's office inside the museum hangs the diploma of Dr. Lawrence Packard, a physician in Whitehall who practiced for over five decades and owned Whitehall's first automobile. But Hunt personally remembers Packard's successor, Dr. Hill, for a very personal reason.

Sometime around 1950—Hunt doesn't recall the exact date—Dr. Hill performed brain surgery on Hunt's cousin after the boy had been hit by a car while chasing a ball into the street. The boy's skull was embedded with gravel and dirt from the street, and it's a miracle he survived at all. But the most extraordinary detail? Hill was walked through the surgery by a colleague on the East Coast—over the phone, during a time when even the most reliable local connections were sketchy at best. Hunt's cousin went on to live a long and normal life, passing away just a couple of years ago.

Not far from the model doctor's office hangs the noose that hung the last man executed in Jefferson County: Roy Walsh, who was hanged in 1924 after allegedly robbing a store and shooting its owner. His guilt was never fully established. From that same year hangs nearby the dress worn by Whitehall High School's very first prom queen.

In another room hangs a copy of Montana's first highway map, printed in 1914. On it, only 40 counties are represented—16 fewer than exist today—and only five Native American reservations, of which the state now has seven.

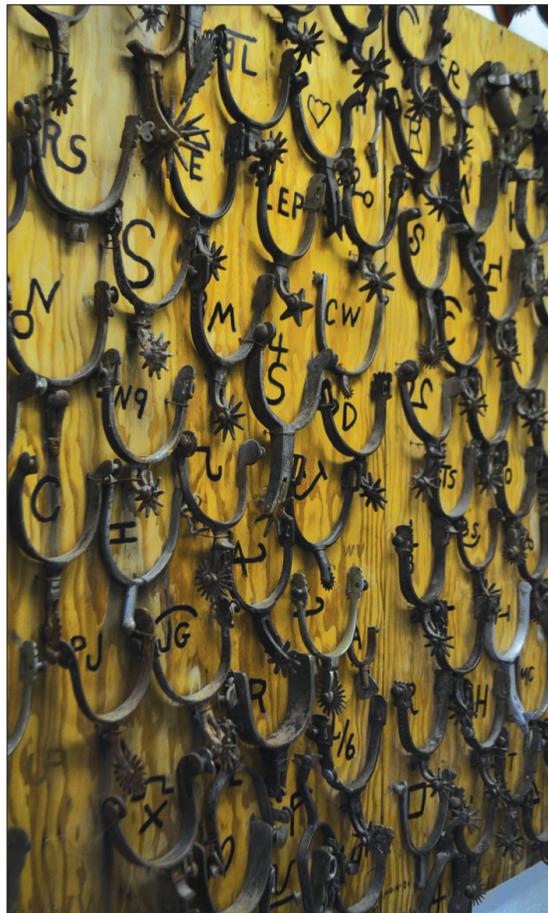
Speaking of numeric discrepancies, the flag that hangs on the wall in the war room bears further scrutiny, says Hunt. It holds 42 stars, making it a flag that technically shouldn't exist. New flags became official on July 4th of each year that one or more new states joined the union. In 1890, the year Montana's star would have joined the flag, there were 38 stars. But since Montana joined the union along with Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota and Washington, the updated flag jumped directly to one with 43 stars, and no official 42-star version was ever released. It's possible the one that hangs in the Jefferson Valley Museum is the

MUSEUM continued on A2



Above: The Jefferson Valley Museum is housed in the renovated and re-purposed Brooke Barn just south of Whitehall's main street.

Below: A collection of over 150 spurs hang on the wall of one of the Jefferson Valley Museum's many themed rooms. (R. COLYER PHOTOS)



Water issues focus of Sheridan council

Town council trying to resolve supply problems

JOHN D. TAYLOR
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SHERIDAN - Despite all the water coming off the mountains from snowpack and abundant spring rainfall, just one of Sheridan's five town water wells is producing water. As a result, water projects were front and center on the Sheridan town council's June 12 meeting.

The council is looking at

several interconnected efforts to resolve the town's water woes:

New well

One focus is a new well. The council will apply for a \$1 million U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant to drill a new well. This is an emergency grant, for natural disasters, such as the earthquake that is believed to have shut down the four other town wells.

The town has drilled a test well on Carey Lane and the grant - if the town can get it -- would provide additional funding to acquire new water sources.

PER priorities

Meanwhile, the town

WATER continued on A3

Twin Bridges fence dispute continues

Surveyor results disputed Another survey to be done

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TWIN BRIDGES - The fence between Four Rivers Fishing Company, owned by Chris Knott and Seth McLean, and Jeff and Patti Walker's property was again an issue at Twin Bridges town council meeting on Tuesday evening, June 12.

At May's council meeting, Jeff and son Hoyt Walker complained about the fence Knott and McLean had constructed between their two properties.

The Walkers said the fence was higher than the 6 feet allowed by town ordinances, it was not constructed according to the rules that said the finished side of the fence must face the adjoining property, and - most egregiously - it was on their property, as evidenced by the property line pins the Walkers had on their ground, pins they claimed Knott and McLean ignored.

Knott and McLean disputed the fence being across the Walker property line. They admitted the fence was higher than permitted, because they didn't want their fishing clients looking at "junk" on the Walker's property, and they told council they would take it down to the 6-foot height.

During the dust up between

the Walkers and Four Rivers at the council meeting, town attorney Lori Harshbarger suggested that the property line be surveyed to clear up any discrepancies on property boundaries, which should resolve the fence's location issue. She said the town could check into the fence height and if it was more than 6 feet tall, order it to be brought into compliance.

However, in the month between the May meeting and the June meeting, several things happened:

The Walkers had a survey done.

They did not share the results of this survey with the city council or with Four Rivers.

Jeff Walker said on June 12 that the survey clearly showed that the fence was over their property line. He explained how the very pin locations Hoyt Walker talked about in May's meeting were the same pin locations the surveyor discovered.

Jeff Walker said the new surveyor's pins were now in place for anyone to see, and they indicated the fence was on their property.

As a result, Jeff Walker tore the entire fence between the properties down. He admitted doing this at the council meeting.

This brought law enforcement into the dispute. Madison County Sheriff Roger Thompson was at the meeting and he said an official report about the fence being destroyed had not yet been filed. It is possible criminal charges might be filed against Walker, Knott said.

Knott and McLean disputed the legitimacy of the Walker

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MUSEUM from A1

only one of its kind. Some of the things on display are items you may never have thought you'd find interesting. But even a collection of 286 irons (yes, the kind you use to press your clothes) is fascinating. Each one is different, and upon lifting one or two, you'll be counting your blessings to have an electric one at home that weighs less than five pounds.

One of the area's most famous natives is also honored, legendary news anchor Chet Huntley. Born in Cardwell in 1911, Huntley participated in about every activity at the local high school, from athletics to debate, before going on to an illustrious career with NBC News.

The number of artifacts is almost overwhelming, and that's just inside the barn. There's a whole other building and an outdoor courtyard left to explore. Everything on display is either donated or on loan, Hunt says.

"We never have enough room for everything," Hunt says. "Never a week goes by that someone doesn't come in with something to donate."

That's a good problem to have, one that shows just how



Ron Hunt (left) and Janice Carmody are both Jefferson Valley natives and have been volunteer curators and guides at the Jefferson Valley Museum since it opened in 1996.

much Whitehall's residents love their town and want to see it preserved.

Outside the barn, there's more to be seen. From old-fashioned gas pumps to farm equipment, a three-person outhouse and even an entire blacksmith's shop, moved log by log from its home in Boulder to be rebuilt at the museum.

This is just a sampling of

all the fascinating things to be seen at the Jefferson Valley Museum. Newly facelifted due to grants, donations and a fundraiser screening of "The Ballad of Lefty Brown," organized by actor Bill Pullman and director Jared Moshe, the museum is open from 12 noon until 4 p.m. every day except Mondays, through the rest of the summer until September 15.

The museum has drawn international visitors as well as people from all 50 states. Group tours are welcome, and appointments can be made by calling (406) 287-7813 or visiting them at 303 S. Division Street in Whitehall.

Admission is free and donations—of money, time or bits of local history—are always welcome.

FENCE from A1

survey.

Knott said the Walkers never notified them about the survey, or shared the results of it with them. He and his father, Frank Knott, talked about how the new survey pins do not bear official surveyors marks, certifying the legitimacy of the pins. Frank Knott said he worked in construction all of his life and he'd never seen a surveyor not mark his pins in an official manner.

He also said that the fence was essentially "stolen" when Walker knocked it down and that \$10,000 worth of materials were involved.

Harshbarger told the Walkers and Four River that they should not try to communicate with one another directly any more, but should speak to their respective attorneys about the situation.

Mayor Tom Hyndman noted that town ordinances regarding fence construction were misconstrued by the Walkers when they said the face of the fence must be towards the adjoining property owner. Only when the fence faces town property does a fence's face need to be finish side out. When the fence is a boundary fence between properties, both neighbors must agree on which side should be out.

Councilmen Joe Willauer and Matt Greemore wanted to see the Walkers' survey report.

Frank Knott said Four Rivers would be getting a survey of their own, and would be sharing this with the council and registering the results with the county to establish a clear boundary between the properties. Hyndman said this was a fair thing to do.

Jeff Walker also told council that as a result of the bickering over the fence, he was suffering from Atrial fibrillation from the stress of the dispute.

Willauer said there was nothing the council could decide at this point, so the council moved on.

In other business, the council began looking at fairgrounds water issues, a library agreement, installing three trailer court water meters, and the resignation of two council members.

Fairgrounds water issues

Fairgrounds manager Dana Escott, on behalf of the county's Fair Board, requested that the town close a fairgrounds water meter – the one beside the vault toilet – because the fairgrounds is already metered, and the board takes care of the water bill.

Hyndman said that usage helps "pay for the bills," noting that the fairground's drinking water comes from the town's supply.

Greemore said the town should look into the costs of removal before shutting off this supply. "Financially the system is designed with meters in mind, it would be nice to know the numbers."

Willauer agreed. Willauer and Greemore made a motion to look into the impact of this and make a decision at the next council meeting.

Also, Madison County Sanitarian Van Pucket came to the council to discuss a fairgrounds water line that travels under the Beaverhead River. This line had broken and was issuing its water into the river. Pucket said that the full extent of what needed to be done to fix the line would be known after an engineers report, but just 21 days remained to get the line fixed.

Pucket suggested that an irrigation well on the fairgrounds might be used to supply non-potable water for livestock and for toilets to use.

Since this was not a public water supply and it would be used for less than 60 days, it fell under the state's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regulation. Pucket said he would test and "shock" the well if necessary to make it safe as a temporary supply for livestock and

toilets. Greemore worried pressurizing the line would send untreated water back into the town's water supply. He wanted to isolate the broken line with a shut-off valve. Hoses could be used to bring water from other sources to livestock, he said.

Maintenance Supervisor Sam Novich told Pucket that the well he wanted to use was designed for irrigation only.

"In my opinion," Novich said, "it's not advisable for potable source. It's okay for animals and irrigation, but it should be closed to people. Leave it as it is."

Pucket said he'd addressed the status of the well with the state and they okayed testing and shocking the well for hand-washing and toilets. Pucket said drinking water would be provided by bottled water. Pucket said a disclaimer posted by the sinks and toilets would limit the county's liability should something happen, and all spigots or toilets using the water would be labeled as non-potable. Yet he also noted that "DEQ wants nothing to do with this."

Twin Bridges clerk/treasurer Kristi Millhouse worried that any problems would come back on the town, and Greemore wanted a statement on the warning signs that the town was not responsible.

Pucket promised to keep the council "in the loop" about the status of this, since it was an "emergency situation" at the fair. Hyndman said the council would make a decision about this at their next meeting.

Library agreement

Harshbarger noted that after six months of waiting for an informed opinion from the state Attorney General's (AG) office, she'd heard back that an opinion might be soon forthcoming – but urged the council not to expect it too soon.

The problem, she said, was that after various lawyers with-

in the AG's office reviewed the case, there were conflicting opinions on the agreement. So, the AG himself, Tim Fox, would be looking at it and offering an opinion.

"We've been waiting six or seven years already," Harshbarger said.

Trailer court water meters

Novich asked the council to approve adding three water meter to four mobile homes in a trailer court owned by Tad Dell. Novich explained that the mobile homes were currently served by a single meter that monitored water going to all four homes and that cost of this water was divided out among the mobile home owners.

What Dell asked the council to do was keep the meter to the one mobile home and install three other meters to monitor water use in the other three mobile homes. This would bring the trailer court into town water use compliance, he said, something the town had been after Dell to do all along, but relinquished on since Dell couldn't install the meters when the trailer court was first established.

The cost of the three meters would be about \$3,000 Novich said, and this didn't include the labor necessary to install the meters.

Greemore said he was all in favor of compliance, but this should have been done when earlier, on Dell's dime. "This needs to be done before the end of the year, he said, and I want him to put the time and effort into doing it," he said.

"That makes sense," said Willauer.

Resignations

Two council member resignations have, or will be impacting the council. Annette McClean had resigned prior to the June 12 meeting and did not attend it. Also, Davey Smith said he would be resigning from the council in August because he was moving.



Ennis Lions Club Citizens of the Year

Quinn and Bill Mercer (left and center) were named the Ennis Lions Club's Citizens of the Year for 2018 last week for their charitable donations and volunteer efforts around Madison County. (Photo courtesy of Corinna Christensen)

The Ennis Lions Club is excited to announce its 2018 Citizens of the Year - Bill and Quinn Mercer. The Mercers were selected for this honor because they exemplify the Lions International motto, "WE SERVE." Bill and Quinn are the owners of RE/MAX Mountain Property, where they have trademarked the phrase "We Give Where We Live." In the past few years, they have donated well in excess of \$60,000 to charities and organizations in the Madison Valley, Ruby Valley and Jefferson River Valley. Bill and Quinn enjoy giving in kind, quiet ways. For example, they hosted everyone's lunch on St. Patrick's Day at the Ennis Senior Center, bought a round of drinks at the Longbranch Saloon on Veteran's Day and hosted the movie "Taking Chance" at the Madison Theatre in honor of Flag Day.

FWP update: Long process on new Madison River rules

Lengthy process with public comment will chart future

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HELENA - On Thursday, June 14, the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission met at the state Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) headquarters in Helena. The commissioners heard and discussed a variety of topics, one of which is of particular interest to the Madison Valley. The commission heard alternate proposals for ways to organize the Madison River Recreation Plan, a continuation of a process that began back in April.

On April 19, a proposal was presented to the commission by the state fisheries division for a new set of Madison River recreation rules. The commission requested that the division develop a revised proposal and voted not to make the proposal open for public comment until a new one was decided upon. In response, the fisheries division asked the commission for suggestions on how to structure the process for developing new rules of use for the Madison River, and proposed four options for those processes. The purpose of Thursday's meeting was to decide which of those options to take.

Backstory

The April 19 FWP proposal centered on Madison River concerns regarding crowding on and around the river. Based on public comments and guidance from the Madison River Citizen Advisory Committee

(CAC), FWP drafted a management plan to establish some rules regarding river usage and certain actions they believed should be taken in response to that public sentiment, to ensure equitable, safe and environmentally responsible enjoyment of the Madison River.

The suggestions put forth in that proposal included the establishment of a cap on the number of outfitters around the river that matched the current usage of the river itself. There was also a proposal to restrict commercial usage in certain places and to prohibit commercial use altogether in a lower portion of the Madison.

FWP suggested designating one day per week as a non-commercial use day on a rotating basis in different river sections, and the prohibition of using glass containers anywhere on the river between Quake Lake (north of West Yellowstone) and the Madison's confluence with the Jefferson (near Three Forks).

This initial proposal was not imposed by the commission. Instead, the commission requested FWP present alternative ways to establish what these rules should look like and how they should be determined. These four alternatives were presented Thursday and labeled A, B, C and D in a new proposal before the commission.

The options

The first proposed alternative, A, was to use the Negotiated Rule Making process to revise the version of the rules submitted by the fisheries division back in April.

The Negotiated Rule Making process is outlined in the state code as a step to be taken before engaging in the formal rulemaking process. It is a statutory mechanism that could later be modified by a state agency and would be open to



Potential rule changes to how the Madison River is used by recreationalists will involve a public comment period and a longer process. (FILE PHOTO)

public participation. This is the slowest and most complicated option, as the use of the Negotiated Rule Making process is usually reserved only for particularly controversial issues.

Alternative B would involve using the CAC for the region to revise the April proposal.

This committee is made up of local, interested citizens who provide FWP with public information, opinion and trends when making decisions. The CAC could also be adjusted to provide for a wider public representation for outlining an adapted proposal. This would be a significantly speedier option but would carry the potential drawback of having the resulting rules not laid out in a

formal state statute, as would be the result of the Negotiated Rule Making process.

The third option, alternative C, would involve revising the proposal based purely on public comment received during both the initial April 19 meeting and the following public comment period.

The informality of this route could be a drawback, although it would provide the quickest route to revised Madison River recreation rules.

The fourth option would involve no revisions at all.

The decision

At its June 14 meeting, the commission voted to follow proposed option A for outlining

the Madison River recreation plan.

District 2 Commissioner Dan Vermillion says the reasoning behind the commission's choice to use the Negotiated Rule Making process was the greater level of structure it provides.

"That choice does two things," Vermillion says. "It creates a concrete calendar for when the proposal has to be done under the Administrative Rules Act, and provides a paid facilitator, hired by the department, to help come up with the proposal."

There's an added element of accountability, says Vermillion, because this option is statutorily dictated in the state

code as to what has to happen and when. It's similar to option B's use of the CAC, but with more formality and direction.

But as was allowed by the initial proposal, this is the slowest of the four options.

Once this process gets underway, the commission and FWP will take applications and hire the facilitator who will help organize the project. After that position is filled and the new draft of the Madison River recreation rules is produced, the new proposal will be published to receive public comment. Then it will be taken to the commission for a final ruling and hopefully implemented by FWP by 2020.

WATER from A1

council also discussed a related preliminary engineering report (PER) that established town priorities, and additional water projects.

According to Mayor Bob Stump, the state's Department of Commerce asked the town for a list of priorities pertaining to water, sewer and bridge projects, following the state's rescinding the town's \$625,000 Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) grant in 2017, due to a statewide budget crunch.

After some consideration, the council agreed its priorities were:

1. A new well.
2. Replace Water Street main, lines, hydrants.
3. Replace Beaver Lane hydrants.
4. Replace miscellaneous hydrants across town.
5. Install a cage ladder at the water tower.

The council is looking into USDA Rural Development grants and a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan to fund work directed towards accomplishing these priorities.

The state legislature established two SRF loan programs - one for water pollution control projects, another for drinking water projects - to provide low interest rate loans for eligible communities. The state programs are in turn funded with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grants and a 20 percent state bond match.

The state Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) administers the program and the state Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) makes the loans.

Stump said there is the likelihood of the state returning the \$625,000 TSEP money to Sheridan.

"We're along for the ride," he said. "We've got a long shopping list, and some of this should get taken care of."

Meanwhile, however, Sheridan had a \$60,000 bill owed to Great West Engineering, of Helena, to cover what Stump called a preliminary bid package, which included surveys and specifications for ways to

improve the town's water distribution system. This work was done prior to the TSEP grant being yanked back.

When the town's wells - like the TSEP grant - dried up, this effort was put on hold. The council approved a payment for this on Tuesday evening.

Water conservation

Also water-related, councilman Dan Durham saw Sheridan's reduced water supply as an opportunity to educate residents on water conservation measures.

Abbott said he sees lots of water being used to irrigate lawns. (Sheridan does have watering restrictions in place, due to the reduced supply of water.)

Too much water encourages grass plants to grow shallow roots, and die quicker than deeply-rooted grass plants.

Abbott said grass does just fine on 1 inch of water per week - measure this by placing empty tuna cans in the yard where you're watering and measure the amount of water in the can.

Abbot suggested creating a water conservation brochure - there would be lots of material from California and Arizona on water conservation - to help residents conserve the reduced supply available.

"This is something to do," said Stump.

Other business

In other business, the council discussed alcohol in the town park.

Stump said he'd found a garbage can overflowing with empty beer cans in the park recently and wondered about groups who want to bring their own bottles to the park. Stump said the town has no insurance for liability if something happens with this. When Chick's Bar holds events in Sheridan, they do have liability insurance that comes with their liquor license.

He urged council to come up with a plan for no BYOB in the park.

"We must be so careful with alcohol involved," Stump said. "(A plan) has to be an honor system."

Stump suggested those who

want alcohol will have to get it from a vendor on site.

Stump said prohibiting alcohol from entering the park's two entrances at a certain point seemed like the way to go.

Also, the council, on a motion by Durham and councilman Mike Walter, approved shifting \$13,000 already in the town's budget to the fire department's working budget, to be directed towards the purchase of a new fire engine.

Finally, the council approved a new board member to fill a vacancy.

Two people had applied for the position, Jennifer Martin and Emilie Saylor.

Stump noted that the position would be an 18 month slot, to fill the vacancy until June of 2020, then the person chosen could run for the office, if they wanted to.

On a motion by Durham and Walter, Saylor was chosen to become the new council member.

"It is hard to choose, they're both viable candidates," said Walter.

Stump noted the overall lack of interest in serving on council. He said five people have come and gone on council in the last three years, and before that there was a long-standing council of board members who had served 14 years, and a 12-year mayor veteran.

Saylor's position on the council will be formally finalized at the July 9 meeting.

- Clarification -

In the June 7 story about Ruby River access points, the Lewis Lane access point is a third permanent access point to the river. Morse Land Company was supportive of this effort, according to Mark Savinski. The Coy-Brown bridge access site is under consideration as an access, but has not been approved for this.



Volunteer Spotlight

Shawn Swanson

Lat 45 Adventure Ministries

Shawn Swanson became involved with Lat45 five years ago and immediately felt a connection to the group. Lat45 Adventure Ministries is a Christian nonprofit based out of Huntley, north of Billings. Created six years ago, the group's leaders take high school students on multi-day outdoor adventures around the Madison Valley and beyond, from Mount Washburn in Yellowstone National Park to the Bob Marshall Wilderness in Glacier.

"They learn about being outdoors, camping, hiking, how to overcome challenges," says Swanson's sister Shanna. "And all the youth trips are totally funded by donations. It's a super awesome group that deserves more recognition."

Shawn guides weeklong trips. Lat45 does several each summer. Campers hike, swim, camp and learn important wilderness techniques like backcountry orientation and bear safety trainings. There's also bible studies, reflections and journaling. Because of donations, the ministry doesn't have to charge the students who come along. All of Swanson's own time and effort is also donated. The real value lies in the growth of the students; he sees the impact the trips have on his young charges.

"The trips are challenging, both physically and spiritually," he says. He's watched the dozens of students he's led develop in many different aspects of their lives.

Five years strong, and he has



no intention of slowing down. Swanson also does mission work outside Lat45 and is the missions coordinator at the Ennis Assembly of God Church. For more information about Lat45, visit their website at lat45.org.



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Editorials are intended to acquaint our readers with the Editor's viewpoints on matters of public importance. Guest editorials and letters from readers (Letters to the Editor) reflect the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or the staff of *The Madisonian*.

- Press Release Policy -

•The *Madisonian* staff will give all press releases full consideration, but ultimately retains the authority to determine whether or not to publish releases.

•Content must be factual and objective.

•Content must not contain advertising language (such as "Thank you," "Congratulations," "call now," "to buy tickets for," "now showing,") or include pricing.

•Items of a general business interest are appropriate for advertising—see advertising policy and current rates.

•Content must not be derogatory to competing companies or organizations.

•Content may only be submitted and published once.

•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.

- Letters to the Editor/Readers Speak Policy -

The *Madisonian* encourages the opinions of readers on public issues and matters of local concern. Letters must be close to 350 words, and author may only submit twice monthly. Please include the writer's name, address and phone number. *The Madisonian* reserves the right to edit

content for grammar, good taste and libel. We also reserve the right to reject or delay publications.

We will not publish individual grievances about specific businesses or letters that are abusive, malicious or potentially libelous.

Announcements, thank yous and letters of a commercial nature will not appear in this column.

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The *Madisonian* accepts most advertising, but may turn away any advertisement for any reason. It is up to us to decide on placement and content acceptability.

The advertisements in this publication are not necessarily the opinion of or supported by *The Madisonian*.

Please note: Our client information is confidential.

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5 p.m. - Friday

ANY ADS ACCEPTED AFTER THE FRIDAY DEADLINE OF 5 P.M. WILL BE CHARGED A \$25 LATE FEE.

Editor's note:
The Madisonian does not endorse the viewpoints or statements of those who submit letters to the editor.

Please do your own research and check your facts.



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OPINION

Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program is good for Montana

By Nick Gevoek
and Cole Mannix

Montana's farmers, ranchers and hunters have been partners for decades in conserving and managing our treasured wildlife. For years we've shared this working relationship because we're neighbors and we understand that together, hunters and landowners can achieve positive results for both wildlife and the land that they reside on.

That cooperative relationship was on display last year when ranchers, farmers, county weed districts and even county commissioners worked alongside hunters, anglers and the broader conservation community to establish the Montana Wildlife Habitat Improvement program. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Kelly Flynn, R-Townsend, allows a portion of the federal funds that Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

receives to be used for habitat improvement projects that would fight noxious weeds on private and public lands.

We all know that weeds take a heavy toll on wildlife habitat. Noxious weeds crowd out native grasses and shrubs, which means less forage for deer, elk and other wildlife. They can make areas that once supported abundant wildlife far less productive, putting greater pressure on landowners with irrigated fields and good wildlife habitat as those animals seek the best feed. Noxious weeds, like wildlife, know no boundaries either. Often times weed infestations that start on one piece of land get transported to other pieces of land, meaning that fighting weeds isn't just a private or public land problem, but a Montana problem.

Weeds might not be as high profile an issue as some, but conservationists and landowners alike

know that they are a threat to the productivity of the lands where we live, work and play, whether they're public or private.

The Wildlife Habitat Improvement program is a prime example of a solid public/private partnership with broad benefits for everyone. Under the program, applicants receive a three-to-one match for either their dollars, or in-kind labor to enact a weed management program.

It includes measures that ensure the projects are effective, and a good use of public dollars. Every project is reviewed by a committee with diverse interests, including sportsmen, agricultural producers and weed districts. Every project must go through public scrutiny and be approved by the state Fish and Wildlife Commission. That gives Montanans assurance that the projects will have tangible benefits for habitat and wildlife.

All Montanans have an interest in preventing the spread of noxious weeds, while working to restore existing infestations to a more diverse and resilient plant community. It's a daunting proposition, but with teamwork we can make progress. The Montana Wildlife Habitat Improvement program represents the best of what makes Montana, Montana. We come together to solve problems and we work to help our neighbors. This kind of common sense collaboration is what it takes to respect all views while advancing positive programs that benefit all Montanans and our shared wildlife heritage.

Nick Gevoek is the conservation director for the Montana Wildlife Federation.

Cole Mannix is the advancement director for the Western Landowners Alliance.

OBITUARIES

Harriet Garth:
Fire And Love (Montana)
May 12, 2018

Harriet Helene Garth arrived in Virginia City, Montana, in the early 1970s via Beaumont, Texas, and Aspen, Colorado. When Harriet passed away at 68 from an accident on May 12th in Beaumont, it was a huge loss for that city, for Virginia City, and for all of her friends here and around the world. I was fortunate enough to get to spend most of the last 30 years of her life with her.

Petite and beautiful, funny and wise, Harriet was a traveler and a photographer, a hugger and a seeker, an astrologer and wannabe matchmaker, who rarely met a person who didn't like her. At five feet tall, she was small and passionate and could make you a close confidante for life, or, on the flip side, bristle up to about six feet of serious trouble and be an implacable foe. At 105 pounds wringing wet, 100 pounds of it was heart, and she needed all of that fire and love for the paths she chose.

Her family moved to Colorado in 1965 and by 1971 she had decamped to Montana with a tribe of other Aspenites. Harriet spent most of the next 15 years in VC and also the Heron area. The latter was one of the favorite times of her life, but also ultimately too difficult to continue. She and her Montana-native boyfriend John Tange returned to living in Virginia City and ultimately also spent part of each year on the Big Island of Hawaii, dividing their time between growing food, running a deep-sea fishing business, doing earthmoving work, keeping horses, and playing in the mountains and on the ocean. The locals called her "Minnie" on the Big Island, "Fireball" in Montana, and "friend" nearly everywhere she went.

The very young death by cancer of her father, whom she revered, was a defining tragedy in her life. It was followed by another one when John Tange died in a motorcycle accident before he turned 40. Harriet moved back to Colorado and we began living together, and continued to spend part of every year on her property in Montana. She managed her various business interests very successfully, contributed generously to a wide variety of causes in Montana, Virginia City and around the world, and reconnected with her mother in Colorado and her family in Texas.

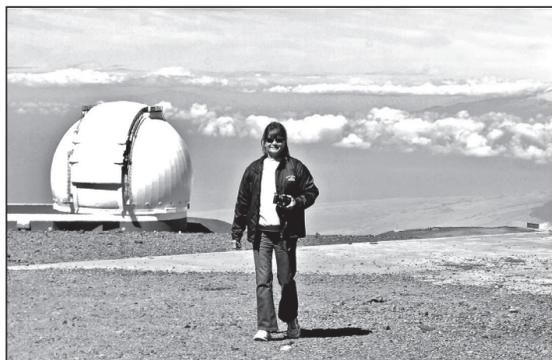
We traveled a lot for my writing and she took photos that accompanied my stories and books. Her enthusiasm and personality helped us make the kind of true human connections with people along the way that are the essence of great travel, good storytelling and, most importantly, a rich life. But during all of the magic and adventure her life encompassed, her years were shadowed by loss.

She had a young, unplanned pregnancy and at her parent's insistence gave her daughter up for adoption. It haunted her even when, after 40 years, her daughter got in touch and they reunited. In addition to her father and boyfriend's deaths, a number of other close friends passed prematurely. And after we parted, in just the last six years, she lost four of the most important women in her life, including finally her mother.

Some good came from it all with her being there for her mom's last years, and getting to spend more time with her wonderful and supportive family. But ultimately and heartbreakingly, Harriet still had more loss to come - her own life, far too early. I always assumed she'd outlive me by 20 years, as she should have. Instead she slipped and fell on her home's patio and hit her head on a flowerpot, dying instantly. The news struck many of our lives with that same terrible, bolt-from-the-blue suddenness. She and I had stayed in close contact, but once again I knew I'd been negligent about letting someone know how much I loved them before it was too late.

We both always had a deep affection for Yellowstone Park and the volcanoes of the Big Island: raw, elemental, molten places where the creation process is ongoing and the energy fields are as palpable as sunlight. She said they made her feel more alive than any other places on earth. I do not think it's entirely a coincidence that right around the time of her death, Yellowstone's biggest geyser became more active than its been since they've kept track of such things, and Pele started some hard raging in Hawaii. The planet is aware when it loses an irreplaceable human.

Jay Cowan



Faye Watkins
June 8, 2018

On the 8th of June, Faye Watkins entered her heavenly reward after a full life of activities. Born on the summer solstice in 1929 to Conrad and Pearl, she was reared with her three older Oetter siblings in Frankfort, Illinois. After graduation from Joliet Township High School she attended The American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Voice. On her way home one night during a snow storm, while waiting for her father to try to come get her, she met another stranded traveler. This man was traveling from Detroit, Michigan with his first new car. He beguiled her with the description of his ranch in Ennis. His name was Jack Watkins. Later they would become husband and wife.

Early in the young couple's marriage they moved to Arizona and then on to California as Jack explored work in the fledgling electronics industry. Faye found work in the area of banking. However, the only son was asked to return to the ranch to help his family's business. Faye took on the job as a ranch wife. From haying to branding she helped wherever she was needed. But, she excelled at making any visitor to the ranch feel welcomed as she gave them cookies and refreshing glasses of sun tea.

Faye was involved with many activities: the Madison Valley Presbyterian Church, the Greater Federation of Woman's Club, the Montana Republican party, Angus Cattle Association, bridge club and bowling to name a few. She used her musical skills in various church and community choirs either as a vocalist or its director. Her solo work was mostly weddings and funerals. Later she and two other gals, Bobbie Brand and Jean Hansen would record an LP album of sacred music entitled "Make a Joyful Noise". When the vinyl copies were gone they released a cassette copy retitled: "We Remember Making a Joyful Noise". All of the proceeds from both went to funding scholarships in the greater Ennis area.

Sadly, she was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers Ken and Don, her sister Betty, and her husband Jack. She is survived by her sister-in-law Rena and nieces and nephews: Sherrie, Judy, Tammy, Alan, Diane, Robert, Cindy Lou, Kevin, Kendall, Todd, Susan, Linda and Maria, and many extended family members.

To honor Faye's love of learning, please make all donations to the Madison Valley Woman's Club Scholarship Fund, P. O. Box 122, Ennis, MT 59729

Services will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Ennis at 10 AM on Saturday, June 16th, followed by a brief graveside service.

Janet Lydia Krenelka
June 10, 2018

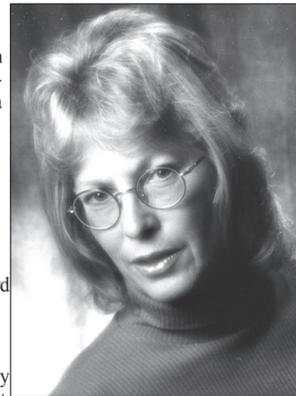
Janet Lydia Krenelka, age 70, died peacefully on June 10, 2018 after a long courageous battle with lung disease. She was born on October 8, 1947 to Edward and Lydia Albrecht in Billings, MT.

Janet grew up on the family ranch in Bridger, MT before the family moved to Lewistown, where she attended high school. They moved to Billings in 1964 and Janet graduated in 1965. On April 11, 1969, she married Edward James Krenelka. They spent a short time in Seattle and returned to settle in Billings in 1974, where they lived until moving to the Ruby Valley near Sheridan in 1991. Janet moved to Helena in 2010.

She was an avid horsewoman growing up and won the high school rodeo hard luck trophy in 1963. She enjoyed many activities in her life including hunting, fishing, gardening, 4x4ing, camping, and crocheting. She was an ace at the game of pool and enjoyed bowling and pool leagues with her friends for many years. She was a voracious reader, enjoyed the daily crosswords and puzzles, and watching her golf and TV shows. Her witty remarks, her strength and endurance, and her beautiful soul will be dearly missed!

Janet is survived by her daughter Leah Welsh (Dan Pate) of Helena, and son Edward Krenelka of Big Sandy; sisters, Sharon Brown of Lewistown, Jeanie (Jim) Mullins of Challis ID, Shirlee Shephard (Jim Knox) of Billings, Tammy (Randy) Stevens of Saratoga WY, and brother Steve (Cherrie) Albrecht of Helena. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Edward James Krenelka, and a sister Judy.

Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of her Life will be held Saturday, June 30, at 11 am at Aspen Village, 615 Janet Street in Helena MT.



1st Annual MT Science Institute Supports K-12 Educators

BOZEMAN –The 1st Annual Science Summer Institute, Making Science Meaningful, will be held August 13-14, 2018 at the Willson Building in downtown Bozeman, MT.

The purpose of the conference is to help Montana K-12 educators navigate the new Montana Science Content Standards, which are based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and is also open to educators from other states interested in three-dimensional teaching and learning.

The conference includes sessions by national and local science educators, authors, leading professional learning experts and exhibitors.

Conference keynotes include award-winning author Emily Morgan, co-author of the Picture-Perfect Science Lessons series and author of the Next Time

You See picture book series, and Dr. Brandon Rodriguez, an education specialist from the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Cost to attend is \$85 for one day, \$135 for both.

Registration fees include lunch on Monday, your choice of one of four NSTA Press books, and admission to the evening kick-off event at the Museum of the Rockies on August 12. OPI renewal units or 1 graduate credit from UM-Western are available.

Register now—space is limited.

Complete details and registration can be found at <https://conta.cc/2GEe9kv>.

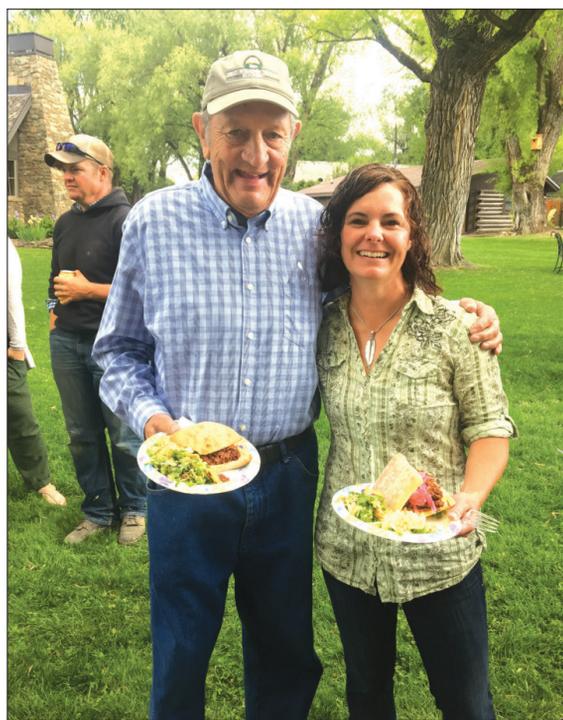
This event is offered by Southwest Montana School Services (SWMSS) and Mountain Goat Instructional Design, LLC and supported by the National Science Teachers Association

(NSTA).

About SWMSS

Southwest Montana School Services (SWMSS) is wrapping up its 6th year as a full-service Education Service Agency (ESA) in Bozeman, MT. While we mainly focus our efforts and services in southwest Montana, our statewide services are rapidly growing in popularity (Tech & Infinite Campus Support, online Medicaid Billing Services, and the Cooperative Food Purchasing Program). Our five major service areas include Education, Technology, Purchasing, and Business. Details can be found on our website at www.swmss.coop.

For additional details please contact: Jennifer Brekke, SWMSS, 406-522-6024, jbrekke@swmss.coop.



A farewell potluck for Conservation District supervisor Neil Kent and administrator Cori Koenig was held on June 14th. Neil served as a board supervisor for 9 years and Cori worked as the administrator for 2 years. Their contributions and support for the work of the Conservation District will be greatly missed. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)



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Madison County DISPATCH

June 10-19, 2018

June 10 - Citizen Assist in 400 Blk W. Hugel St., Ennis; Citizen Assist on MT Hwy 287, MM 14, Virginia City; Welfare Check, 6300 Blk, US Hwy 287, Norris; Medical Aid, 400 Blk, Beaverhead St., Ennis; Accident on MT Hwy 84, MM 1, Norris; Accident on N. Spencer St., Virginia City; Medical Aid in 100 Blk, Dry Creek Trl, Ennis; Warrant Service, 300 Blk E. Madison Ave., Ennis.

June 11 - Suspicious Circumstances on MT Hwy 41, Twin Bridges; Theft Complaint on MT Hwy 84, MM 8, Norris; Citizen Assist in 100 Blk W. Wallace St., Virginia City; Accident in 100 Blk, N. Main St., Sheridan; Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 51, Ennis; Medical Aid in 100 Blk N. Main St., Sheridan; Traffic Complaint on Varney Rd., Ennis; Suspicious Circumstances on Sunrise Loop, Ennis.

June 12 - Abandoned Vehicle on MT Hwy 287, MM 25, Laurin; Accident on MT Hwy 287, MM 28, Laurin; Trespass Complaint on MT Hwy 287, Ennis; Animal Complaint at US Hwy 287 & Norwegian Creek Rd., Harrison; Medical Aid in 100 Blk Silver Spring Rd., Sheridan; Traffic Complaint at MT Hwy 287 & US Hwy 287, Ennis.

June 13 - Two Vandalism/Criminal Mischief complaints, MT Hwy 287, Ennis; Coroner Call, Ennis; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 287, MM 32, Sheridan; Suspi-

cious Circumstances in 700 Blk, Madison Ave., Ennis; Dog Complaint in 200 Blk, Madison St., Sheridan; Citizen/Agency Assist in 200 Blk E. Williams St., Ennis; Traffic Complaint on North Meadow Creek Rd., McAllister; Dog Complaint on Main St., Ennis; Welfare Check in 100 Blk E. Hugel St., Ennis; Accident in 100 Blk, N. Main St., Sheridan; Medical Aid in 100 Blk, Dyk Rd., Harrison; Traffic Complaint on MT Hwy 84, Norris; Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 63, Norris.

June 14 - Trespass Complaint in 100 Blk, Barton Gulch Rd., Virginia City; Fire Call in 300 Blk, Madison St., Sheridan; Dog Complaint in 200 Blk E. Crofoot St., Sheridan; Accident on US Hwy 287, MM 14, Cameron; Accident on Anderson Ln., Alder; Agency Assist Out of County.

June 15 - Fire Call on MT Hwy 41, MM 25, Twin Bridges; Traffic Complaint at US Hwy 287 & MT Hwy 84, Norris; Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 41, MM 50, Silver Star; Medical Aid in 100 Blk, Silver Spring Rd., Sheridan; Animal Complaint on Pony Rd., Pony.

June 16 - Suspicious Circumstances on MT Hwy 41 S MM 22 Twin Bridges

The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 89 Calls for Service from Jun 10-16, 2018.

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School News

Twin Bridges 4th quarter High School Honor Roll

TWIN BRIDGES - Twin Bridges High School has announced its 4th quarter honor roll. The following students were named to this:

- Seniors** - RaeAnne Bendon, Lane Frandsen, Eddie Kelly, Kyle Minert, Justice Morris, Jenna Nelson, Kailee Oliverson, Mariah Patritti, Andrianna Pollorena, Cody Taylor, Megan Bausch*, Emily Dustin*, Kaleb Garrison*, Noah Harbor*, Roman Hendrickson*, Bethany Huttinga*, Lexie Jones*, Kylie Larsen*, Michaela Madden*, Abigail Olsen*, Sierra Rinta*, Savanna Stewart*
Juniors - Jace Caprara, Riah Edsall*, Daniel Krueer*, Joeseeph Peterson, Brikayla Salerno, Steven Smathers, Tanis Williams, Makenna Adams*, Ayden Anderson*, Cole Escott*, Nora Humbert*, Taryn Johnson*, Blu Keim*, Ethan Kneeland*, Clancy Phillips*, Jovenai Rossetlott*
 (* Denotes High Honor Roll)

Carroll College Dean's List

HELENA - Carroll College named a number of local students to its 2018 spring semester dean's list. To be included on the dean's list, a student must receive a 3.5 grade point average or higher on a 4.0 scale and take at least 12 graded credits in a semester.

- Ennis: Brigit Croy
- McAllister: Baylee Seuchetti
- Three Forks: Anna Christman, Darren Hecker, Christine Wambeke



ECCS receives \$2500 grant from 3 Rivers Communications

ENNIS - "Ennis Community Children's School (ECCS) has been a community asset since 1982," said Abby Thomas, ECCS fundraising committee member, "We've worked hard to keep improving our facility and this \$2500 Community Enhancement grant from 3 Rivers will help us rebuild the front and back entrance ramps on the building to be ADA compliant."

"The mission of Ennis Community Children's School is to increase our children's perception of the world around them and become enthusiastic learners. We're committed to the children and families that we serve here and providing a safe environment for the children to interact, learn, and develop social and life skills is important to us. Thank you 3 Rivers for investing in our children and providing this money to help us reach our goal."

While visiting at the school, 3 Rivers Board member Howard Goltz explained that the 3 Rivers Community Enhancement Grant program was put in place in 2005 to assist local organizations with

projects that make lasting improvements in their community.

"We were able to help the Ennis Community Children's School in 2015 when they were putting in some new playground features. I'm happy that we can help them again as they begin this construction project to make the school safer for everyone."

Goltz went on to say, "3 Rivers has offered assistance to other local organizations to help our cooperative members. We provided funds to the Ennis Senior Center, the Twin Bridges Senior Center, and the Sheridan Library. In the past grants have been given to volunteer emergency and fire departments that always need to update equipment. We realize that many folks are committed to making their community a better place for everyone and we're proud that 3 Rivers is able to offer this support."

For more information regarding the 3 Rivers Community Enhancement Grant program visit 3rivers.net or contact Susan at 467-4133 or susanw@3rivers.coop.



Four generations...
 Four generations of Harrison High School graduates attended the recent Harrison graduation. They included: Inez Reynolds, a 75 year grad; Joe Reynolds, a 50 year grad (son of Inez); Derik DeFrance, 2018 grad (great-grandson of Inez); and Madison Reynolds (Kindergarten promotion - great-granddaughter of Inez).

Camping in Bear Country

DILLON -- The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest has finally thawed after a long winter, and we're all ready to revel in the summer months ahead. However, grizzly and black bears are also taking advantage of the warm weather and will be catching up on feeding through late fall. While you're out recreating in the forest this year, always be bear aware!

The Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF has a food storage ordinance requiring proper storage of all attractants.

As more people are living and recreating in bear habitat and allowing bears to gain access to human food, there will be a higher rate of unwanted bear encounters. Once bears are food conditioned they are often removed from the ecosystem due to negative human-bear interactions (human safety). The only way to prevent this is to keep all attractive items with a smell away from the reach of bears.

Attractants include food, refuse, sealed cans and bottles, alcoholic beverages, hygiene products, pet food, fish parts, and chainsaw bar oil.

To store attractants away from bears:

- 1) put in a hard-sided vehicles with windows and doors shut and locked;

- 2) store in a certified bear-resistant container;

- 3) hang in a tree 10 feet above the ground and four feet from supporting structures. Remember, regular coolers are not bear-resistant! Where possible, camp 100 yards from attractant storage and cooking areas.

Several campgrounds have bear resistant food storage lockers available for campers to use.

Remember to remove your food and trash from these lockers when you are done camping. Officials also recommend changing your clothes before going to bed. Often smells from cooking food linger on the clothes worn while cooking and are considered an attractant to bears.

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Offices have a popular bear-resistant container loaner program to help forest visitors comply with food storage regulations. Forest visitors can check out bear-resistant horse panniers, backpacking "bear barrels" and the popular yet cost-prohibitive bear-resistant coolers for planned outings.

When hiking in the woods, your best defense is bear spray.

Here are some tips on how to effectively use your bear spray: draw it from an accessible location; remove the safety cap and press the trigger; spray at 30-60

feet away; aim slightly down and adjust for crosswinds; discharge the spray in front of the bear's face; the spray will create a cloud in front of you; keep spraying until the bear changes direction.

It is also a good idea to carry two canisters of bear spray if you are travelling alone. When you buy a can of bear spray, make sure is clearly marked for use against bears, not humans, and replace it when it has exceeded its expiration date.

Be prepared to play dead if attacked by a grizzly bear or to fight back in a predatory encounter (when a bear is following you or approaching unsurprised and unprovoked) with either bear species. Bear spray has proven to be extremely effective at preventing injury in 98 percent of encounters. Statistics show that people who use firearms against bears show the same rates of injury or death as if they had not used their gun at all. Remember that you can expect to see black bears and grizzly bears anywhere on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

For information about local regulations or about bears, go to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest website at www.fs.usda.gov/bdnf, or stop by a local Forest Service office.



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FSA county committee election nominations

ENNIS – The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages all farmers, ranchers, and FSA program participants to take part in the county committee election nomination process.

Committees are comprised of locally elected agricultural producers responsible for the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties. Committee members are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture.

If elected, members become part of a local decision making and farm program delivery process.

A county committee is comprised of three to 11 elected

members from local administrative areas (LAA).

Each member serves a three-year term. One-third of the seats on these committees are open for election each year.

County committees may have an appointed advisor to further represent the local interests of underserved farmers and ranchers.

Underserved producers are beginning, women and other minority farmers and ranchers and land owners and/or operators who have limited resources. Other minority groups including Native American and Alaska Natives; persons under the poverty level, and persons that have disabilities are also

considered underserved.

The nomination period opens June 15.

All nomination forms for the 2018 election must be post-marked or received in the local USDA service center by Aug. 1, 2018. County committee election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters on Nov. 5. The last day to return completed ballots to FSA is Dec. 3.

Local district included in the elections are: Jefferson/Madison/Silver Bow, Beaverhead and Sheridan.

For more information on FSA county committee elections and appointments, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or contact your local FSA office.

Ennis approves MOU with sheriff's department

Mayor and public works to choose engineering firms

JOHN D. TAYLOR
editor@madisoniannews.com

ENNIS – Ennis town commission approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Madison County Sheriff's Department at the council's Thursday, June 14 meeting.

Mayor Blake Leavitt explained a bit of this history behind the relationship between the sheriff's department and the city for the commissioners:

Leavitt said the city last had a signed an agreement with the sheriff's department in 2015-16. Previously, 17 mills were added to city taxes to pay for this arrangement.

However, these 17 mills were later rescinded, and a \$36.78 per hour fee was applied when the city called on the sheriff's department for services, along with a 1 mill per year tax fee per year to cover this expense.

Leavitt defined examples of the times when the town would call on the sheriff's department

as big events like celebrations, parades, homecomings and this sort of thing.

Commissioner Lisa Roberts wondered if the town could pass the expense generated by asking the sheriff's department for additional policing help on to event organizers.

Leavitt said this is already done.

Chief of Police John Moore agreed saying the sheriff's department pay rate is not a "big deal" because it gets paid by the organizers of the events.

Madison County Sheriff Roger Thompson explained that the MOU is a "little gray" in terms of what is or is not charged.

Thompson said that his department has not charged the city for events where deputies are asked for so long as the event benefits the entire county, or is a county-run event. He pointed to the county fair in Twin Bridges, and Virginia City's Memorial Day parade or Irish Weekend, as example of these kinds of events.

"The agreement with the town has no surprises in it," Thompson said.

Roberts said the sheriff's department and the town had a "great working relationship," and she, along with Commissioner John Bancroft, put forth the motion to approve the MOU. It passed unanimously.

In other business, after a

lengthy discussion, the commissioners gave Leavitt and Director of Public Works Kelly Elser the authority to choose an "on call" engineering company for the city.

Elser told the commissioners that the city had received three proposals for this role and he'd urged the commissioners to use a decision "scorecard" to make the choice of which firm to use.

Elser explained that an "on call" engineering firm would be a company that the city could call on for short notice jobs, work valued at up to \$80,000. However, the city was not designating this firm as its only engineering firm, but one that was "on call."

Jeff Barron, P.E., of WWC Engineering, a Sheridan, Wyoming-based firm was one of the companies seeking to serve as the city's on call firm, and Barron made a pitch for his outfit, noting that he'd grown up in the area, and wanted to work with city. WWC, he said, would offer an easy-to-work with contract that would allow WWC to operate as a project manager for on call assignments and allow the city to own any data WWC generated.

Roberts suggested that Leavitt and Elser review the companies applying for the role and make a decision for the city, rather than have the commissioners wade through a lengthy scorecard. Bancroft agreed, and a unanimous decision cleared the way for this.

Everything you need to know for Ennis's Fourth of July

ENNIS - As many readers know, I (your friendly neighborhood reporter) only just moved to the Madison Valley about a month ago. But even before I arrived, when I told friends and family I was moving to Ennis, they would often reply with "I hear the Fourth of July is huge there!" And believe me, it will be this year. So here, all in one place, is all the information you'll need to take full advantage of Ennis's biggest block party.

To prepare for the festivities, there will be fireworks sales beginning June 25 in the parking lot of Madison Foods, every day until the Fourth from 12 noon until 8 p.m. Money from those sales benefit two high school scholarships totaling \$3,000, so you can get all your whizbangs while supporting local students.

You can also buy Fourth of July T-shirts either with your fireworks or at the Ennis Chamber of Commerce from June 26 through the Fourth. Local artist Gerry Mooney designed the shirts and will be signing them at the Chamber from 8 - 10 a.m. on the Fourth. Artist Sherril Gold is also an honoree for the festivities, and her art will also be on display at the Chamber.

July 3

Quick Facts

Theme:
Meet me in Ennis, Montana

Grand Marshal:
Vickey Gordon

Honoree:
Ennis Arts Association

Vocalists:
The Chapman Family

The fun will really begin on Tuesday, July 3, with the first of two Northern Rodeo Association certified rodeos. Tuesday's rodeo will be at 8 p.m. and Wednesday's at 6 p.m. Each rodeo will feature the Montana Mini Bucks Rodeo an hour prior, in which children ages 4 - 14 will participate in a rough stock rodeo.

July 4

On the Fourth, things get started early, with the Fireman's Pancake Breakfast from 6 - 10 a.m. at Madison Valley Rural Fire Department's Station No. 1, just north of Ennis. Music will begin with the Kentucky String Band at 8:30 a.m. at the announcer's stage before the parade, which begins at 10

a.m.

This year's parade will have a slightly different route in order to accommodate changes to Madison Valley Manor's entryway and sidewalk. Spectators are reminded to please not park in the entry to the Manor and to leave that area open so that residents will have space to watch the parade and to allow traffic to flow.

The parade will travel in a loop through Ennis's downtown, following Main Street, Charles Ave. past Ennis High School, Hugel St. and Third St. Post-parade, the Lions Club will host their annual Barbecue Lunch at Peter T's Park, accompanied by the second of the week's honky-tonk bands, Big Tweed. They will also play a second set at the Gravel Bar on July 7 for those who want to keep on dancing.

To wrap everything up, Virginia City will host some of the Madison Valley's most spectacular fireworks, provided the weather is good. Wait until sunset, following the rodeo, to finish up the Fourth in classic style.

For a full list of events, see the attached schedule. Visit the Ennis Chamber's website for more information on the Fourth of July festivities, and to submit parade entries.



2018

JULY 3RD AND 4TH - ENNIS, MONTANA

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THEME	GRAND MARSHALL	HONOREE	VOCALIST
Meet Me in Ennis, MT	Vickey Gordon	Ennis Art Association	Chapman Family

JULY 3RD

7 PM Montana Mini Bucks Rodeo

Youth Rough Stock Rodeo for Kids
ages 4 to under 14 years

8 PM NRA Rodeo

JULY 4TH

6-10 AM Fireman's Pancake Breakfast

Madison Valley Rural Fire Dept Station 1 North of Ennis

8-10 AM Artist Gerry Mooney

Signing 4th of July Parade T-shirts at

Ennis Chamber Visitors Center

8:30 AM The Kentucky String Band

at Announcer Stand

8-12 PM Chamber 50/50 Raffle

Ennis Chamber Visitors Center

9-1:30 PM Car Show Sportsman's Lodge Lawn

10 AM 83rd Annual 4th of July Parade

"Meet Me in Ennis, Montana"

11 AM Ennis Lions Club BBQ

at Peter T's Park

11:45 AM Veteran's Parachutes

on Football Field

12 PM Veterans' Memorial Ceremony

12:30 PM Big Tweed Band

at Peter T's Park

5 PM Montana Mini Bucks Rodeo

Youth Rough Stock Rodeo for Kids

ages 4 to under 14 years

6 PM NRA Rodeo

Ennis Rodeo Grounds

Dusk - Fireworks in Virginia City

(pending conditions)

PARADE ROUTE



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<p>Michelle Van Dyke BROKER 596-0805</p> <p>18 WHITE ROCK LANE WHITEHALL \$725,000 #319107 JUST REDUCED</p> <p>Fabulous custom 3,276sf log home on 46+ acres at the foothills of the Tobacco Root Mtns near Waterloo. If you want the Montana dream log home with privacy, mountain views, beautiful gardens, 30x42 greenhouse, heated 40x64 workshop, 3-car garage, and guest quarters/studio, you've reached the destination.</p>	<p>Rikki Dilschneider BROKER 581-5155</p> <p>222 E MAIN ST ENNIS \$399,000 #320045 NEW LISTING</p> <p>Ideal location 3,415sf building that borders Main St. Property has Slate entryway, open floor plan, barn wood siding & river rock propane fireplace. Two levels and large windows facing Main St. Additional parking in the back.</p>
<p>Nikki Picken SALES ASSOCIATE 698-0853</p> <p>3409 MT HWY 287 SHERIDAN \$342,000 #319915 NEW LISTING</p> <p>Two stories of living space offer plenty of room for the whole family. Inside this 2,132sf home you'll find 4bd, and 2 1/2ba. Enjoy spectacular views of the Ruby Mountains while propping your feet up on the railing of the wrap around deck. Or gather the whole family down by the creek under the shade of the towering cottonwood trees.</p>	<p>Holly Driskill SALES ASSOCIATE 451-3527</p> <p>106 E HAMILTON SHERIDAN \$289,000 #321499 NEW LISTING</p> <p>Updated open & spacious kitchen w/appliances includes. Master bedroom & bath on main floor. 2bd w/full bath on the upstairs level. Large attached 2 car garage. Beautiful landscaped yard with mature trees for shade. Covered patio to enjoy the outdoors. Furnishings included.</p>
<p>Kathy Wooten SALES ASSOCIATE 731-676-2463</p> <p>LOT 16 TRAIL CREEK RANCHES ENNIS \$178,000 #321565 NEW LISTING</p> <p>Breathtaking 360 degree mountain & valley views from the 20 ac. lot. This 537 ac. subdivision has 26 lots, 20 acres or more, with only 19 owners. Plenty of elbow room. Only 6 miles from Ennis. Year round Trail Creek runs across the property. 3 sides are fenced with smooth wire. Horses are allowed.</p>	<p>Joszie Dreier SALES ASSOCIATE 580-4469</p> <p>12 N MAIN ST WHITEHALL \$96,990 #321616 NEW LISTING</p> <p>Darling property is zoned commercial/residential on a corner lot w/ample room to add on. Green and flowered yard for entertaining. Immaculate building w/great opportunity for a new business 1 blk off Main St. So much potential! Don't let this well priced opportunity slip away.</p>

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FIREWORKS AND T-SHIRT SALES AT MADISON FOODS PARKING LOT JUNE 25 TO JULY 4, 12-8 PM

Cones and caution tape will be placed behind parked cars on Main Street for the parade. Cars will be asked not to leave after the parade until the barrier is removed.

Gravelly Range wildflower tour set for July 5

ENNIS —The Beaverhead Deer Lodge National Forest is sponsoring its 21st annual wildflower tour of the Gravelly Range on Thursday, July 5, starting at 9 a.m.

The free tour winds through the Gravelly Range in Madison County, which is noted for a spectacular, high-elevation display of wildflowers. Forest Service employees on the tour will help identify plants seen along the way. Officials note that each year brings its own set of growing conditions, producing an always plentiful and varied show of wildflowers.

The tour will begin at the Forest Service office in Ennis and proceed toward the Gravelly Range. Participants generally drive their own high-clearance vehicles, but



Mountainside wildflowers will be the highlight of the Beaverhead-Dee Lodge National Forest Gravelly Range tour. (USFS PHOTO)

can catch a ride with others if they don't want to take their own vehicle.

Attendees are advised to dress for inclement weather and bring their lunch and water.

For more information, contact the Forest Service in Ennis at (406) 682-4253, or check out the Beaverhead Deer Lodge National Forest Facebook page.

MSU names local students to spring honor rolls

BOZEMAN - Montana State University has announced its undergraduate honor rolls for spring semester 2018.

There are two MSU honor roll lists: the President's and the Dean's Honor Roll. Students must complete a minimum of 12 degree-eligible credit hours to be on either list.

Students with a perfect 4.0 grade point average for the semester were named to the President's Honor Roll. An asterisk follows the names of the

1,098 students named to the MSU President's Honor Roll in the listing below.

The Dean's Honor Roll includes the 3,179 students earning grade point averages of 3.5 or above for the semester.

Students named to MSU's President's or Dean's Lists, ordered according to their hometowns, follow. Montana students are listed first, followed by students with out-of-state hometowns listed alphabetically by state, then hometown. Finally, international students are listed by home country and

- hometown.
- Ennis: Bailey Greenwell, Chad Johnson, Devan Leo, Taylre Sitz, Rebecca White
 - McAllister: Cole Crowley
 - Norris: Warren Brush
 - Sheridan: Cody Allinson, Xavier Harris, Brant Marsh*, Arnold Smithson
 - Silver Star: Cassandra Williams
 - Twin Bridges: Zachary Amos, Sierra Frandsen*, Audrey George, Kjersten Sandru, Michael Walsh
 - Virginia City: Stephanie Weddle

Welch graduates from Marietta College

MARIETTA, OHIO - Samantha Welch, of Ennis, and Ennis High School graduate, was among more than 250 students who received diplomas at Marietta

College's graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 6. Welch completed requirements for a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Paying at the Pump is Taking Up More of Motorists' Paychecks

HELENA, Montana. June 13, 2018. Montana drivers are spending \$69 more a month to fill-up compared to last summer. According to AAA, gasoline expenses are accounting, on average, for 9.6 percent of Montanans 2018 annual income, a 1.9 percent increase over last summer. With strong summer consumer gasoline demand expect-

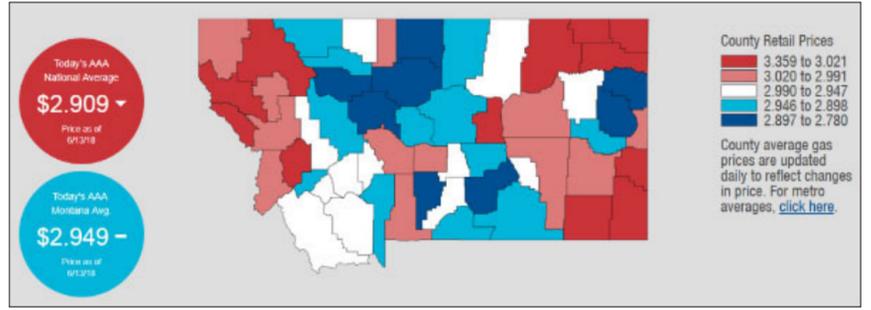
ed in the months ahead, AAA says motorists can expect little relief at the pump with the statewide average ranging between \$2.85 - \$3.05 through Labor Day.

"Motorists can expect to spend at least \$200 more on gas this season," said Michelle Donati, AAA Montana spokeswoman.

As vacationers hit the road, they

will find more than a quarter (28 percent) of all gas stations across the country are selling gas for more than \$3/gallon - a stark difference from a year ago.

South Carolina and California hold the lowest and highest average price for the lower 48 states at \$2.582 and \$3.721 per gallon.



Summer Food Service effort

SHERIDAN - The Sheridan Schools announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program.

The Summer Food Service Program is a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutri-

tion Program that provides free, nutritious meals to children when school is not in session.

The program will run from July 2, 2018 through July 27, 2018. The following sites will have meals available:

Site Name	Site Address	Begin Date	End Date	Meal Times					
				Breakfast		Lunch		Snack	
				Begin	End	Begin	End	Begin	End
Sheridan Elementary	211 Madison St Sheridan, MT	7/2/18	7/3/18	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:30		
Sheridan Elementary	211 Madison St Sheridan, MT	7/5/18	7/27/18	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:30		

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- ✓ You'll sip on complimentary drinks provided by the Gift Barn.
- ✓ You'll have access to specials and unbeatable promotions on Isdin Skincare product line, which includes their amazing sunscreen and anti-aging products. We also carry Aveda.
- ✓ You'll have fun while you learn what CoolSculpting can do for you - including a FREE consultation provided by CoolSculpting expert, Dr. Repola.

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DISTRICT COURT ROUNDUP

The Madison County District Court held three hearings on Monday, June 18. Robert Frank Baker, Jr., Steven Todd Christensen and Cole Donald Richards made their first appearances before the court in their respective trials.

- Robert Frank Baker, Jr., is charged with four felony counts and four misdemeanor counts associated with a series of March thefts. Baker is charged with three felony counts of burglary on at least two different days and in three different locations: one in Alder, one in Sheridan and one elsewhere along Highway 287. Those counts are associated with entry into residences or storage facilities with intent to commit theft. The fourth felony charge is one of theft of items

between \$1,500 and \$5,000 in value, including chainsaws and power tools. Baker's misdemeanor charges include two counts of theft of a lesser monetary value and two of criminal mischief for damage associate with forced entry into the buildings that were robbed.

- Steven Todd Christensen is charged with felony operation of a noncommercial vehicle with a blood alcohol content over the legal limit of 0.08. If convicted, this would be Christensen's fourth or subsequent conviction of operating a vehicle while intoxicated. A fourth or subsequent conviction carries with it mandatory admittance into a Department of Corrections treatment facility, as well as up to five years in jail and a

fine of between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

- Cole Donald Richards was charged in May with felony indecent exposure to minors and misdemeanor disorderly conduct for events that occurred at the Lodge at Big Sky at the end of April. Richards was charged with swimming naked in one of the lodge's pools in the presence of two children under age 16. He was also charged with disorderly conduct for yelling profanities from the back of a police car once he had been arrested. Richards filed a plea deal pleading guilty to indecent exposure, a misdemeanor, in exchange for the amendment of the charge from indecent exposure to minors, a felony.



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Celebrate the Life of Donna Leise

On Saturday, June 30, 2018 at 2 p.m. at the Sheridan City Park next to the library, there will be a gathering to celebrate the life of Donna Leise. There will be snacks and refreshments to enjoy while we all share our memories and stories of Donna.

In case of inclement weather, the celebration will move to the home of Gary and Doris Hilliker at 204 Boundary St., Sheridan.

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7/19: RICKY NELSON REMEMBERED STARRING MATTHEW & GUNNAR NELSON
THUR 7/26: SHENANDOAH 30TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
FRI 7/27: JOHNNY COUNTERFIT Comedian/Voice Impersonist/Recording Artist
DANCE SAT 7/28: COUNTRY TRADITION
THUR 8/2: JEANNIE SEELY W/ SPECIAL GUEST TIM ATWOOD [ACOUSTIC]
THUR 8/9: AN EVENING WITH CRAIG MORGAN [ACOUSTIC]
THUR 8/16: MOE BANDY
FRI 8/17: COUNTRY MUSIC LEGEND RONNIE MCDOWELL
DANCE SAT 8/18: CRAZY MTN EXPRESS ALL SHOWS/DANCES
THUR 8/23: TONY SURACI AS THE HIGHWAYMAN AT 7:30 PM

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Summer on the water: be safe, know the rules, Clean, Drain, Dry

HELENA - As boaters flock to the amazing rivers and lakes across the state, they need to keep in mind the new rules aimed at limiting and preventing aquatic invasive species from spreading.

All watercraft coming into Montana from out of state must be inspected prior to launch-

ing. Additionally, all watercraft travelling west across the Continental Divide into the Columbia River Basin must be inspected. All watercraft launching anywhere within the Flathead Basin and a watercraft that was last launched on waters outside of the Flathead Basin must be inspected.

To accommodate these new rules, inspection stations are set up across Montana, with the goal of protecting Montana's borders and the Continental Divide.

Also, there are requirements that all watercraft leaving Tiber and Canyon Ferry reservoirs be inspected and, if necessary decontaminated, unless they are part of the Certified Boater program.

These heightened efforts at protecting Montana's waters are in response to the discovery two years ago of aquatic invasive mussel larvae in water samples from Tiber Reservoir. A sample from Canyon Ferry Reservoir also was found to be suspect for the mussel larvae.

Just like in past years, watercraft owners must stop at any open inspection station they encounter. Typically, these stops are very brief and include a short series of questions about where the watercraft has been and a quick inspection. Watercraft owners can make this process quick and easy if they consistently practice Clean, Drain and Dry:

- Clean all mud and debris from the watercraft and trailer.
- Pull drain plugs and make sure all compartments, bilges and ballasts are drained.
- Dry out your watercraft, including dry wells, storage areas and compartments.
- Following these simple instructions will not only protect Montana's waters, but will also expedite inspections.

In response to the busy weekend, FWP inspection sta-

tion and enforcement staff will be working hard to make sure everyone knows the AIS rules in place and has a safe and fun time on the water.

Do I need to be inspected?

Confused about whether or not you need to get your watercraft inspected for aquatic invasive species? Don't worry, the answer is simpler than you might think.

Are you bringing your boat into Montana from out of state?

Yes, you need to be inspected prior to launching.

Are you crossing the Continental Divide into the Columbia River Basin?

Yes, you need to be inspected prior to launching.

Are you launching on waters within the Flathead Basin and your watercraft was last used on waters outside the Flathead Basin?

Yes, you need to be inspected prior to launching.

Are you encountering an open inspection station?

Yes, if you have any type of watercraft with you, you must stop and get inspected.

These rules are not just good ideas, they're the law. The three steps of Clean, Drain, Dry greatly minimizes the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species. It also minimizes the time required for inspection at a station.

To find a watercraft inspection station and to learn more, go to CleanDrainDryMT.com or call the FWP Aquatic Invasive Species Bureau at 406-444-2440.



Forest Service provides bear-resistant containers

DILLON — Visitors to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest (BDNF) and the greater Yellowstone area have been advised for years that odorous items attract bears and must be properly stored out of reach of animals. Attractant storage is generally a simple process while car camping but can become difficult on bicycle, motorcycle, backpacking or horse packing trips.

The BDNF has a bear-resistant container loaner program to help forest visitors comply with food storage regulations. Forest visitors can check out bear-resistant horse panniers, backpacking "bear barrels" and the popular yet cost-prohibitive bear-resistant coolers for their planned outings.

This popular loaner program has these containers at offices in Dillon, Wisdom, Wise River, Philipsburg, and Butte. Each office has a limited number of containers—and as this program grows, more containers will become available. The goal is to eliminate bear habituation (bears becoming too accustomed to living or feeding in human areas) while helping the public access containers they would use too infrequently to justify the cost. Visitors are encouraged to check out a bear resistant container for their next outing and help prevent dangerous, food-conditioned bears in our backyards!

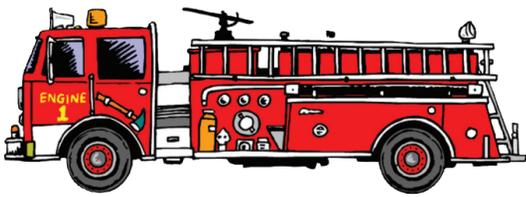
For more information about being safe in bear country go online to <https://go.usa.gov/xQBQS>

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Madison Valley Rural Fire District

When: July 4 6:00 am to 10:00 am
Where: Madison Valley Rural Fire Station
Cost: DONATION ONLY

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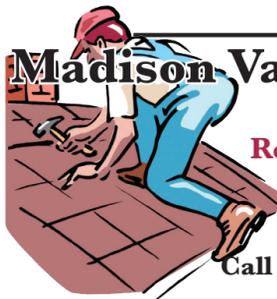


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MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

Thursday



Scattered thunderstorms, high 77, low 49.

Friday



Scattered thunderstorms, high 71, low 41

Saturday



Thunderstorms High 65, low 45.

Sunday



Partly cloudy. High 69, low 48.

Monday



Sunny! High 81, low 54.

Quote of the Week:

"Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth, faithfulness the best relationship."
Buddha

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PANORAMA



Owens family honored in 'Watershed Stories'

Two generations have half a century on ranch

JOHN D. TAYLOR
editor@madisoniannews.com

MCALLISTER -- On Wednesday afternoon, June 13, two generations of Owens — Lynn and Devonna, Brett and Rita — were being honored for their conservation work and community engagement across more than a half-century of ranching and farming on North Meadow Creek land, just west of McAllister.

Honors

Three gathered to honor the Owens for their long-term stewardship of the land that flows through the family's veins — literally and figuratively — also their community engagement: Watershed Coordinator Sunni Heikes-Knapton and Water Programs Manager Ethan Kunard, representing the Madison Conservation District; also Eliza Wiley, a freelance photographer, who was shooting photos to document the day for a public outreach effort by the Montana Watershed Coordination Council.

Knapton said the Madison Conservation District was selected as one of Montana's leading local conservation efforts, and three local programs would be featured in an outreach series called "Watershed Stories," an effort to share the value of conservation work — specifically stewardship, community engagement and youth education — with a larger public, to show how this work benefits both the land and the communities connected to it.

Knapton called this a "unique philosophy" because the conservation work is "locally driven, voluntary and collaborative."

The two other programs that would be shared in Watershed Stories include:

- Gardens, Resources, Outdoors, Wildlife and Watershed (GROWW) program, a local partnership effort to engage students, teachers and the community in gardening, nutrition, agriculture and watershed projects. This effort includes the volunteer-built Ennis School Garden, on the school's playground, an "ideal outdoor classroom space for experiential learning of science, Native American studies, nutrition and service learning."

- The Madison Stream Team, a local partnership program that focuses on education and citizen science. Those involved in this effort gather important information on the health of local waterways

"We are really excited to see



Lynn Owens told the story of what his family has done to their McAllister ranch over the course of the last 50 years. "I traded an 8 to 5 job for a 5 to 8 job," he said, smiling.

our community work included in this feature," said Knapton. "It's quite humbling to be honored in this way and a reminder of how lucky we are to have such great local support."

The Owens story

Lynn Owens, patriarch of the Owens Ranch clan, told the story of what his family had done to both make a living from the land and steward it.

"I moved here in 1966, after my father had a heart attack," Owens said. "We started with two horses and a 25 horsepower tractor to do the haying, etc. on 1,500 acres."

"I gave up an 8 to 5 job (electrical engineer) for a 5 to 8 job," he joked, a twinkle in his merry eye.

He said he'd gone to college and got work after initially leaving the ranch, but his father's heart attack summoned his return. Lynn's wife, Devonna, said later that Lynn was making good money as an electrical engineer, but that they were really saving the money to put towards a ranch of their own some day.

Lynn said the ranch was in a shambles due his father's heart attack. The work wasn't getting done and there were improvements he saw he could make, to both garner more income and make the ranch more sustainable.

"Now I had a family to raise, so I needed more money," he said. So he implemented an irrigation system and rotational grazing.

"We had the best water rights around," Lynn said, "going back to 1868. But we couldn't get enough to keep up with dry summers."

He talked about having to shovel out ditches and using a horse to clear irrigation channels to hay fields. He also experimented with various kinds of grasses, planting six different varieties to find out what worked best, crested wheatgrass or rye.

Fertilizer was another effort. The one-ton-to-200 acres his father had used, wasn't accomplishing the mission, so he upped the amount. Back then, he said, fertilizer was going for \$69 a ton — today it's up to \$700 per ton.

Next, he installed a wheel line irrigation system on 200 acres of recently planted crested wheatgrass, alfalfa and brome. When the electric shut off, the system was in trouble, he said.

Irrigating allowed him to sell hay, and with three kids to put through college, he needed more income. So he bought another property and added more irrigation, 2.5 miles of line that needed to be moved twice daily.

Brett recalled spending a lot of energy and time moving these lines, with his brother, Blaine.

Some sheep, 250 head, followed, adding diversity to what the Owens could take to market.

Wally Jones, head of the Conservation District in the early 1970s, suggested adding some shelterbelts to the ranch, and these were also installed, creating windbreaks for cattle and holding wildlife benefits.

Lynn said he was the first in the valley to try planting some sainfoin, a drought-resistant silage or hay crop that can also be grazed, needs no nitrogen fertilizer, and doesn't cause bloat.

Both Lynn and Devonna recalled how interconnected farmers and ranchers used to be at that time. Both talked about visiting and working with neighboring ranches and farms, observing what these ranchers or farmers were doing, then bringing successful practices back to their ranch.

More water systems, an automatic watering system for livestock, a submersible pump for the feedlot they'd created, followed, along with better haying equipment. Devonna remembered running the old baler and being quite good with it.



The Owens family: (left to right) Rita, Brett, Devonna and Lynn (J. TAYLOR PHOTOS)

When Brett returned to the ranch with wife Rita, she grew up on a ranch in the Fort Belknap reservation, following their military careers, he also brought some improvements, including a round baler.

Pivot irrigation soon followed.

Lynn said it cost \$100,000 to install, but his sale of some gravel earned \$50,000 which covered half the cost, then the remainder of this improvement was paid off in additional crops and savings from a reduction in electric rates running the older systems.

He also talked about installing a cattle-weighting scales that still weighs a lot of beef, and summer calving, as opposed to early spring calving. This saved calves and extra work because more forage was available.

Healthier Owens land also meant healthier livestock, despite cattle from outside the area bringing in new diseases that required more vaccinations for a broader spectrum of problems.

Always, the Owens kept their eyes open for new ways to do things, to make the land healthier and better. Lynn talked

about regulations being "pushed by environmentalists."

"We are environmentalists, just not radical," he said. He credited the Madison Valley Ranchlands Group with giving ranchers a voice and the opportunity to know what they were facing as new environmental regulations came to the forefront.

More recently, Lynn said that subdivisions around him caused him to want to move his home to a hilltop off the beaten path and he and Devonna are happily dust free today.

Both have always been heavily involved in the community. Lynn served as a board member on the Conservation District, as a school board member, with the gopher program, and in other capacities. Devonna was a long-term 4-H leader, a cattlemen's club member, started a hospice program, an election judge, and worked at the hospital as a nurse part-time.

Their efforts will continue on through Brett and Rita and daughter Linda. Brett and Rita raise sheep and work the ranch today.

Brett has added new things to

make the ranch more successful as well, such as leasing — rather than buying — farm machinery, and plans on putting in additional conservation efforts, such as relocating and storing a shelter belt that had to be removed to make way for irrigation equipment.

Rita talked about the wealth of "institutional knowledge" that the family has acquired being on the land for so long, and how, today, visitors to the community will often stop to ogle their lambs and sheep, creating what she jokingly called the Owens Petting Zoo.

"We learned how to produce more with less," Lynn said. "We've been successful and we've had a good living, and I wouldn't change a thing."

Knapton voiced strong support for their effective approaches on their ranch and also as conservation leaders.

"People like the Owens family are the reason our natural resources and our community are healthy," she said. "They implement stewardship of this landscape and inspire others to do the same."

Book recognizes women's contributions to Montana agriculture

HELENA — Politics, eminent domain, weeds, grasshoppers, economic depression, and drought were no match for these Montana women.

In her debut memoir, *Montana Women, From the Ground Up: Passionate Voices in Agriculture and Land Conservation*, writer Kristin Ellis creates portraits of pioneering women who share their experiences of successes, growth and failures

in farming and ranching Montana's vast landscape.

With their forward thinking, nurturing abilities and "gumption" to "make hay out of this-tles," these women persevered and thrived in Montana agriculture, while creating a better landscape for the next generation.

Growing up on the family ranch, Linda fought hard to gain respect as a ranch hand,

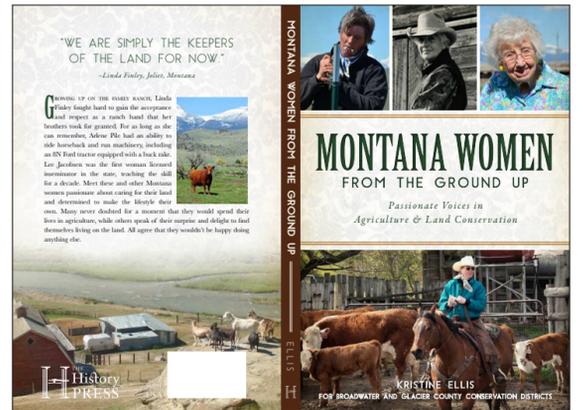
while Arlene learned to ride a horse and drive machinery at a very young age. Ellis recognizes the contributions these women have made to shape Montana's agriculture industry and the conservation movement.

A woman's role on a farm is ever-changing, from cow nurse and parts manager to crew chef and bookkeeper.

Ellis weaves anecdotes with discussions of differing views

of agriculture, the meaning and practice of conservation, as well as advice for moving forward in today's agricultural world.

Montana Women, From the Ground Up, a 144-page book with narrative and beautiful black and white photography, can be purchased locally at conservation district offices, on Amazon.com and at book stores across state.





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HEALTH & WELLNESS



Empowering youth and families

ENNIS – There are currently 3,952 children in the foster care system, with the number of kids in care steadily increasing each year, according to Youth Dynamics (YD).

YD is a Montana-based non-profit child placing agency and mental health center with locations throughout the state. The group has been serving at-risk children and families since 1981, employs approximately 500 Montanans, and serves more than 2,000 kids each year.

Unfortunately, the number of available foster homes has not kept up with the need. Each week the organization receives referrals for as many as 20 children in need of placement, but sadly is unable to find homes for many of these kids.

Many children in foster care will end up in group homes, shelter care, or being placed out of the area in order to find placement.

YD says 33 percent of children in foster care will change elementa-

ry schools five or more times, causing them to fall behind academically and lose friends that they had made in the process. Additionally, due to trauma, frequent moves, and a history of abuse and neglect, children in the foster care system are being diagnosed with PTSD in record numbers, surpassing that of US war veterans.

Public awareness is an important factor in creating homes for children in need. Community education has the potential to change these children's lives forever.

YD wraps supportive services around foster care placements in order to help children recover from past trauma, and provides foster care to Montana kids.

YD's goals is to build strong families and make a difference in Montana, one child at a time.

For more information on YD visit www.youthdynamics.org, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ydimit/, or call 877-458-7022.



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4 tips to battle summer colds

(StatePoint) Warm, sunny weather doesn't mean the risk for catching a cold disappears. Unfortunately, colds can happen at any time of year and can really ruin much anticipated summer plans.

To stay healthy and help beat the common cold this summer season, consider these tips from Dr. Nesochi Okeke-Igbokwe, a New York City-based physician and health and wellness expert:

- Maintain good sleep hygiene. Are these long summer evenings tempting you to burn the candle at both ends? Don't give in! Maintaining good sleep habits can ultimately help keep your immune system in check. Adults should sleep at least seven to nine hours every night to achieve improved health out-

comes. If you uphold a good sleep routine, it will enable you to sleep well throughout the night and obtain the recommended amount needed for stronger immunity. Remember that sleep deprivation weakens your immune system and increases the likelihood of picking up infections.

- Keep moving. It's essential to integrate some form of exercise into your daily life. Beyond benefits like improved cardiovascular health and weight maintenance, those adhering to regular exercise regimens tend to be healthier overall and may potentially experience fewer colds yearly. Indeed, routine physical activity helps to boost your immune system. Luckily, the summer is the perfect time

to keep moving, but remember to stay hydrated in the heat.

- Eat right. Back-to-back BBQ parties? What you eat really matters. Avoid the tempting junk food and highly processed food that can negatively impact your health. Also, never underestimate the benefits of sticking to a well-balanced nutrient- and antioxidant-rich diet in general. Your diet should include vitamin-rich cruciferous vegetables, fresh fruit, fish containing omega 3 fatty acids and other superfoods that can boost your immune system and help you recover faster in times of illness.

- Fight the cold. If you do experience a summer cold, seek out an over-the-counter solution that helps you fight through

your symptoms, such as Mucinex DM, which offers the convenience of not having to retake medication every four hours. It is a bilayer tablet that has one layer that releases quickly and another layer that provides extended release that lasts for 12 hours. Stock up on it year-round to be prepared for the next time cough and chest congestion symptoms hit.

Find out more health tips on how to combat the common cold at Mucinex.com.

Don't take summer colds lightly! A few smart strategies can help boost your wellness and allow you to enjoy a healthier season on the go.

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Link between red meat allergen, heart disease?

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A team of researchers says it has linked sensitivity to an allergen in red meat to the buildup of plaque in the arteries of the heart. While high saturated fat levels in red meat have long been known to contribute to heart disease for people in general, the new finding suggests that a subgroup of the population may be at heightened risk for a different reason - a food allergen. The study, which is supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Insti-

tute, part of the National Institutes of Health, appears in Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology (ATVB), a peer-reviewed journal of the American Heart Association.

"This novel finding from a small group of subjects from Virginia raises the intriguing possibility that allergy to red meat may be an underrecognized factor in heart disease," said study leader Coleen McNamara, M.D., a professor of medicine in the Cardiovascular Research Center of the University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville. "These preliminary findings underscore the need for further clinical studies in larger populations from diverse geographic regions and additional laboratory work."

The number of people with red meat allergies in the United States is unclear, but researchers estimate that it may be 1 percent of the population in some areas. The number of people who develop blood antibodies to the red meat allergen without having full-blown symptoms is much higher - as much as 20 percent of the population in some areas, the researchers say.

Only in recent years did scientists identify the main allergen in red meat, called galactose- α -1,3-galactose, or alpha-Gal, a type of complex sugar. They also found that a tick - the Lone Star tick - sensitizes people to this allergen when it bites

them. That is why red meat allergies tend to be more common where these ticks are more prevalent, such as the Southeastern United States, but also extending to other areas, including Long Island, New York.

Researchers have suspected for some time that allergens can trigger certain immunological changes that might be associated with plaque buildup and artery blockages, but no one had identified a specific substance that is responsible for this effect. In the current study, researchers showed for the first time that a specific blood marker for red meat allergy was associated with higher levels of arterial plaque, or fatty deposits on the inner lining of the arteries. The blood marker they identified is a type of antibody (immunoglobulin or IgE) that is specific to the alpha-Gal allergen.

To identify this blood marker, the researchers analyzed blood samples from 118 adults and detected antibodies to alpha-Gal, indicating sensitivity to red meat, in 26 percent of them. Using an imaging procedure, the researchers found that the quantity of plaque was 30 percent higher in the alpha-Gal sensitized patients than in the non-sensitized patients. These plaques, a hallmark of atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries), also tended to be more structurally unstable, which means that they have an increased likelihood of causing heart attack

and stroke.

The evidence for a link between red meat allergens and coronary artery disease is still preliminary, the researchers noted, so they plan to conduct detailed animal and human studies to confirm their initial findings. Currently, the only treatment for red meat allergy once it is diagnosed is strict avoidance of red meat.

"While more studies are needed, the current work provides a potential new approach or target for preventing or treating heart disease in a subgroup of people who are sensitized to red meat," said Ahmed Hasan, M.D., Ph.D., a medical officer and program director in NHLBI's Atherothrombosis & Coronary Artery Disease Branch.

For now, consumers are encouraged to follow current recommendations for a heart-healthy lifestyle. This includes adapting a healthy diet, such as eating plenty of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and other heart-healthy foods. Lean red meats can be part of a heart healthy diet for those who are not allergic. Other heart-healthy lifestyle changes also include aiming for a healthy weight, managing stress, getting more exercise, and quitting smoking.

In addition to funding from NHLBI, this study was also funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). NIH funding support includes the following grants: (K08-AI085190, K23-HL093118, RO1-AI 20565, PO1-HL55798, RO1-HL136098-01, RO1-HL107490)

Part of the National Institutes of Health, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) plans, conducts, and supports research related to the causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart, blood vessel, lung, and blood diseases; and sleep disorders. The Institute also administers national health education campaigns on women and heart disease, healthy weight for children, and other topics. NHLBI press releases and other materials are available online at <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov>.

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COLUMNS



THIS, OUR VALLEY:

By Reverend Keith Axberg



“Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip.”
Will Rogers

In the Bible, we are called to be truthful. I have always found it interesting that the commandment addressing honesty is couched in the negative: “Thou shalt not bear false witness.”

Why not put a positive spin on it? Why not say, “Thou shalt bear true witness?”

Perhaps it is this focus on negatives – the THOU SHALT NOTs – that causes some people to see religion in a negative light – seeing religion as a culture of NOTs.

Thou shalt NOT bear false witness; thou shalt NOT have any other gods before me; thou shalt NOT covet thy neighbor’s wife, livestock, or other precious commodities; etc.

It is the NOTs, I suspect, that gets us all knotted up, and yet it

seems to me that there is a value in the negatives. Is it the “nots” that make us “naughty?”

Many of us go through life thinking of ourselves as honest men and women. When the clerk at the store gives us back too much change, most of us will point it out and correct them. There are those who don’t, of course. Some will rationalize their dishonesty and their misbehavior – blaming the stores for short-changing them in the past, or making too high a profit, or more than able to “eat” the mistake. But a lie is a lie, and theft is theft, and a mistake should be corrected whenever possible.

For the most part, most of us are honest and will do the right thing if we notice an error, whether the mistake is in our favor or not. We “do unto others as we would have others do unto us.” That’s the Golden Rule; it is known and expressed in any

number of world religions and philosophies; and it is a rule that makes our world a better place to live when practiced.

Ironically, it is our basic honesty that often blinds us to the complete truth about ourselves. We are basically good (and I really do believe that), but in our very goodness arises a certain complacency about our true condition. We are good, but not perfect. Our motives may be good, but our results are sometimes flawed.

A while back I was driving out along Ennis Lake and saw a woman walking her bicycle on the gravel road. I slowed down and asked if she needed help (thinking she might have a flat tire or some other issue). She assured me she was fine, so I continued on my way.

Now, I would love to say I offered help out of the complete goodness of my heart, but the

fact is the parable of the Good Samaritan was the listed reading for the upcoming Sunday, and I did NOT want to be identified as the “priest who passed by on the other side.” I genuinely wanted to help (if needed), but I was also protecting my fragile ego!

Isaiah tells us that all our righteousness is as filthy rags when compared to God. Is it possible that we are content to think of ourselves as good, rest on our laurels, and not dig deeper out of fear of what we will find?

Is it possible that the commandments are put in the negative form precisely because our temptation is to bear false witness? Not just about what we have seen or heard, but in what we have done or thought in the secrecy of our own heart?

Jesus said, “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.”

It is often out of fear and

shame that we hide the truth from our friends, our neighbors, and ourselves, but there is no hiding the truth from God. Further, I have learned over the years that being honest with our friends (at least with those who are trustworthy) – removing the masks of hypocrisy we wear – allows us the freedom to be more honest, and greater opportunity to be the kind of people that put a smile on God’s face.

To be human is to be flawed. True. But we are loved by God, just the same – and called to love one another, quirks and all.

That’s the truth – at least as I see it here in this, God’s valley.

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

COMMODITY INSITE: My top three trading rules

BY JERRY WELCH

The June USDA grain report released earlier in the week was bullish and following the release of the data producers across the nation heaved a sigh of relief. It was feared by many that the report would be bearish and send grain prices lower. In the month leading up to the report, soybean prices slipped more than \$1 a bushel, corn dropped \$.45 and wheat values were off \$.52. The June report was positive for grains plain and simple.

The report showed a greater than expected decline in ending stocks of wheat, corn and soybeans, something not seen in some time. Historically, for any commodity and in particular grains to embark on a significant and sustainable rally, supplies or stocks have to be in a downtrend. It is a downtrend with stocks that eventually leads to an uptrend with prices.

However, grains still face stiff headwinds moving forward regardless of the June report. The main headwind is the trade war with China. Another is an old saying from long ago. “A corn crop is made or broken in July and a soybean crop in August.” In other words, Mother Nature with her whims and ways can turn the grains into a rip roaring bull market if the weather is not perfect this growing season. Or, She can bless the U.S grain belt with ideal weather which in the

process will cause ending supplies to swell and prices soften. Or, remain flat.

And the final headwind the grain complex will face is the USDA report at the end of the month that will peg final acres for all major crops. There is a growing conviction that soybean acres will be larger than expectations and corn acres less than expectations. If so, corn prices may fare better into the Fall harvest than soybeans.

The scenario of grain prices dropping sharply into the early June USDA report but still facing headwinds reminds me of a chapter from “Haunted By Markets” entitled, “The Sage of Cooperstown.” from June 24, 2011. Here are the first several paragraphs from that chapter.

“Earlier in the week, I received a letter heaped with criticism as well as praise regarding my weekly newspaper column. Happily, the praise far outweighed the disapproval and consequently, the letter made my day so to speak. Unfortunately, it was sent anonymously so I could not respond and thank the sender. Then I remembered what Yogi Berra, the Sage of Cooperstown and perhaps the most quoted personality of our time once said. Never answer an anonymous letter. I willingly took his advice.

“After following Yogis’ recommendation, I got to thinking that just maybe I should heed

his words of wisdom more often. After all, each week I try to make sense about what is taking place with the Big Four: stocks, bonds, currencies and commodities. Keeping a close eye on the markets and offering forecasts that are more right than wrong is not an easy task. I focus closely on details hoping to get the job done right. I take pride following Yogis advice knowing he once said, “you can observe a lot by watching.”

“Two big events, well worth watching loom large. One is the June 30 stocks and acreage report and the other is the pesky high pressure ridge that has been lingering in the Midwest for the past few weeks. Either event has the potential to be an enormous market mover in its own right.

“The upcoming stocks and acreage report should show a historic draw-down in ending supplies of corn and possibly far less corn acres seeded due to excessive flooding across the U.S. A drop in corn supplies coupled with less than expected acres could be a potent, one-two punch in the gut of American agricultural producers. If the report is as bullish as I expect, the ag-landscape in the future will look far different than in past years. Or, as Yogi once observed, The future ‘ain’t what it used to be.”

Yogi was right that the future, “ain’t what it used to be.” But the past tends to repeat itself and

actually be, what it used to be. “Haunted By Markets” is the only book of which I know where the history or the past of the Big Four; stocks, bonds, currencies and commodities can be considered a bonafide textbook. It touches on the years 1990 to 2015, is 758 pages long and will keep you busy for several days, learning about history.

In the chapter, The Sage of Cooperstown from “Haunted By Markets” there are a number of other, Yogisms to read and chuckle about. A lot more. However, Yogi once said, “I really didn’t say everything I said.” So take the Yogisms with a grain of salt.

With an important acreage report due soon and the trade war heating up with China, I suggest my three tops trading rules to keep in mind. One, “no one knows for sure when it comes to investing or trading. “ Which means rule two, “always use a stop” makes sense. Rule three, “know your history” speaks for itself because the past tends to repeat itself. And the best place to read and learn about the history of the Big Four in my opinion can be found at www.commodityinsite.com. There is no other book like it. Check it out!

Is Kathleen Williams another Jeannette Rankin?

By Bob Brown

In a minor upset, Montana Democrats have chosen Kathleen Williams to unseat Republican Congressman Greg Gianforte. Maybe in the “year of the woman,” Williams will have greater success than recent Democratic nominees for the same office, Nancy Keenan and Denise Juaneau.

Williams’ triumph in the primary election mirrors the victory, over a century ago, of Republican Jeannette Rankin, so far Montana’s first, last and only woman member of Congress. In Rankin’s case, she faced seven men in the 1916 Republican primary. According to news reports of the time, one of Rankin’s vanquished opponents, Eldon J. Crull, a legislator from Red Lodge, committed suicide by drinking “muriatic acid while sitting on the steps of an undertaking establishment” because “he could not bear the jibe, ‘beaten by a woman.’”

Montana then had two Congressional Representatives, which in 1916 were elected on an at-large basis in the general election. Again, Jeannette Rankin was the only woman in a free-for-all field of four candidates. Placing in the top two, she won a place in history as the first woman elected to Congress.

Rankin was not reelected in 1918, but went on to win election to Congress again in 1940, beating incumbent Congressman Jacob Thorkelson and two other men in the Republican primary. Rankin campaigned as the peace candidate in the 1940 primary and general elections. Her hope was that 1940 would be a year in which women, with natural antiwar sentiments, would turn out in large numbers to elect her. She won, and while there are no data to prove it, Rankin was likely right, at least in her case, that 1940 was a good year for women.

How is Kathleen Williams



Jeannette Rankin speaking from the balcony of the National American Woman Suffrage Association building, Washington, D.C., circa 1917. (MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY)

comparable to Jeannette Rankin? Well, in addition to other qualifications, both prevailed in multi-candidate elections in which they were the only active women candidates. Rankin was

always a “progressive,” and in addition to her pacifism, was a consistent advocate for worker’s rights, and public welfare, especially for women and children.

By her legislative record,

and public statements, Democrat Williams is also progressive, and certainly in these more conservative times, her general election opponent will attack her for that.

While Rankin was virulently castigated for her lone vote against World War II following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, she was never particularly targeted for her progressivism on social and economic issues.

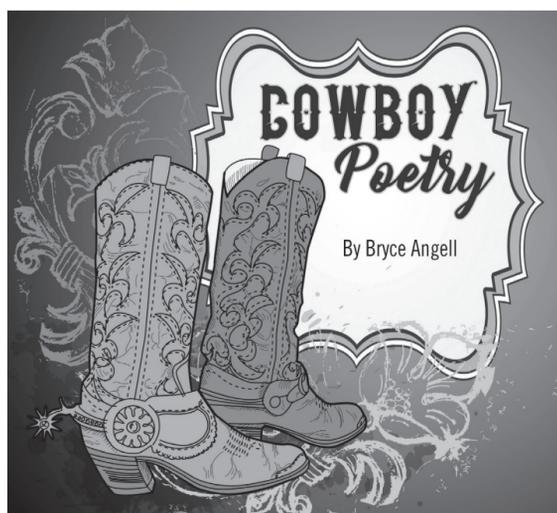
Rankin was always strongly backed by her wealthy and well-connected brother, lawyer and rancher Wellington Rankin. Facing better-financed opponents was never a problem for her. While Kathleen Williams prevailed over slightly better financed opponents in the recent Democratic primary, her general election opponent, Congressman Greg Gianforte, is reputed to be the richest member of the House of Representatives. With a net worth of hundreds of millions of dollars, in addition to connections

to money all over the country, Gianforte will have a clear advantage in campaign cash. Both candidates are from politically strategic Gallatin County.

If he sticks to his job, Gianforte will have the disadvantage of being tied up in Congress for the next few months, while Williams is home personally campaigning for his job. Rankin was a legendarily good campaigner: very smart, energetic, an effective public speaker, and gifted at meeting and engaging people.

I think Williams has the Rankin-like characteristics to win on the ground, and maybe Gianforte’s presumed advantage in buying the airwaves will be matched by a real rising of women. Arching over it all is the unpredictable factor of Trump. This race could tip either way.

Bob Brown is a former MT Secretary of State and State Senate President.



A Saddle Too Far

I’ve always had to stretch my legs when climbing to the saddle. And now my age is telling me, “Each time you’ll have a battle.”

You see I stand at five feet three, a product of my source. So, tell me why I always seem to ride a danged tall horse.

I’ve watched my father ride a horse. His choice was tall as well. He always mounted from the ground, as far as I could tell.

And even though his age has kept him down, but most-

ly sound, he says, “I’ll ride a tall horse till I’m six feet in the ground.”

I’ve used a stump so many times, for sure a rock or two. And now I wonder should I place extensions on each shoe?

I might as well sport high heels. I’d be the laughing stock. I guess I’m not clear thinking ‘cuz those cowboys sure would talk.

Last week I hung a strap down low with a stirrup at the end. So I’d have an extra foothold to climb up and then

descend.

But the strap and extra stirrup snagged a sagebrush, ‘bout midday. I had tied it to the back cinch, tore the strap and cinch away.

My wife said, “Try some yoga. You can learn to stretch a limb.” But hanging out with Rodney Gee, the chance is mighty slim.

I’ve heard that camels kneel to help their riders to the seat. If Pal would learn to bend a knee, that’d sure enough be sweet.

But Pal ain’t gonna kneel on down to help someone get saddled. There ain’t no clear solutions and I’ve never been this rattled!

So once again I find myself back at the drawing board. I’d welcome your ideas that I haven’t yet explored.

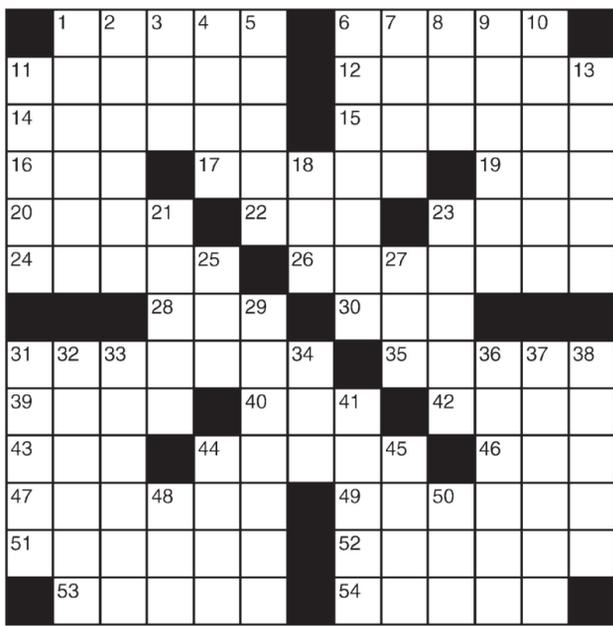
And if you see me leading Pal, well off the beaten track. I’m not walking for the exercise, just can’t climb on his back.

COMICS & PUZZLES

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Talent
- 6 Clinton-era housepet
- 11 Origin
- 12 Consecrate with oil
- 14 Green club
- 15 Say under one's breath
- 16 "Eeewww!"
- 17 Down in the —
- 19 Spell-down
- 20 Actress Perlman
- 22 Zilch
- 23 Stunned sensation
- 24 Bra part
- 26 Floods
- 28 Yon bloke
- 30 Operated
- 31 Poison in a 1939 play
- 35 "Caribbean Queen" singer Billy
- 39 Titleholder's proof
- 40 Apprehend
- 42 Facility
- 43 Sternward
- 44 Went outwith
- 46 Bus bldg.
- 47 Bowling alley border
- 49 Bread spread
- 51 Intertwine



- 52 Earth tones
- 53 Redcaps' workplace
- 54 Jurors, in theory
- DOWN**
- 1 Battled
- 2 Part of MLK Jr.
- 3 Illustrations
- 4 On the rocks
- 5 Same old story?
- 6 Embroidery creation
- 7 Responsibility tower
- 8 Barracks bed
- 9 Knapsack of a sort
- 10 Earn a blessing?
- 11 Boot attachments
- 13 Kilmer poem
- 18 Central
- 21 Oohed and —
- 23 Conical-cap wearer
- 25 Wrestling win
- 27 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
- 29 Mosque
- 31 Saw
- 32 Money back
- 33 Resolve
- 34 Garfield, for one
- 36 Festive spring day
- 37 Michaelmas daisies
- 38 Approaches
- 41 Jazz style
- 44 Art —
- 45 Mussolini title
- 48 Spigot
- 50 Commonest English word

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

We can help!

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

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Give us a call or email to place a classified ad. Placement in The Madisonian also gets you placement online.

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5					2			
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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.



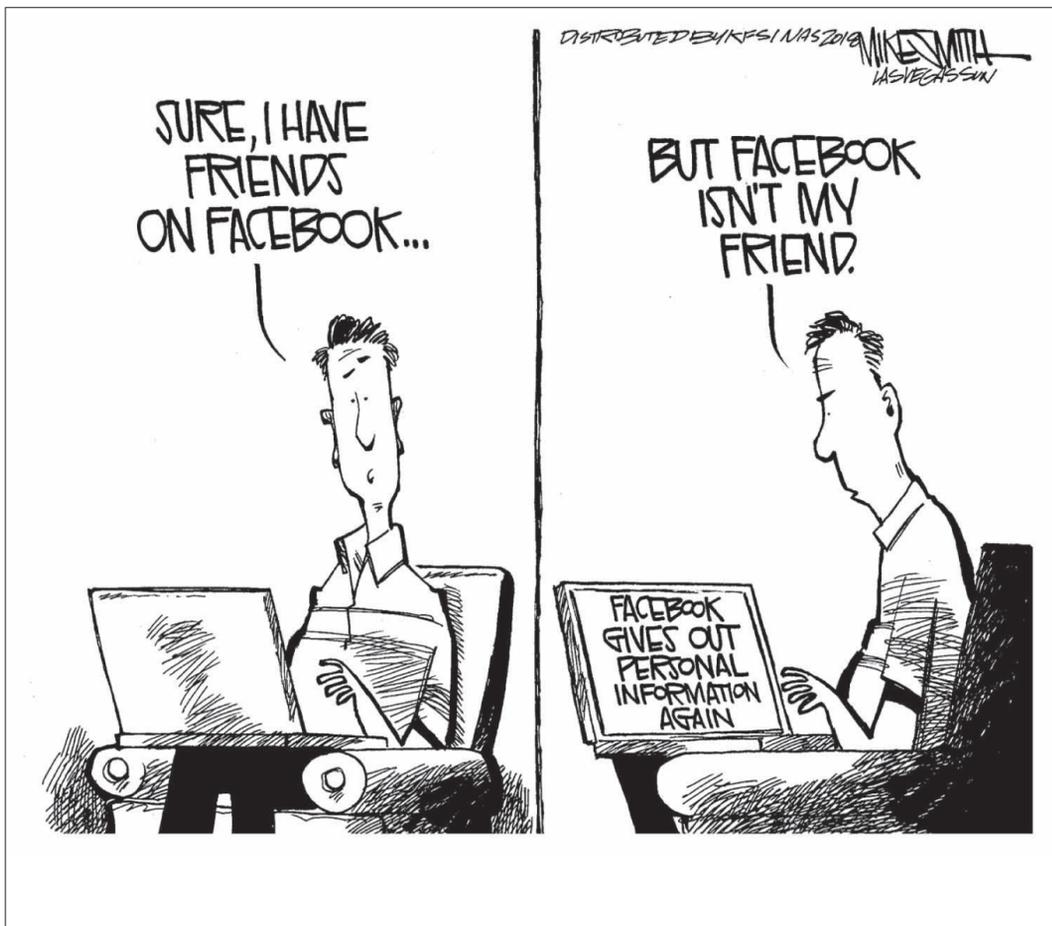
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Editor's Note: Any editorial cartoons printed in our paper do not reflect the opinion of the staff of The Madisonian.



All puzzle answers on B7

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ESTATE SALES



EXECUTIVE ESTATE SALE
 June 21, 22 & 23rd
 Opens at 10 am - 3:00
618 Hummingbird Lane - Butte
 351 WINDSOR V-8 FORD 1956 TRUCK, Sterling Silver, Leather couches, & chairs, dining room set, High kitchen table, small end tables, beds, dressers, Decor items, GUNS, AMMO, OLD COINS AND TOOLS, Patio furniture, office desk, washer/dryer, generator, large corner sectional leather couch/recliner combination. Hand carved Log bench, rototiller, cement mixer, pressure washer, remodeling items, pellet stove, high wheel trimmer, power washer, Dewalt drills. Guitar, flat screen tv, shelving, end tables, coffee table, BBQ, Gun Safe, Riding Mower, Power tools, refrigerators, kennel. TRAVEL TRAILER and so much more!
 SEE PHOTOS AT: www.AbleEstateSales.com
 Mike and Cheryl 842-5251

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 128 Harrison Street
 Harrison, Montana
 Shown by appointment only
 Call 406-244-0156 or 406-682-3304
 12-Imo-b

Estate Sale Supreme
June 22 & 23
The Jeffers Inn
10am to 3pm - both days
Home Décor (of all kinds),
Coffee Table, Mirrors,
Lamps, Kitchen, Clawfoot Solid
Oak Dining Table w/6 chairs,
China, Wine Glasses,
Champagne Glasses, Crystal
and Silver,
Tablecloths, Bedding, Tables,
Desk, Chairs, Rugs,
Outdoor Living / Camping
Gear, Steel Fire Pit w/ BBQ
Topper,
Plant Stands, Antique Fending,
Yard Art, Wedding Décor and
Equipment,
Costumes: 1800's early 1900's,
Hats, Coats, Silk Scarves,
Jewelry, Jewelry Boxes,
Winter Clothes, Cowboy Boots,
Business Wear, Shoes, Belts,
Purses, Candles, Vender Tent,
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Much, Much, Much More!!!
Great Stuff!!!!
Will Go Fast!!!!
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Historic Landmark Home
Tour Upon Request
33-3-b

HELP WANTED

PUBLIC WORKS POSITION OPENING
 The Town of Ennis has a full-time position opening in the Public Works Dpt. The position includes, but is not limited to, work in Water, Sewer, Parks and Streets.
 Applications may be picked up at Ennis Town Hall during normal business hours. Applications and resumes may be dropped off at, or sent to: Ennis Town Hall/ Public Works Dpt., 328 W. Main St., Ennis, MT. 59729.
 Starting wage DOE. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m., June 27, 2018. Questions regarding the position may be directed to Kelly Elser, Director of Public Works, @ 406 682-4287. EEOC 33-2-b

R.L. Winston Rod Co. in Twin Bridges has 2 openings for production personnel for immediate fulfillment. These are both full time positions, Monday thru Friday in our Coating and Repair departments. We offer competitive compensation and a great work environment. Interested parties can contact Joe Begin at 406-684-5674 or pick up an application at the plant. 31-5-b

Help wanted: experienced carpenter to work on construction of new flyfishing lodge in the Madison Valley. Call John at 406-596-1305. 33-1-b

Ennis Schools is seeking Applicants for the following positions for the 2018-2019 school year:

Administrative Office Assistant
 Previous office experience is preferred and must possess good phone etiquette and people skills. 210 day contract with possible summer work in other departments
 5 paid holidays
 \$12.95/hour
 Monday-Friday 8-4p.m.
 Full benefits

Custodian
 260 day contract
 5 paid holidays
 \$12.25/hour
 Monday-Friday during school year 3:30-11:30pm
 Monday-Thursday during summer 7am-5pm
 Full Benefits

Title I Paraprofessional
 Previous experience working with kids is preferred.
 187 day contract
 5 paid holidays
 \$12.25/hour
 Monday-Friday 8-3pm
 Full Benefits

If interested, please contact Superintendent Casey Klasna @ 682-4258. District applications are available at the HS office. *successful applicants are subject to a state and federal background check* 34-2-b

2018-19 TWIN BRIDGES SCHOOLS VACANCIES
 Twin Bridges Public Schools is currently seeking qualified applicants for the following positions for the 2018-19 school year:
CLASSIFIED STAFF:
 0.75 - 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional - Qualified individual will work within the SPED program; as well as the Title I setting K-12 and other areas as necessary.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR:
 Athletic/Activities Director
 Asst. HS Boys' BB Coach
 Head & Asst. HS Girls' BB Coach
 Head & Asst. JH Girls' BB Coach
 Head & Asst. JH Boys' BB Coach
 Head & Asst. JH Football Coach
 Head & Asst. JH Track Coach
 Speech/Drama/Debate Advisor
 Concessions (W/F) Advisor
 Cheer/Pep Club Advisor
 Cheer Advisor & SDD Advisor

TRANSPORTATION:
 ONE (1) Regular Route Driver - The specific job duties for this position will focus on, but not be limited to the following areas: morning and afternoon routes as well as possible activity driving.
 ONE (1) Activity Trip Driver - The specific job duties for this position will focus on, but not be limited to the following areas: primarily all varsity contests that require travel.

SUPPORT STAFF:
 All Substitute Positions
 Please call Mr. Eldon Johnson at the school for further information and to request a district application. (These positions may be combined (example of a paraprofessional and bus driver) to best suit the need of the District and employee. All prepared materials must be sent to the attention of the Superintendent at...
 Twin Bridges Public Schools
 PO Box 419
 Twin Bridges, MT 59754
 32-4-b

Job Opportunity at Madison Laundry and Cleaners!
 We are in need of a route delivery person. Days! No nights or weekends! Stop in for application or call John at 682-4933 or 600-0575
 27-tfc-b

Willie's Distillery is looking for a full time Production Assistant. Learn all processes of distilling from milling, mashing, fermenting, distilling, barreling and cleaning to record keeping, inventory management, warehousing, and more. Must possess sharp attention to detail, be reliable, teachable, and have a strong work ethic. Must have flexible hours including possible early mornings, evening, weekends, or holidays as required. Background in brewing/distilling a plus but not required.
 To Apply: Submit resume and cover letter to info@williesdistillery.com, terry@williesdistillery.com, by mail, or in person.
 33-2-b

Pizza Cook Needed
 Tuesday - Saturday
 2 pm - 9:15 pm
 Alley Bistro - call Derek
 548-4119
 Or stop in
 59 MT Hwy 287, Ennis
 33-1-b

Dental office in Ennis, Montana is seeking a full time receptionist. Duties include answering phones, making appointments, filing insurance and Medicaid claims as well as other general office work. No specific experience required but a friendly, organized and caring personality helpful. Call our office at 682-3310, come by the office at 5 Sunrise Loop #C, Ennis, MT or text/call 579-2911
 32-4-b

Clerk/Bookkeeper:
 The Harrison Water & Sewer District is seeking applicants to fill the clerk/bookkeeper position. Must know Quickbooks and Quickbooks payroll. Will need to use your own computer. Part time position. Please send resume to harrison.sewerboard@gmail.com or call 406-685-3209.
 34-2-b

WANTED

Wanted Timbered Mountain Property
 2-5 Acres, undeveloped electricity not required water options are a must cash money
 Americo 541.915.9089
 33 5-b

Wanted: House to Rent in Ennis or any Madison County area
 Professional, call 480-495-9462.
 33-4-b

FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT
 2 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen, living room, utility room, propane furnace.
 Near school and downtown. Fenced yard, parking. \$825.00 per month with first, last and security deposit. Renter is responsible for utilities. Showing by appointment, 112 Ballard Lane Ennis 682.7466
 34-tfc-B

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. 682-5653
 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

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
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 www.madisonmanagement.com
 22-tfc

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

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 20-3-f

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 4'-6" x 8'-6"
 \$500
 406-200-1364
 33-tfc-f

15 foot aluminum boat. 35 horse Johnson engine and 5.5 Sears engine. A lot of extras. \$1200.
 Call 685-3784
 33-2-f

Beautiful corner oak desk 75.00

2 long handle aluminum fishing nets 10.00 for both

8 ft standard truck bed fiberglass camper shell 50.00

Aspen Pine Cottonwood fire wood 35.00/cord

4 Hancock snow tires 185-70-14 excellent condition 200.00 obo

3 165R75 all season half tread 30.00 for all 3
 Call 970-581-0463
 25-tfc-f

For Sale
 2008 Jeep Wrangler. 6 spd manual. Pro lift kit. 33 inch tires. Runs excellent. 406-842-7737
 29-tfc-b

For Sale
 2007 Harley Davidson 883 Sportster
 Orange/black
 Only 780 miles
 \$5500 OBO
 406-842-7737
 29-tfc-b

For Sale by owner:
 Two bedroom home with guest house, garage, rentable cabins, on half acre, edge of Ennis, beautifully landscaped. 406-579-8411
 34-1-f

LOST & FOUND

CAT FOUND: gray and white, declawed with a short tail. Call David Wood 406-459-6863.

LOST:
 Stihl 311 Chainsaw near golf course in Ennis. Call 581-6192.
REWARD.

BIDS

Sealed bids being taken for 2 Madison County fire apparatus. 1- 1996 Ford F250 Brush Truck. Has a 300-gallon tank with pump and hose. 1- Chevy Suburban Command Vehicle. Has lights and siren, but no radio. All bids considered. Please mail sealed bids to HFVD PO Box 200 Harrison, MT 59735
 33-2-b

ANNOUNCEMENT

Madison Valley Manor 5th Annual Craft Fair: July 6, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bake sale, \$5 lunch, booths available.
Contact Melody (406-682-7271) or Cheri (406-682-5409)
 28-TFC-B

GARAGE/SALES

Big Moving Sale: furniture, exercise/ski/snowmobile equip., MT antiques/collectibles, barn wood, M/S tires, windows/ construction stuff 406-579-8411; 640 Nicole Way. Friday Saturday June 22, 23
 34-1-b

395 Shining Mountains Loop Rd. by the fish hatchery
 Friday and Saturday June 22/23, 9-2
 Lots of stuff, rain or shine!
 34-1-b

206 South Main St., SHERIDAN
 Saturday, June 23rd 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
NO EARLY SALES
 Quality Antique & Vintage Furniture, Mirrors, Picture Frames, Household Items, Tables, Upholstered Couches & Chairs, Oak Clawfoot Dining Table, Chairs, Childrens Toys, Brass Chandeliers, Floor & Table Lamps, Metal beds (perfect for garden), Wicker Chairs, Rocking Chairs, Theater Memorabilia, etc. - Most items in excellent/good condition, some need TLC
 34-1-b

Okay it's time for Gina's first yard/plant/art sale 6/22 and 6/23!
 Friday and Saturday 9am - 4pm
 425 W. Steffens @ Comley in Ennis
 Come Visit :)
 34-1-b

Garage Sale:
 Saturday, June 23 8 am - 2pm
 830 Madison Avenue, Ennis
 Young ladies' clothing, shoes, accessories, miscellaneous household items, full-size bed, desk
 34-1-b

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

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 Low impact/cross lawns
 Also 4x4 tractor/blade/bucket
 Dig for tree planting
 Dig deck supports
 Trench water/sewer/lines
 No job too small!
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 29-tfc-b

Expert Tree Care
 406-683-5592
 406-865-0000
 60' lift truck
 ISA Spring is the ideal removing and pruning time!

AUCTION

AUCTION - SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2018
 Whitehall, MT
 Community Center
 10:30am, DO at 9am
 Combined Estates 100s of Quality Lots! Antiques, Collectibles, Primitives, Toys, Tools, Generator, Toyota Camper Project, Tons of Boxed Lot Surprises!
 (406)684-5181 - Flyer Online
 HAGEDORNAUCTION.COM

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Ad #200
 Real Estate- Northwest Montana - Company owned. Small and large acre parcels. Private. Trees and meadows. National Forest boundaries. Tungstenholdings.com (406) 293-3714

Ad #201
 Northwest Community Health Center (NWCHC) is looking to add a full time Financial Officer to manage and provide oversight in all aspects of finance operations. Full job posting at http://northwestchc.org/jobs/. To apply please submit resume and/or public-sector applications at http://northwestchc.org/jobs/.

Ad #202
 Nuverra is hiring for CDL Class A Truck Drivers. Drivers can earn a \$1500 sign on bonus. To apply call (701) 842-3618, or go online to www.nuverra.com/careers. Nuverra environmental solutions is an equal opportunity employer.

Ad #203
LIVING ESTATE AUCTION. EUREKA, MT JUNE 16, 2018.
 30 (+) FIREARMS SOME HIGHLY COLLECTIBLE. PROFESSIONAL MECHANICS TOOLS, VEHICLES, BF AVERY TRACTOR. www.workmanauktion.com (406) 889-3822.

Ad #204
 Great condition 2011 16x80 single-wide trailer and 2013 16x80 single-wide trailer. Each delivered and set up. (406) 259-4663

Ad #205
 2012-2013 Champion Modular Mobile Homes, 14'x45' 2bedroom, 2bath, most are furnished & appliances, A/C, 2X6 walls. Built for extreme weather! From \$19,900-\$24,900. Call (406) 249-2048

Ad #206
 Authentic Timber Framed Barns. Residential and Commercial Timber Packages. Full Service Design - Build Since 1990, (406) 581 3014 brett@bitterrootgroup.com, www.bitterroottimberframes.com

Ad #207
 Bitterroot 50 Mile Garage Sale. 4th Annual June 29 & 30. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this great event. Sale runs from Lolo to Darby, MT. bitterroot-50milegaragesale.com

Ad #208
 Outdoor Antique Flea Market. Over an acre of antiques and collectibles from many vendors. Sunday, July 8th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Virgelle, off U.S. 87 between Fort Benton and Big Sandy. Sponsored by Virgelle Merc Antiques. Lunch available. 800-426-2926 or VirgelleMontana.com.

Ad #209
 Mueller Estate Sale. www.muellerestate.com Friday, June 22nd, 9a.m. - 4p.m. and 6p.m. - 8p.m., Saturday, June 23rd, 9a.m. - 4p.m., Sunday, June 24th, 9a.m. - 12p.m. 917 W. Watson, Lewistown.

Ad #210
SEEDING EQUIPMENT: Buying Valmar and Gandy applicators used. Call Melissa at Daily Bread Machinery, (320) 679-8483 or (763) 286-9693.

Ad #211
TRIPLE DIGIT PROFITS! Turn Hot Barnyard Manure Into Cold Hard Cash! We pay \$300-\$700 a cubic yard. Exclusive territory details. (406) 230-6343 - Free Report

MADISON COUNTY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Madison Valley Manor, Ennis

- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time;
- Dietary/Aide/Cook-Full-time/Part-time;
- Housekeeping/Laundry-Full-time;
- Resident Aide-Full-time/Part-time-CNA Class/Independent Study Program "paid position" while in class;
- RN-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;
- Resident Aide-Full-time/Part-time-CNA Class/Independent Study Program "paid position" while in class;
- RN-Full-time or Part-time;
- Social Services Director/Designee-Part-time;

Madison County

- Building Maintenance Worker-Virginia City-Full-time;
- Clerk Sheriff's Office-Part-time;
- Communications Officer Sheriff's Office-Part-time;
- Ennis Road Crew-Road and Bridge Technician-Full-time Temporary-12 month Position;
- Twin Bridges/Harrison Road Crew-Road and Bridge Technician-Full-time Temporary-12 month Position.

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

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On October 10, 2018 at 11:00 AM, at the North Entrance, Madison County Court-house, 100 West Wallace, Virginia City, MT 59755, Brigham J. Lundberg, a member of the Montana State Bar, as successor trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, the following described real property situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows:

Lots 15 and 16 in Block 3 of the MIRZA-NORBY ADDITION to the Town of Ennis, Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof filed in Book 2, Page 62 on file and of record in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, Montana. Together with 14 x 70 Vandye Mobile Home. Parcel ID No.: 0026029124; 0026029123 which has the address of 640 Nicole Way, Ennis, MT 59729.

Said sale will be made to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the trust indenture/deed of trust ("Deed of Trust") dated August 11, 2005 and executed by Gail Frances Cole, as grantor ("Grantor"), to Wells Fargo Financial National Bank, as trustee, in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as beneficiary, and recorded on August 29, 2005 as Instrument No. 108371 in Book 540 at Page 366, official records of Madison County, Montana.

Brigham J. Lundberg ("Successor Trustee") is the successor trustee of the Deed of Trust pursuant to an Appointment of Successor Trustee/Substitution of Trustee recorded on January 11, 2018 as Instrument No. 176161, official records of Madison County, Montana. Beneficiary has declared the grantor in default of the terms of the Deed of Trust and the promissory note ("Note") secured by the Deed of Trust because of Grantor's failure to timely pay all monthly installments of principal, interest, and, if applicable, escrow reserves for taxes and/or insurance as required by the Note and Deed of Trust. According to the Beneficiary, the obligation evidenced by the Note is now due for the May 25, 2014 installment payment. As of May 29, 2018, the amount necessary to satisfy this obligation was \$78,210.16. This amount includes the outstanding principal balance of \$74,031.81, plus accrued interest, accrued late charges, accrued escrow installments for insurance and/or taxes (if any), and advances for the protection of the beneficiary's security interest (if any). Due to the default stated above, Beneficiary has elected, and has directed the Successor Trustee, to sell the above-described property to satisfy the obligation.

The sale is a public sale and any person, including the beneficiary, excepting only the trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier's checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed without any representation or warranty, including warranties of title or possession, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale is subject to bankruptcy filing, payoff, reinstatement, or other circumstance that affects the validity of the sale. If the sale is set aside or the trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of funds paid to the successor trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale.

The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to 15 days for any reason, and in the event of a bankruptcy filing or other court-ordered stay, the sale may be postponed by the trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least every 30 days.

The grantor, the successor-in-interest to the grantor, or any other person having an interest in the aforesaid property, at any time prior to the trustee's sale, may pay to the present beneficiary the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and thereby cure the default theretofore existing. This communication is from a debt collector. It is an attempt to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. DATED: 05/30/2018 /S/ Brigham J. Lundberg, Successor Trustee, Successor Trustee, PC 3269 S. Main St., Ste. 100, Salt Lake City, UT 84115 801-263-3400 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Pub. June 7, 14, 21 2018) rsc MNAXLP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BARBARA A. SAUM Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be mailed to SUENRAM & BERGESON, Attorneys for the Personal Representative, P.O. Box 1366, Dillon, Montana 59725, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. DATED this 21st day of May, 2018. /s/ KENT DUGHMAN, Personal Representative Pub. June 7, 14, 21, 2018) sB MNAXLP

NOTICE THAT A TAX DEED MAY BE ISSUED

TO THE FOLLOWING INTERESTED PARTIES (REGARDING THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW) WHOSE CURRENT ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN:

Denise Lynn Labbe; Any Assigns, Successors, Personal Representatives, Heirs, Devisees or Beneficiaries of or to the Above Party; and Any Other Parties Claiming an Interest, Whether Legal or Equitable in the Real Property Described Below. Pursuant to section 15-18-212, Montana Code Annotated, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

1. As a result of a property tax delinquency, a property tax lien exists on the following described real property in which you may have an interest (Madison County Tax Parcel/ID No. 28051000): Madison County Treasurer's Abbreviated Legal Description: SECTION: 24 TOWNSHIP: 06S RANGE: 02E DIAMOND HITCH OF SKI MOONLIGHT, LOT 23, PLAT 4/244 GEOCODE: 25-0425-24-4-01-41-0000 Full Legal Description: LOT 23 OF DIAMOND HITCH OF SKI MOONLIGHT, MADISON COUNTY, MONTANA, A SUBDIVISION OF MOONLIGHT BASIN RANCH LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 244, RECORDS OF MADISON COUNTY, MONTANA.

2. The 2014 property taxes (second half) became delinquent on June 1, 2015.

3. The property tax lien was attached as the result of a tax lien sale held on July 15, 2015.

4. The property tax lien was purchased at a tax lien sale on July 15, 2015, by: Madison County, 103 W. Wallace Street, P.O. Box 247, Virginia City, MT 59755.

5. The lien was subsequently assigned on September 3, 2015, to: Eric Bashore, P.O. Box 80242, Billings, MT 59108.

6. As of June 14, 2018, the amount of tax due is: TAXES: \$9,855.94 PENALTY: \$197.11 INTEREST: \$2,755.18 COST: \$337.10 TOTAL: \$13,145.33 NOTE: Interest continues to accrue at a rate of 5/6 of 1% per month.

7. For the property tax lien to be liquidated, the total amount listed in paragraph 6, plus any subsequent accrued interest, and the applicable \$50 redemption fee charged by Madison County and any other applicable subsequent taxes, penalties, interest and costs due, must be paid by August 20, 2018, which is the date that the redemption period expires or expired.

8. If all taxes, penalties, interest, and costs are not paid to the county treasurer on or prior to August 20, 2018, which is the date the redemption period expires, or on or prior to the date on which the county treasurer will otherwise issue a tax deed, a tax deed may be issued to the purchaser/assignee on the day following the date that the redemption period expires or on the date the county treasurer will otherwise issue a tax deed.

9. The business address and telephone number of the county treasurer who is responsible for issuing the tax deed is: Madison County Treasurer, 103 W. Wallace Street, P.O. Box 247, Virginia City, MT 59755, Telephone: (406) 843-4212.

FURTHER NOTICE FOR THOSE PERSONS LISTED ABOVE WHOSE ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN:

1) The address of the interested party is unknown.

2) The published notice meets the legal requirements for notice of a pending tax deed issuance.

3) The interested party's rights in the property may be in jeopardy. Dated at Ennis, Montana this 14th day of June, 2018.

By: /s/ Eric J. Bashore, P.O. Box 80242, Billings, MT 59108

Pub. June 14, 21, 2018) eb MNAXLP

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST

Deed of Trust: Dated May 23, 2013 Grantors: Ennis Homestead, LLC PO BOX 554 Bellevue, ID 83313-0554 Ennis Homestead, LLC 206 N. 2nd Street Ennis, MT 59729 Ennis Homestead, LLC c/o Reg. Agent Ralph Lapham 206 North Second Street Ennis, MT 59729 Ennis Homestead, LLC c/o Reg. Agent Ralph Lapham PO Box 462 Ennis, MT 59729

Original Trustee: First American Title Company PO BOX 899 Ennis, MT 59729

Original Beneficiary: First Madison Valley Bank PO BOX 307 213 E Main St. Ennis, MT 59829

Successor Trustee: Charles E. Hansberry HANSBERRY & JOURDONNAIS, PLLC 3111 S. Grant Street, Suite B Missoula MT 59801

Date & Place of Recordation: Original recorded 06/03/2013 under Document No. 150909, records of the Clerk & Recorder of Madison County, Virginia City, Montana

The undersigned hereby gives notice that on the 24th day of July, 2018, at the hour of 10:00 am at the front steps of the Madison County Courthouse, 110 West Wallace, Virginia City, Montana, CHARLES E. HANSBERRY, as Successor Trustee under the above-described instrument, in order to satisfy the obligation set forth below, has elected to and will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, lawful money of the United States of America, payable at the time of sale to the Successor Trustee, the interest of the above-named Trustee, Successor Trustee and Grantor, and all of its successors and assigns, without warranty or covenant, express or implied, as to title or possession, in the following described real property:

Lots B-1 and B-2 of the Final Plat of the Lapham Minor Subdivision, located in the S 1/2 of Section 33, Township 5 South, Range 1 West, P.M.M., Madison County, Montana, more particularly shown and described on plat filed in Book 2 of Town Plats, page 262, records of Madison County, Montana.

The defaults for which this foreclosure is made are the failure of the above-named Grantor, and all of their successors and assigns, to pay as agreed upon demand as provided for in the Promissory Note dated May 23, 2013 and the most recent Change in Terms Agreement dated December 23, 2016, the principal balance of Six Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred Thirty-Four and 24/100 Dollars (\$636,934.24), plus accrued interest in the amount of Eighty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Eleven and 88/100 (\$82,711.88), plus default interest from January 30, 2017 to November 15, 2017 in the amount of Twenty Five Thousand Two Hundred Fifteen and 54/100 (\$25,215.54); together with interest which continues to accrue at the rate of Ten and 75/100 percent (10.75%) per annum.

The sum owing on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust as of November 15, 2017, is the principal balance of Six Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred Thirty-Four and 24/100 Dollars (\$636,934.24), plus accrued interest in the amount of Eighty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Eleven and 88/100 (\$82,711.88), plus default interest from January 30, 2017 to November 15, 2017 in the amount of Twenty Five Thousand Two Hundred Fifteen and 54/100 (\$25,215.54); together with interest which continues to accrue at the rate of Ten and 75/100 percent (10.75%) per annum, plus all costs, fees, expenses, attorneys' and trustee's fees as provided by law.

Dated this 26th day of March, 2018. /s/ Charles E. Hansberry Successor Trustee Hansberry & Jourdonnais, PLLC 3111 Grant Street, Ste. B Missoula, MT 59801 STATE OF MONTANA

County of Missoula This instrument was acknowledged before me on the 26th day of March, 2018, by Charles E. Hansberry, Successor Trustee. /s/ Jasmine R. Icenhower Notary Public for the State of Montana Residing in Missoula, Montana My commission expires July 18, 2020 Pub. June 14, 21, 28 2018) hj MNAXLP

NOTICE THAT A TAX DEED MAY BE ISSUED

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT To: First American Title Company First Nat'l Insurance 122 South First Street PO Box 1108

Ennis, MT 59729 Dillon, MT 59725-1108

known Interested Party Resident/Occupant Address Unknown 575 of Lot 9, Block 13, Sheridan

Original Townsite First National Insurance Inc, a corporation Sheridan, MT 59749 PO Box 337 Edith Ruth Ennis, MT 59729 PO Box 126

Ennis, MT 59729 Pursuant to section 15-18-212, Montana Code Annotated, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

1. As a result of a property tax delinquency, a property tax lien exists on the following described real property in which you may have an interest: Parcel Number 7020000 Described in Madison County Treasurers Tax Sale Certificate

Subdiv. -SHR SHERIDAN ORIGINAL TOWNSITE Block- 13 04S 05W 27 SHERIDAN ORIGINAL TOWNSITE, SHERIDAN ORIGINAL TOWNSITE, S 75 OF LT 9 Described in Litigation Guarantee

The South 75 feet of Lot 9 in Block 13, of the Townsite of Sheridan, Madison County, Montana, according to the official amended plat on file and of record in the office of the Madison County Clerk and Recorder. Deed Ref: Book 225, page 432.

2. The property taxes became delinquent on June 2, 2015.

3. The property tax lien was attached as the result of a tax sale held on July 15, 2015.

4. The property tax lien was purchased at a tax sale on July 16, 2015, by Madison County Treasurer, PO Box 247, 103 W Wallace, Virginia City, MT 59755.

5. The property tax lien was subsequently assigned to ZINVEST LLC, P.O. Box 22243, Billings, MT 59104.

6. The amount of interest and costs are as of the date of this notice and will continue to accrue until the date of redemption. The County Treasurer as of the date of payment will calculate total amount that must be paid for redemption. As of the date of this notice, the amount of tax due is: TAXES: \$4916.41 PENALTY: \$98.34 INTEREST: \$987.18 COST: \$691.44 TOTAL: \$6693.37

7. For the property tax lien to be liquidated, the total amount listed in paragraph 6, plus any subsequent interest and costs must be paid by August 27, 2018, which is the date the redemption period expires or expired.

8. If all taxes, penalties, interest, and costs are not paid to the County Treasurer on or prior to August 27, 2018, which is the date the redemption period expires, a tax deed may be issued to the purchaser on the day following the date that the redemption period expires.

9. The business address and telephone number of the County Treasurer who is responsible for issuing the tax deed is: Madison County Treasurer, PO Box 247, 103 W Wallace, Virginia City, MT 59755. (406) 843-4212.

FURTHER NOTICE FOR THOSE UNKNOWN INTERESTED PARTIES OR PERSONS LISTED ABOVE WHOSE ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN:

1. The address of interested party is unknown.

2. The published notice meets the legal requirements for notice of a pending tax deed issuance.

3. The interested party's rights in the property may be in jeopardy. Dated: June 21, 2018 Zinvest LLC - Member Pub. June 21, 28, 2018) zin MNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

MADISON VALLEY STORAGE, ENNIS, MONTANA

On Saturday, July 28, 2018, at 5076 U.S. Highway 287 North, Ennis, Montana, at 10:00 a.m., there shall be a sale of storage unit contents on duly defaulted tenants, and the terms of the sale are:

1. Each individual unit shall be sold in bulk. There shall be no prior previewing. The unit doors will be opened by the Operator, and the attendees will be allowed to enter, but not to move or remove any of the contents.

2. Each unit shall be bid upon by the attendees, and the highest bidder shall be entitled to the entire contents of the storage unit. Cash must be tendered, and the contents must be removed within three (3) days of the date of sale by the winning bidder.

3. Sales are cash only, or certified check. Pub. June 21, 2018) km MNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

Notice is hereby given that the Ruby Valley Conservation District will change the meeting date for its regular first Wednesday of the month meeting to July 11, 2018 at the usual location, the NRCS Conference Room, 402 South Main Street, Sheridan, Montana. Meeting time will be at 7:00 P.M. Shirley Galovic, District Administrator, R.V.C.D. (406) 842-5741 ext. 101. Pub. June 21, 28, 2018) rvcd MNAXLP

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on October 18, 2018, 11:00 AM at the main entrance of 100 Wallace Street, Virginia City, MT 59755, the following described real property situated in Madison County, State of Montana:

Lot 4A as shown and described on the Amended Plat of Lots 4 and 5, Block 3 of Armitage's Deer Meadow Addition to the Town of Ennis, as said Plat is filed in Plat Book 2, Page 142, records of Madison County, Montana.

More commonly known as 833 South 2nd Street, Ennis, MT 59729. Stephen H. Ellis, as Grantor, conveyed said real property to Montana Title and Escrow, Inc., as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Irwin Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, by Deed of Trust on May 1, 2006, and filed for record in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder in Madison County, State of Montana, on May 8, 2006 as Instrument No. 113142, of Official Records.

The Deed of Trust was assigned for value as follows:

Assignee: Deutsche Bank Trust Company

Ennis, MT 59729 Dillon, MT 59725-1108

known Interested Party Resident/Occupant Address Unknown 575 of Lot 9, Block 13, Sheridan

Original Townsite First National Insurance Inc, a corporation Sheridan, MT 59749 PO Box 337 Edith Ruth Ennis, MT 59729 PO Box 126

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The South 75 feet of Lot 9 in Block 13, of the Townsite of Sheridan, Madison County, Montana, according to the official amended plat on file and of record in the office of the Madison County Clerk and Recorder. Deed Ref: Book 225, page 432.

2. The property taxes became delinquent on June 2, 2015.

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5. The property tax lien was subsequently assigned to ZINVEST LLC, P.O. Box 22243, Billings, MT 59104.

6. The amount of interest and costs are as of the date of this notice and will continue to accrue until the date of redemption. The County Treasurer as of the date of payment will calculate total amount that must be paid for redemption. As of the date of this notice, the amount of tax due is: TAXES: \$4916.41 PENALTY: \$98.34 INTEREST: \$987.18 COST: \$691.44 TOTAL: \$6693.37

7. For the property tax lien to be liquidated, the total amount listed in paragraph 6, plus any subsequent interest and costs must be paid by August 27, 2018, which is the date the redemption period expires or expired.

8. If all taxes, penalties, interest, and costs are not paid to the County Treasurer on or prior to August 27, 2018, which is the date the redemption period expires, a tax deed may be issued to the purchaser on the day following the date that the redemption period expires.

9. The business address and telephone number of the County Treasurer who is responsible for issuing the tax deed is: Madison County Treasurer, PO Box 247, 103 W Wallace, Virginia City, MT 59755. (406) 843-4212.

FURTHER NOTICE FOR THOSE UNKNOWN INTERESTED PARTIES OR PERSONS LISTED ABOVE WHOSE ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN:

1. The address of interested party is unknown.

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3. The interested party's rights in the property may be in jeopardy. Dated: June 21, 2018 Zinvest LLC - Member Pub. June 21, 28, 2018) zin MNAXLP

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Anglers Can Help Prevent Aquatic Invasive Species

AIS are plants, animals and pathogens that cause harm to natives

HELENA - Aquatic invasive species (AIS) threaten Montana's waterways and fisheries. AIS are plants, animals and pathogens that are not native to Montana and cause harm to Montana's native plants, animals and fish. AIS populations can reproduce quickly and spread rapidly because there are no natural predators or competitors to keep them in check. Anglers can help prevent the spread of AIS by following

these 3 simple steps:
 Clean. After you're done recreating or fishing in a water body, completely remove all plants, animals, mud, and standing water from your vessel and equipment. Inspect your boat, trailer, and all gear. Pay close attention to crevices and hidden areas. Clean your fishing nets and waders. Felt soled waders stay wet longer and trap micro-organisms to be transported to other waterbodies. Consider using new slip-resistant alternatives to felt soles.
 Drain. Drain or remove water from your boat, bilge, pipes, live-wells, engine, internal compartments, and bait buckets by removing drain plugs before leaving the waterbody. Keep in mind that some organisms are microscopic for at least part of their developing lives. Standing water is particularly worri-

some.
 Dry. Aquatic invaders can only survive in water and wet areas. Drying your watercraft and waders thoroughly, if given enough time, will kill AIS and preserve the health of Montana's lakes and rivers. Putting waders in a freezer for 24 hours can also kill any lingering AIS.
 Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks and our partners have over 30 watercraft inspection stations operating around the state. Watercraft owners must stop at any open inspection station they encounter. Typically, these stops are very brief and include a short series of questions about where the watercraft has been and a quick inspection. Watercraft that must stop comprise of all motorized boats and non-motorized vessels including canoes, kayaks, rafts, drift boats, and personal

pontoons used by anglers. In addition, watercraft must be inspected if:
 • Crossing from east to west over the Continental Divide into the Columbia River Basin
 • Crossing into the Flathead River Basin
 • Entering into Montana from out-of-state
 • Leaving Tiber and Canyon Ferry Reservoir
 These heightened efforts at protecting Montana's waters are in response to the aquatic invasive mussel larvae found in water samples from Tiber Reservoir and a suspect sample from Canyon Ferry Reservoir in the fall of 2016.
 For more information on invasive mussels and locations of inspection and decontamination stations, visit cleandrain-drymt.com or call 406-444-2440.

NOTICE OF PENDING ATTACHMENT OF TAX LIEN

Notice per MCA 7-1-2121 and MCA 15-17-214

Notice is hereby given that if property taxes are not paid by July 30, 2018, Madison County will attach a property tax lien to property on which taxes are delinquent. Delinquent taxes including penalties, interests and costs are a lien upon the property and, unless such are paid prior to this time, the lien will be attached and may be assigned to a third party. Notice is sent certified mail at least two weeks prior to the date of the payment for delinquent taxes to whom the property is assessed. Before assigning the tax lien certificate to a third party, the treasurer is to receive proof of this notice. FAILURE TO PAY YOUR TAXES COULD RESULT IN LOSS OF PROPERTY.

A list of each property and all persons owing taxes for the year 2017 is on file in the County Treasurer's office and is open to the public for inspection.

MCA 15-17-122
 Shelly Burke, Treasurer
 sburke@madisoncountymt.gov
 www.madisoncountymt.gov
 406-843-4212
 Madison County

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
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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

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 MADISON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
 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
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 The Church of Word and Sacrament
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 • Bible Study 10:15 am
 • Sunday School 10:15 am
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 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

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Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m.
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 114 N. Main, Sheridan
 842-5845
 Pastor Duane B. Dethner
 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.

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 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

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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

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

AREA SENIOR MEALS

Ennis Senior Center
 315 W Main Street; Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Reservations 682-4422 To help us plan, please call at least 24 hours in advance for meal delivery or if you plan to dine in.
 - Thursday, June 21 - kielbasa and potatoes, veggies, roll, happy birthday cake.
 - Friday, June 22 - fish tacos, corn & bean salad, dessert, pinochle at 12:45 p.m.
 - Thursday, June 21 – kielbasa, potatoes, veggies, roll, Happy Birthday cake.
 - Friday, June 22 - fish tacos, corn & bean salad, dessert, pinochle at 12:45 p.m.
 - Monday, June 25 - potato bacon chowder, salad, corn bread, dessert, mahjong at 1 p.m.
 - Tuesday, June 26 - bbq beef sandwich, chips and slaw, dessert, play pan at 1 p.m.
 - Wednesday, June 27 - pesto chicken pasta, veggies, dessert, mahjong at 1 p.m.

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

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

Virginia City Café
 Senior meals for Madison County Seniors 60 and over will be served at the Virginia City Café on Tuesday & Thursdays from 11 am to 3 pm for \$4.00.
 Tuesday, May 29 – Cheeseburger, fries, dessert
 Thursday, May 31 – Goulash, veggie and roll, dessert.

Twin Bridges Senior Center
 The Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center provides meals for seniors every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon at the Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center. Meals are for seniors 60 years and up (spouses and caregivers are invited). Donations for meals are appreciated.

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

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 Pastor Tom Luksha

F	L	A	I	R	S	O	C	K	S		
S	O	U	R	C	E	A	N	O	I	N	T
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D	E	P	O	T	P	E	E	R	S		

— **King Crossword** —
 Answers
 Solution time: 25 mins.
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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
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 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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LOG CABIN & BARN ON 20 ACRES
This rustic 2,240 SF cabin includes wood-burning stone FP, large master suite, 2 guest BR, 2.5 BA, large deck, 2-car attached garage + 3-car detached garage/shop/barn with finished living space above. All this on 20 fenced acres, bordering National Forest. Property owners have access to common area fishing access on the Madison River. Seasonal access. 20 Trollhaugen Way, Sundance Bench, Cameron. **\$525,000! MLS# 319830.**



NOT YOUR TYPICAL LOG CABIN - BUT A WORK OF ART!
This custom crafted, beautifully designed & decorated log cabin, on 20 acres with spectacular views, was built with large, hand-peeled logs, beautiful wide-plank wood floors, custom slate floors & solid wood countertops. Top quality throughout. Main level has 1 BR & 1 BA + large sleeping loft & .5 BA, + unfinished daylight basement. 57 Echo Tr, Madison River Ranches, Cameron. **\$575,000. MLS# 321331.**



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Spectacular views and privacy from this rustic, 1,258 SF, 2 BA, 2 BR + loft sleeping area, on 20 wooded acres bordering Nat. Forest. Owners have exclusive use of 31 acres common area along the Madison River. Seasonal access in gated community. 364 Sundance Bench Rd, Cameron. Reduced to **\$529,000. MLS# 220679.**



Don Bowen
ABR, Broker
581-2991
don@eralandmark.com



Toni Bowen
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Community briefs

Celebration Sunday

ENNIS – On Sunday, June 24, Ennis Assembly will hold a “Celebration Sunday” with a free barbeque at “about 12 noon,” following the church service, according to Greg Ledgerwood. The community does not have to come to the church service to participate in the barbeque.

At the barbeque, the church will be hosting a “Dessert Auction,” with all proceeds going to fund trip expenses to El Salvador, where the church has a mission's project. For the last three years, Ennis Assembly has pursued missions projects. This year, the church is raising money to build houses in El Salvador through an organization called Provision International

On May 27 this year, the church raised nearly \$8,000, enough to build five houses. “The people of Ennis Assembly sacrificially saved money for three months to give in this one time offering,” Ledgerwood notes.

The church is planning to send a team of seven people to El Salvador at the end of October to build houses. Each team member is personally responsible to raise a portion of their trip expense, and the barbeque is helping to raise some of their money.

For more information, email Ledgerwood at G_Ledge@msn.com.

Kehler reading

VIRGINIA CITY – The Elling House Arts & Humanities Center will proudly host author Art Kehler at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11.

Kehler, author of more than 200 essays, will be reading from his book, “Hollowtop Smoke Signals”. Kehler writes from his home in the small, rural town of Harrison, Montana. His essays, both humorous and poignant, have been published in regional newspapers and journals, online magazines, and nationally recognized literary magazines. This book of humorous essays

takes you down home to the ‘tri-cities’ of Harrison, Pony and Norris, Montana, (combined populations of 382), and the charms, challenges, and various misadventures of living in such a rustic but beautiful place, nestled on the northeastern fringe of the Tobacco Root Mountains. This compilation of more than 80 humorous anecdotes from real life, poke fun at the wildlife, the residents, the tourists, the weather, and most of all, the author himself.

Ed Totten Art

ENNIS - The community is invited to view eight pieces of Ed Totten's fine art from Monday, June 18 through Saturday, June 23 at the Madison Valley Public Library in a benefit showing to support the Children's library and youth programming.

Confidential bids will be accepted at the li-

brary, with bids will closing at 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 23. A public reception with Ed Totten will occur on Friday, June 22 from 4 - 7 p.m.

A percentage of the proceeds of the benefit art bid show will go directly to support the Children's Library and for youth programming, according to Chris Salstrom.

Hunt roster registration

HELENA - Hunters interested in participating in “game-damage” hunts on private land or possible management seasons this year have from June 15 to July 15 to register online with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

Hunters from this roster may be identified for three types of hunts: game damage, management season and dispersal. The roster is used by FWP to efficiently respond to landowners in the prevention or reduction of damage primarily caused by deer,

elk and antelope.

Prospective hunters can register online at fwp.mt.gov. Click “Hunt Roster.” To register, hunters will need their ALS number.

FWP will conduct a computerized random drawing process that will award placement of all prospective hunters on the rosters. Results will be available by July 20 to hunters through MyFWP.

The hunts, if they occur, can take place between Aug. 15, 2018, and Feb. 15, 2019.

Lions Club change

ENNIS - The Ennis Lions Club phone number for donations has changed: To donate to the Lion's Club ac-

tion, call Mark at 682-5711 or Charlie at 682-5409.

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W Hawker Lane - Ennis - \$229,000
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Salmonfly Lane – McAllister - \$249,000
• 1 +/- acres • 3 bd, 2 ba, 1,430 +/- sq ft • attached 2 car garage • wood flooring, vaulted ceilings • Madison Range views, close to town • mature landscaping



Tobe Road - Ennis - \$324,900
• 5.43 +/- acres • 6 bd, 3 ba, 2,700 +/- sq ft • log home, custom woodwork, mountain views • open floor plan, vaulted ceilings • close to golf, fishing, hunting • large garage, fenced for horses



Rainbow Loop Road - McAllister - \$339,900
• 2 +/- acres • 3 bd, 2 ba, 1,810 +/- sq ft • attached and insulated 2 car garage • new flooring, updated appliances • massive mountain views, 2 lots • horse allowed, close to town



Cedar Court (Golf Course) - Ennis - \$339,000
• .526 +/- acres • 4bd, 3ba, 2,233 +/- sq ft • well maintained, wrap around decks • community water system, new furnace, new a/c • mature trees, massive mountain views • open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, 3 car garage



Tobe Road- Ennis - \$359,000
• 6.01 +/- acres • 2 houses on one property • 1 house - 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath • 1 house - 3 bedroom, 2 bath • 3 - 2 car attached garages • views of the Madison Mountain Range



Obsidian Trail - Cameron - \$375,000
• 20.15 +/- acres • 3 bd, 2 ba, 1,568 +/- sq ft • 20.15 +/- acres • recycled barn wood ranch style, 360° views • wrap around porch to enjoy mountain views • walk to Madison River, abundant wildlife • off grid efficient 120 volt power system



Madison Drive (Golf Course) – Ennis - \$465,000
• .502 +/- acres • 4 bd, 3 ba, 2,826 +/- sq ft • upgrades and remodeled throughout • community water system, additional heated shop • mature trees, sprinkler system, breathtaking views • wide open floor plan, large master w/office

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Sage grouse numbers show another decline in lek counts

JOHN D. TAYLOR
 editor@madisoniannews.com

RUBY VALLEY - According to Montana Fish, Wildlife (FWP) and Parks Region 3 Biologist Dean Waltee, of Sheridan, sage grouse lek numbers are again falling – but there might be good reasons for the decline in what those surveying the bird's numbers witnessed during spring counts.

Waltee shared the results of this spring's sage grouse trend surveys recently.

The survey

From late March through early May of this year, Waltee, other FWP biologists, some volunteers and staff members from several federal agencies – Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Forest Service (USFS), US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service – completed their annual sage grouse trend surveys by counting the number of male sage grouse on their leks.

Leks are breeding ground display areas, where male sage grouse fan out their plumage, strut and “boom” – inflate a sac in the breast that makes a booming or plopping sound. The idea is to attract female sage grouse.

Leks are typically open meadows or low sagebrush with 40-square-foot openings where the males displays can be seen by the females.

“Completing these surveys is no small task,” Waltee noted, something that FWP biologists couldn't do on their own. It involves being on the lek grounds before dawn, and counting bird numbers. “I cannot thank folks enough for the 3 a.m. starts they put in to complete these surveys.”

To monitor population trends, FWP annually surveys 21 leks and lek complexes (multiple groups of males displaying in close proximity to one another) distributed across southwest Montana – with a number of leks in the Ruby Valley.

Waltee notes that 20 leks are located within “identified core habitat.” This is defined as “suitable habitat,” identified by using GIS

vegetation layers, and using sage grouse population information from the 2000 – 2010 decade, monitoring areas that held about three-quarters of the known breeding population of sage grouse at that time. One lek was outside the core area. Each lek was surveyed more than three times – unless snowdrifts or bad weather prevented surveying.

FWP also monitors another 47 known leks across Beaverhead and Madison counties at least once.

Leks need to be occupied by at least two males for two consecutive years before they are officially recognized as leks.

The results

During 2018 surveys, 476 male sage grouse were seen on the 21 monitored leks. This figure is a 13 percent decline, compared to 2017 numbers of 548. It is also down 16 percent decline from the 5-year (2012-2017) average of 565 birds.

On the 21 leks, more males were counted on five leks, the same number of males were seen on two leks, and the number of males observed on 14 leks decreased, compared to 2017 numbers.

Waltee points out that the relatively short 5-year trend is the product of incomplete annual survey histories of several leks prior to 2012.

Waltee also noted that FWP has monitored the combined numbers of male sage grouse seen on Basin Creek, Reservoir Creek No. 1 and Ermont Mine/Hilltop Complex leks. Each of these leks has been surveyed consistently since 1964.

On these leks, bird numbers were also down. In 2018, 128 males were seen, compared to 143 last year, a 10 percent decline, yet 8 percent above the long-term average of 119.

At least one new, prospective lek was identified in Horse Prairie this year. This site will be monitored in 2019. Another lek in Medicine Lodge moved about a mile from the traditional site.

One problem that may have skewed sage grouse counts this year was weather.

“This year was a difficult survey year because of weather conditions,” he notes. “Routine measurable snow accumulation and persistent winter



A male sage grouse displaying on a lek (MONTANA FWP).

snowpack made some leks difficult to reach until late April or early May,” potentially skewing the numbers.

This, coupled with a relatively cold April, may have interrupted sage grouse breeding activity.

“Both factors could have influenced the number of birds observed. Continued annual monitoring will provide a better understanding of this.”

Conclusions

Combining lek counts with other information gathered by FWP and other agencies, Waltee concludes that the observed decline in bird numbers 2017-2018 was not the result of poor production of young grouse in 2017.

Using wings collected from sage grouse hunters during the fall of 2017, FWP documented a young of the year bird to adult bird ratio of 157 young: 100 adults. This is up 28 percent from the 123-bird long term average, Waltee says.

“Annual production of sage-grouse can be influenced by a number of factors including annual weather conditions during the nesting and brood-rearing seasons, annual habitat conditions, and predation of nests and broods.”

FWP will again be collecting wings from hunters this fall.

Habitat is key

Habitat management efforts to help sage grouse are also taking place, Waltee noted.

Biologists believe that low-den-

sity conifer canopies of greater than 5 percent in sage grouse habitat can reduce bird numbers.

Waltee says there are many thousands of acres of sage grouse habitat across southwestern Montana that have too many conifers.

Waltee and FWP Dillon wildlife biologist Craig Fager are working with federal agencies to identify and begin projects to reduce conifers in these areas.

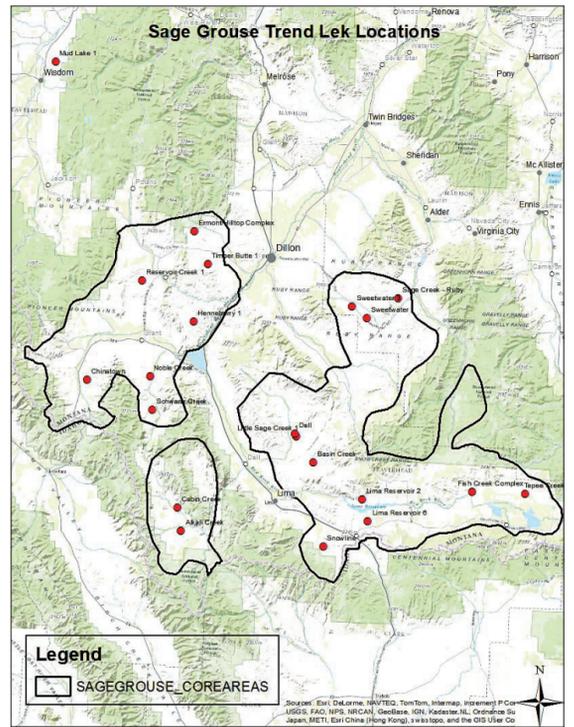
For example, between 2016 and 2017, NRCS helped remove conifers on about 1,200 acres of sage grouse habitat on the top of the Virginia City Hill, and BLM plans to remove conifers from another 45 acres adjoining this ground through their South Tobacco Root Watershed Assessment.

Other projects include:

BLM will begin cutting 300 acres of scattered conifers on both sides of Badger Pass this summer; a USFWS Partners program will add more acreage on the Harrington Ranch and FWP will remove scattered Douglas fir and junipers from the Ermont Lek complex to create a larger landscape level impact.

FWP removed scattered conifers from approximately 280 acres of sage-grouse habitat on the Blacktail WMA in 2017. This effort will continue on both the Blacktail and Robb-Ledford WMAs in 2018.

BLM and Snowcrest Ranch are collaborating on a conifer removal project on several hundred acres of sagebrush grassland along the west



slope of the Greenhorn Mountains

The Nature Conservancy and partners will do a large-scale conifer removal project in the Medicine Lodge, in cooperation with the Hansen Ranch.

FWP completed approximately 100 acres of conifer removal in Lost Creek in 2017 and is continuing this project in 2018, in cooperation with Smith 6-S Ranch.

DNRC and Snowline Grazing Association are planning a similar project along Shineberger Creek in 2018.

Volunteers are needed for many of these efforts. Call Waltee at 842-7407 if you'd like to help.

Grouse future

“I believe the future of sage-grouse across southwest Montana will be most influenced by how their habitat (sagebrush grassland) is managed,” Waltee said. “The future health of all wildlife species across southwest Montana will be driven by habitat quality and quantity.”

If people can commit to main-

tain large areas of sagebrush grassland functionally connected to one another, sage grouse can sustain themselves for the foreseeable future, Waltee continued. The lack of fires – a natural function on sagebrush grasslands – and mechanical tree removal has created tens of thousands of acres of conifer-dominated forests during the past several decades, not good for grouse.

“Maintaining or expanding sage grouse habitat in the future is going to require a thoughtful approach to address this habitat change,” he said, likely involving prescribed fire; Yet using fire will become more challenging as invasive plants like spotted knapweed and brome grass continue to spread.

Also, people continue to fragment sage grouse habitat through conifer forest and non-native plant expansion, houses, roads, power-line development, or converting native rangeland to agriculture, sage-grouse will show long-term declines, he said.

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**THURSDAY
JUNE 21**

*Summer Reading:
Libraries Rock!
Virginia City*

Join us for Summer Reading 2018—this week's theme is "Instrument Families." Tuesdays for babies through pre-kindergarten

and Thursdays for elementary age students. 10:30 a.m. and Thompson-Hickman Library.

*Brewery Follies
for the Virginia City
Fire Department,
Virginia City*

The Brewery Follies always

hilariously funny show is generously donating the evening's proceeds to the Virginia City Fire Department. A not-to-miss show! 8 p.m., 200 E. Cover St.

**FRIDAY
JUNE 22**

*Growing Old Men
EHAHC, Virginia City*

The Elling House Arts and Humanities Center presents "Growing Old Men" in concert. Ben Winship on mandolin and vocals and John Lowell on guitar and vocals are both veterans of the Northern Rockies acoustic music world. Together they present a tight yet relaxed set of original and traditional bluegrass songs. Tickets are \$15, at the door or reserved in advance by calling 406-843-5454. 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 23**

*Wayne Brothers,
Virginia City*

Playing everybody's country and classic rock favorites. 9:30 p.m. at the Bale of Hay Saloon.

**SUNDAY
JUNE 24**

*Pony Trot,
Pony*

The Pony Trot races are a bit hilly but have stunning views on dirt roads around Pony. The 5K is out and back and the 10K is a loop. Starting elevation for both races is 5400 with the 10K peaking around 6300. Unique awards for each top age group finisher and overall winners. Snacks and treats at the finish! All proceeds go to the preservation and promotion of historic Pony. Registration is \$25 pre-race or \$30 day of. Both races start at 8 a.m.

*Community Potluck,
Sheridan*

Jackson's Garden is hosting a community potluck. Bring a dish to share and see what's growing in the garden! Two miles east on Mill Creek Road, 5:30 p.m.

about off-grid living in Montana. Borton will share his 20 years of experiences and technical expertise on what it's like to be self-sufficient and unplugged from the power grid. 12 p.m., 17 W. Quartz Street.

**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 27**

*Brown Bag Lunch with Chris
Borton, Butte*

Ever wonder what "off-grid" living really means? The Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives will continue its Brown Bag Lunch Series with a presentation by Christopher Borton

Fish, Wildlife and Parks Lecture

Come hear FWP Disease Ecologist Emily Almborg talk about the dangers of Chronic Wasting Disease and the threat it poses to wildlife. 7 p.m. at the Cliff Lake Schoolhouse.

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Students in elementary through high school can experience a week long fun filled adventure with God at Clark Canyon Bible Camp.

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Biblical Leadership Training - 7th-12th grade - July 16-21 - \$125
Canoe Camp - 9th-12th grade - July 23-28 - \$150

Visit www.clarkcanyonbiblecamp.org for more details and to register.

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NEW HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. • Saturdays 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
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EVENINGS: ADULTS \$8 • CHILDREN (12 & UNDER) \$6 SHOW TIME AT 7:15 PM, BOX OFFICE OPENS AT 6:30 PM

NOW PLAYING:
ADRIFT PG-13

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

COMING SOON:
 Ocean's 8 (PG-13), Incredibles 2 (PG), Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (PG-13)

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

BLUE MOON SALOON
 Cameron, Montana

LIVE MUSIC
MONTANA ROSE
 June 23 • 8:00pm

3793 US Hwy 287 N
 Cameron, MT | 682-4555

WILLIE'S DISTILLERY
 ENNIS, MONTANA

WILLIE'S DISTILLERY UPCOMING EVENTS:
 312 E MAIN STREET, ENNIS 406-682-4117
 WWW.WILLIESDISTILLERY.COM

LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY 5:30 - 7:30 PM
 COME JOIN THE FUN, LISTEN TO SOME GREAT MUSIC AND ENJOY SPIRITS WITH A WESTERN FLAVOR!!

FRIDAY JUNE 22ND: CHAD BALL
 SUNDAY, JUNE 24TH: TOM SUSANJ
 FRIDAY JUNE 29TH: JERYD RICHMAN
 SUNDAY, JULY 1ST: LEFT FOR DEAD
 FRIDAY, JULY 6TH: ANNALISA ROSE
 SUNDAY JULY 8TH: STEVE ROSE
 FRIDAY, JULY 13TH: FAN MOUNTAIN FROG DOGS

ASK ABOUT OUR WEEKLY BOTTLING PARTIES

Bozeman Saddle Outlet
 BozemanSaddleOutlet.com

All Major Brands ~ Best Prices ~ Saddles ~ Tack
 Pack Equipment ~ 200 Saddles ~ In Stock, New & Used,
 along with all the Matching Tack

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

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

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

406-586-8225 (TACK)
 bzmsaddleoutlet@guestoffice.net
 Cid Klebenow, Manager
WE SHIP!

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

KnitNite, Ennis
 Meets at Right Angles Framing and Gallery from 5-7 p.m. the first and third Monday of the month.

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 2p.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

FRIDAYS

Tennis, Ennis
 9 a.m. til 2p.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 Saturday, May - Sept.

Get Results.

TS

advertise in
 The Madisonian
 406-682-7755

WE'RE HIRING!

MVM
 Madison Valley Manor

Housekeeper/Laundry Aide - Full-time/Part-time
Dietary Aide/Cook - Full-time/ Part-time
Certified Nursing Assistants - 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

NORRIS HOT SPRINGS

SPRING/SUMMER HOURS: OPEN WED-MON 10AM - 10PM | CLOSED TUES ONLY

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Fri 6/22 Sean Eamon
 Americana/Alt Country

Sat 6/23 Charlie Denison
 Blues/Roots

Sun 6/24 Christy Hays
 Desert Country

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