



The Madisonian.

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

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FIGHTING FOR SPACE

FWP introduces draft Madison River recreation management plan regulating commercial use

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Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks released a draft recreation plan last week that would limit commercial outfitter use on the Madison River. The plan addresses the river from the outlet of Quake Lake to its confluence with the Jefferson River near Three Forks. The plan, as is, would cap the number of commercial outfitters and limit their number of guided trips per day. The proposal comes as a response to public input indicating a "decline in user experience" specific to overcrowding on both the Madison River and at access points, according to a Montana FWP release.

While the plan is most restrictive to commercial anglers, including prohibiting commercial use on the lowest stretch of river, Greycliff Fishing Access Site to the Jefferson River, the plan also looks to ban glass containers. "It is intended to improve the recreational experience for all users by reducing crowding and social conflicts," stated the release.

"As such, it is strictly a recreation management plan, not a resource management plan."

While the plan is still in its early stages, the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission will review and determine whether or not to open up public comment. That meeting is set for April 19 in Helena.



Outfitter and Tackle Shop owner John Way said the Madison River Recreation proposal needed to take a holistic approach to solve crowding on the river. "Commercial outfitting only makes up 20 percent of the river users," Way said. (C. AVEY PHOTO)

The current proposal caps the number of commercial outfitters at 213, which was the 2017 number of active permit holders. Outfitters would be limited in number of trips per day, roughly 10 per day from June 16 through Sept. 30. Only five trips per day would be allowed Jan. 1 through June 15, and Oct. 1 through Dec. 31. FWP said these figures were based off numbers of trips from past years, which few outfitters exceeded.

The tentative plan also sections off the river into seven reaches, closing each section to commercial outfitters one day a week. FWP stated their data showed an increase of overall recreational use by 15 percent every two years, adding commercial use was up 72 percent since 2008.

Montana FWP Region Three Fisheries Manager Travis Horton said the current proposal leaves the potential for 1.5 million commercial trips.

"It's just a proposal, it doesn't mean it's what's going to happen," said Horton, referring to the outfitter cap. "Data from 2016-2017 identify stretches of the river that puts a total number of trips

per day per commercial permittee, but 98 percent were below that already."

John Way, owner of the Tackle Shop in downtown Ennis, has been in the guide game since

he was 19 years old, earning his **SPACE continued on A2**



Wind and rain did not deter anglers from hitting the Madison River on April 14. (C. AVEY PHOTO)

Spring?



Brad Bullock took this picture of spring time in Ennis on his way into town last Friday. Mother Nature worked her wonders and melted the outline of the horse to provide a really great photo op. (PHOTO COURTESY BRAD BULLOCK)

STEWARDSHIP AWARDEES

Gilman to receive Ruby Valley stewardship award

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A community-minded Alder rancher is the 2018 Ruby Valley Conservation District Stewardship Awardee. Les Gilman will receive the award during an awards banquet at the Round Barn in Twin Bridges on Saturday.

"I'm humbled and delighted that the selection committee and the nominators considered me for it," said Gilman.

Gilman runs a family ranch near Alder and also manages several other ranches. "I think the challenge of operating a family ranch is always

economic sustainability," he said. "But to accomplish economic sustainability over a long term - it's been 109 years we've been involved - it takes the efforts or more than just the operator. The efforts of my predecessors on the ranch kind of set standards, by which we would operate that ranch, with the idea that it would have long-term viability; and then working with organizations like the Natural Resource Conservation Service to get the expertise to do the natural resource-related work to ensure that economic viability, would be a couple examples.

"Of course, the real challenge is that economic viability - doing what

you can with what you have to try to improve it and/or sustain it, but not get yourself into an economic challenges or difficulty."

The award winner encouraged fellow ranchers to learn from each other. "Spend the time - time is always a short commodity when you're ranching because there's always some work to do - but take the time to consult with or at least observe what's going on on neighboring properties, where some innovations or practices that result in a higher level of production are happening, or changes in the way that things are

RV STEWARD continued on A3

Norris ranchers win MCD stewardship award

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The Madison Conservation District has selected Jerry and Jolene Brush and the Jackson Family Ranch as the winners of the 2018 MVCD Stewardship Award. The Brushes will accept the award during a banquet at the Round Barn in Twin Bridges on Saturday.

Brett Owens nominated the Brushes for the award, writing, "This hardworking, innovative, and involved couple operates a combined cattle and foundation seed operation west of Norris, Montana.

"According to the Montana Stockgrowers Association, their cattle carry one of the oldest family-run brands in the state. Because of changing land ownership, they've had to consolidate their grazing and haying operations to adjust the resultant loss of lease ground. Although their grazing acres have decreased, Jerry and Jolene have expertly maintained or improved the native pastures through a carefully monitored rotational grazing cycle for their cattle. They have also greatly improved their hayfields by systematically revamping and

redoing their old alfalfa fields, increasing yields from 1-2 tons per acre on their flood irrigated fields. Scheduling replanting based on their best estimate of available water; they were able to replant their fields effectively and thus prevent excessive wind and soil erosion. They also increased their use of hay pastures winter grazing to improve the soil organic matter and reduce fertilizer requirements for those soils.

"Jerry and Jolene work

MC STEWARD continued on A2

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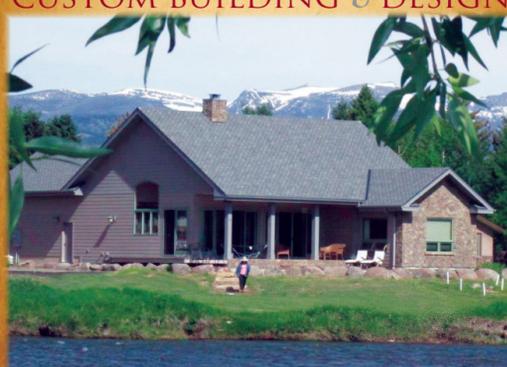
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SPACE cont. from A1

outfitter license when he was 24. Way, who served on the Madison River Citizen Advisory Committee, said FWP did nothing with the plan MCAC originally submitted, adding there has been no movement in regard to the MCAC's recommendations. Way said his main problem with the current plan is a lack of definition. "They haven't truly defined what the problem is so they're making stabs at solving it without having truly defined the problem, and that's always dangerous," he said. Crediting the FWP, Way said he understood this was a first draft and was sure the proposal would change dramatically before implementation.

If overcrowding on the Madison River is the problem, Way said this proposal only addresses a small percentage of the issue. "If we all decided that the Madison is overcrowded,

and I'm not decided that it is, but if we come to the conclusion that there is too much angling pressure overall, basin wide, from Yellowstone National Park on down to Three Forks, then this plan does not solve that problem." With the current plan only regulating commercial use, Way said FWP is not regulating the majority of users. "They're taking the low hanging fruit; it's easy to limit outfitters," said Way.

Horton said crowding is a definite problem on the river and most complaints the agency gets is the level of commercial use and boats in walk/wade sections of the river. "Recreational conflicts on the Madison go back to 1954," he said.

Similar rivers around the area have management plans and restrictions in place, which some believe to be the cause of more populated use on the Madison. "The data

they're looking at is from 2016-2017 and what happened those years?" asked Way. "The Yellowstone was closed down because of the fish kill which displaced a lot of traffic, both those years the Big Hole was closed because of low water and the Beaverhead had murky water because the reservoir was low. The Madison was the only game in southwest Montana for the last two years."

Horton said the Madison River Recreation Plan is similar in some ways to the Big Hole and Beaverhead but said there are some big differences. "One difference on the Big Hole, and this accounts for the Bitterroot, is the allocated days to outfitters and that was based on three years of use," he said. "Another difference on both the Big Hole and the Beaverhead, they both have citizen days where nonresidents can't use reaches of the river on certain days. We're not proposing that." Horton said this

proposal is the beginning of the public process and that FWP in no way is headed toward a situation like the Smith River where all use is regulated.

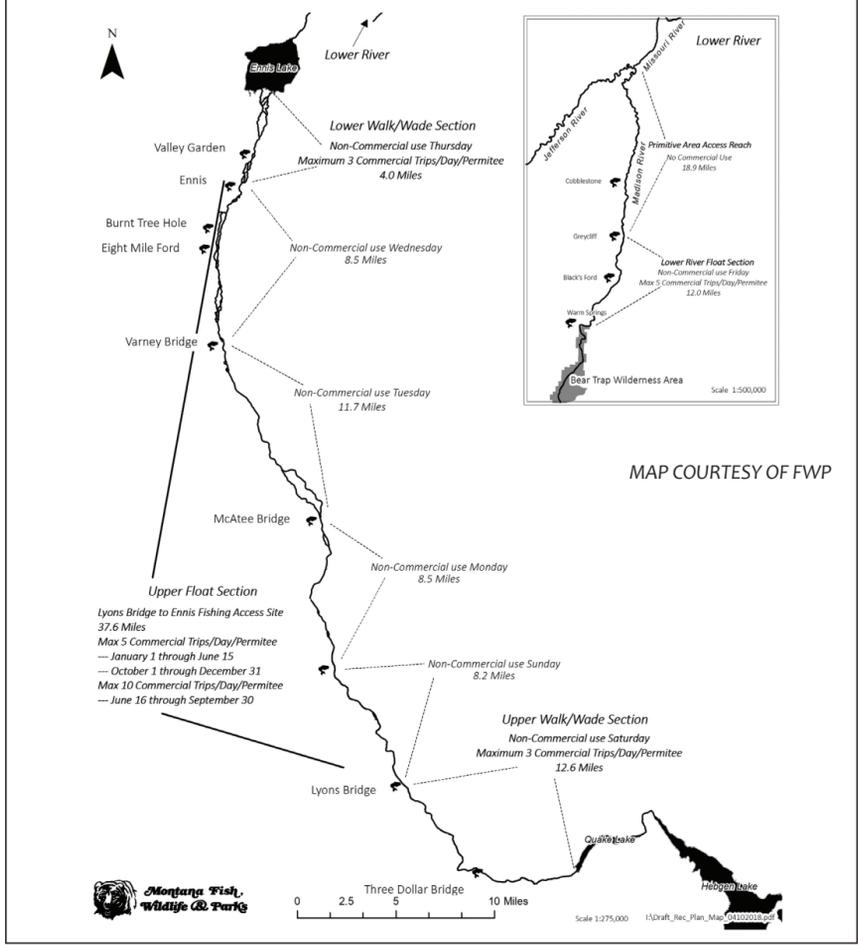
The current draft includes the MCAC's original recommendations they submitted to FWP in 2013. Due to budget restraints agency-wide, the process was halted in 2014. The MCAC did not propose any limits on commercial use in their original submittal.

Growth

The current plan would limit outfitters to 10 trips a day, which Way said is easily doable but putting a number on outfitters puts a cap on growth. "The Town of Ennis lives and dies by the Madison River and the tourists that come to fish it," he said. "So that's saying the growth of Ennis is capped at this level forever - there are no sunny days in the future."

In March, the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association released research from the University of Montana's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research that stated outfitting and guiding accounted for 11 percent of the \$3.4 billion that non-residents spent in Montana in 2017.

Horton said with the potential for 1.5 million commercial trips, there are still a lot of opportunities for growth. "I don't foresee any negative impact on the economy - plenty of opportunity for everyone."



MC STEWARD cont. from A1

intensively to control the disease and weeds on their ranch. Each year, the Brush family wages war on weeds through spraying, digging or hand-pulling on the 12,000 acres they own and lease.

Owens continues to describe a successful expansion project undertaken by the Brushes.

"In 1989, Jolene and Jerry decided to go into the foundation seed business; using their wedding money to install a laminar flow hood in their garage where they began producing nuclear potato tubers. Jolene, with

her previous experience at the Montana State Potato Lab, oversaw the greenhouse side of the Brush operations. Although they started in their garage, demand for their cultivated tubers quickly required more space. Now with over 26,000 square feet of greenhouse, they produce between 60,000-70,000 nuclear tubers each spring. Instead of just Jolene and Jerry working the greenhouses, they seasonally employ 15-20 people to help with their greenhouse every year. Jolene also has diversified into producing mint, raising between 150,000-160,000 plants each

year for producers throughout the United States and Canada. In fact, she now holds the mint seed bank for the Mint Industry Research Council, conserving genetic diversity and helping safeguard against disease. This seed bank thus functions as backup system in case of environmental catastrophe in the United States and Canada.

Jerry and Jolene Brush epitomize the stewardship ideals, caretakers of the land, environment and family and deserve to be the 2018 Stewardship Award winners."

Jerry Brush said the weather is the biggest challenge to operating the Norris ranch. "Weather and dealing with droughts - you never know what's coming with hay supplies or cattle prices," he said. "We just try to shoot for the middle and try no to overdo it or under-do it. It depends on the snowpacks and rainfall, because we flood irrigate everything. Back when they homesteaded around here, they had these nice meadows down here, it just made sense that they would stay here. You have natural hay down here and good water supplies. The bad thing about it now, if we want to expand our hay ground, with pivots or whatever, it doesn't work here. And the flood irrigation has been tough here for the past couple years."

Jolene Brush said weeds have become another big challenge. "The weed problem has come up, and it's almost required hiring a full-time person for three or four months," she said. "But we don't do that. Our family just does it. We have four kids and they help too. But to control the weeds is a real challenge. We have to be on top of it all the time. You can't let it go."

"Thirty years ago or so, there were a few weeds

here and there, and now it's huge," said Jerry. "At first, I thought, 'we're going to nip this in the bud, we're going to get rid of these things.' That never happened. It's just a continual thing every year now, spraying, trying to keep it at bay. We battle the knapweed and houndstongue. We don't have the leafy spurge."

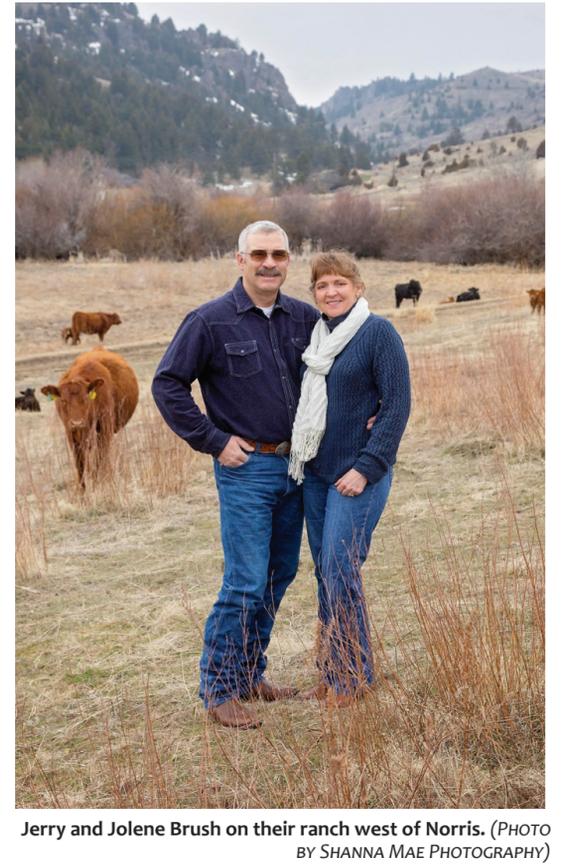
"Knapweed was introduced and the seeds will stay dormant for 10 years or more," said Jolene. "Each seed head produces hundreds of seeds, and it's allelopathic, which means it puts out a poison for other plants. Nothing will grow around it, except for it. It will take over your good grasses and hurt grazing."

Despite the challenges and hard work, the couple has never considered giving up ranching. "We like living here," he said. "You don't make a whole lot or anything, but it's a great place to live and raise our family here."

"That's one of the most important things, is raising a family in this environment," said Jolene. "The work ethic can teach them a lot of good values. It's been in my family for so long. It means a lot to my dad. He just really wanted it to continue. I wouldn't think about selling or anything because it would break his heart."

The couple maintains their ranch in an environmentally responsible manner because they think it's the right thing to do. "We're Christians, and we believe God has put us here, and God has created everything, and we're the stewards of his creation," said Jerry. "That's kind of where we're coming from."

The MDC Awards Banquet starts at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Round Barn in Twin Bridges. Dinner tickets are sold out, but general admission for music and dancing is \$10 at the door after 8 p.m.



Jerry and Jolene Brush on their ranch west of Norris. (PHOTO BY SHANNA MAE PHOTOGRAPHY)

VC boardwalk to be blocked due to unsafe building

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Tourists will need to take a detour when they walk down the historic Virginia City boardwalk this summer. Part of the boardwalk on the south side of Wallace Street will be blocked due to a potentially hazardous structure.

Virginia City Town Council discussed the Creighton Block during its meeting last Thursday.

Mayor Justin Gatewood said building owners Fred Zweifel and Niki Kline unexpectedly marked the building with a large amount of caution tape on March 26, and he immediately contacted the owners to inquire about the reason. The building owners informed the mayor they had received an engineering report stating the building is structurally unsafe, and provided

day. "It's a pretty dire report," said the mayor. "It cited the deterioration of load-bearing exterior walls, mainly the north and the west walls. The north goes on the boardwalk; the west goes onto the sidewalk on Van Buren."

Gatewood contacted the author of the report, Scott Curry, of Cut Bank, who told the mayor he visited the site and completed the report in June of last year. The engineer informed the mayor the building likely had suffered more damage from enduring a winter since the report was written 10 months ago.

The mayor met with the State Building Inspector on April 2, who told him deterioration of an existing building is not within his office's area of responsibility. Gatewood also consulted with

It's our duty to protect public safety and welfare.

- Mayor Justin Gatewood

The mayor consulted with the Montana Department of Transportation regarding the danger to the MDT right-of-way on Wallace Street and the requirements for safety barricades and marking. "People are not going to be able to go on that boardwalk," said Gatewood. "It's our duty to protect public safety and welfare. So, people

keeps people far enough away from the north wall, so if it does fall, they would not be in harm's way."

Gatewood said council must act to resolve the problem to alleviate disruption to the town's business district. "If we don't do something about this - this is our identity as a town - what are we all doing here?" he said.

Gatewood cited Chapter 8, section 7-8-1, of the town ordinances, which includes a finding that historically significant structures must be maintained. "There's language in our book that says if you have a building of historical integrity and it's of historical importance, that it is the responsibility of that property owner to maintain that building," he said.

The mayor asked Historic Preservation Officer Jim Jarvis for advice on how to proceed. "The first thing I'd say is these things take quite awhile to play out," said Jarvis. "This is not something that's going to get fixed in the next three to six months. It will probably be something that plays out over the next two years. Honestly, it's going to take some pretty serious money invested in that building to deal with these deferred maintenance issues identified by the engineer. My sense is that Fred and Niki are not prepared

to invest that kind of money to save the building. So, it's going to take some time, even for them to sell the building to somebody who does have the resources."

Jarvis recommended the use of detour barricades that would have the least visual impact to downtown Virginia City. The HPO noted Curry's report recommended a full structural analysis on the building. "That would entail somebody actually looking at the building and figuring out how it's built and what's going wrong with it and what it would take to fix it. That hasn't been done yet."

Councilmember Jon Osborn supported getting more information on the building's condition. "I have some knowledge of this building," he said. "I think it's imperative that we get some secondary or third opinions on this. There's some issues with the building, but in my opinion, it's not as dire as the caution tape appearing all of a sudden a few weeks ago. Especially with the knowledge that Fred's been sitting on this for eight or nine months and didn't do anything until three weeks ago and it's the sky is falling and it's the end of the world."

Gatewood said the town could become liable if it accepted an engineering report stating the building is not a danger, while disregarding the initial engineering report. "Then, Fred and Niki are going to say, 'you're assuming liability,'" he said. "Then we're embroiled even further in this and at the end of the day, the building really hasn't been fixed."

The mayor noted, in previous, similar situations, MDT had issued an encroachment permit, good for six months, when a structurally unsound building effectively

encroached on a state right-of-way. The mayor suggested the town take the same approach with the encroachment on Van Buren Street. "If they do that, I think it would be in the best interest of the town to follow suit on the west side and see where we are in six months," he said. "Protect the people, first and foremost," he said. "At least get some type of time horizon that they should be planning and dealing with this and go from there. And continue to exert pressure."

Councilmember Amy Grice said council should deal with other potentially unsafe buildings in the same manner as it proceeds with the Creighton Block Building.

The mayor said council will consider barricade options for both the Creighton Block Building and the Stonewall Hall during its May meeting, after receiving more information from MDT.

In other business, council:

- Approved sign permits for Elling House, Rank's Mercantile, Tea & Scandal and Calamity Janes.
- Approved a development permit for Nacho Mama's to build a set of steps in the backyard of the business.
- Declined to act on a setback variance request from Ruth Hauri and informed Hauri she must go through the formal variance process.
- Selected a dark copper color for bear-proof trash containers being provided at no cost by a wildlife conservation group People and Carnivores. The containers will replace trash barrels along the boardwalk.
- Discussed but took no action on a complaint about trailers in yards.



The owners of this building in Virginia City, Fred Zweifel and Niki Kline, marked the property with caution tape on March 26, launching an investigation into the situation by Mayor Justin Gatewood and Virginia City Town Council. (G. HAMILL PHOTO)

a copy of the report to Gatewood on March 28. Gatewood provided copies of the report to council members the following

the State Fire Marshal, who declined to take action because there is no imminent fire risk posed by the building.

are not going to be on that boardwalk for the immediate future. Most likely, there is going to be fencing or barricades out on the highway shoulder, that

RV STEWARD cont. from A1

being approached that will result in economic savings and natural resource values improvement. It's something that has to happen. You just have to be aware of the new opportunities and what's going on with changes and innovations in agriculture. They're happening all the time."

Dan Durham and Logan Miller nominated Gilman for the award, writing, "As a rancher, small business owner and member of numerous boards and committees, Les has worked tirelessly to care for the land and the people of the Ruby Valley."

"Les has been involved in countless natural resource management projects throughout the watershed, including:

- Thoughtful management of state lands as part of the Robb/Ledford Grazing Association. Les and the other members have worked with the BLM, FS, DNRC and FWP to implement a rest rotation grazing system that provides for cattle, wildlife and rangeland health.
- Participation in the Vigilante Canal and Ruby River Water User boards. Les and the other members of these groups have worked to manage irrigation water and infrastructure in a manner that provides for both water users and fish/river health.
- Participation in cooperative noxious weed management spray days. Les and his family have assisted their neighbors, Madison County and public land managers to attack noxious weed infestations throughout the watershed.
- Implementation of grazing and crop management plans on client properties. Les has worked for over 25 years to maintain agricultural operations on ranches owned by absentee landowners,

keeping ranchers and cattle on the landscape, and educating his clients about the importance of being a good steward and neighbor.

- Implementation of restoration projects on client properties. Les has helped his clients complete a wide range of wetland, wildlife habitat and native vegetation restoration projects across the Ruby Valley and the state of Montana, often with watershed-wide benefits.

- Facilitation of irrigation system improvements on the West Bench. Les recently coordinated a large-scale irrigation project intended to greatly reduce irrigation withdrawals from Clear Creek and improve production on numerous crop fields along the west side of the Ruby River." Durham and Miller describe some of the innovative techniques Gilman has undertaken.

- Implementation of management intensive grazing practices on his family ranch. Les has worked with his son Charlie to improve grazing management practices on irrigated and dryland pastures in an effort to improve soil health, forage production, cattle health and overall ranch condition.

- Placed family ranch under conservation easement with the Montana Land Reliance. Being the fourth generation on this property, he took action to preserve ranching and conservation legacy in the valley by protecting family ranch against development, while at the same time not limiting the ranch's business objectives.

- Worked with the NRCS through the CSP program to experiment with innovative management practices including irrigation efficiencies for better water use and less energy consumption and fencing for

ease of wildlife travel.

- Conducted demonstration projects on the Ruby Habitat Foundation's Woodson Ranch. As the executive director of the Ruby Habitat Foundation Les implemented numerous projects to help agricultural producers and show people that agriculture and wildlife can go hand in hand. These efforts have helped us learn more about different forage species, native plants, grazing techniques, and farming practices.

"In addition to his on-the-ground natural resource work, Les has dedicated an enormous amount of time to community efforts, including:

- The Ruby Valley Hospital Foundation. Les has invested hundreds (if not thousands) of hours to help bring a new hospital and better medical care to the community. The hospital is almost complete and would not have happened without his extensive volunteer effort.

- The Bethel Methodist Church. As an active member of the church Les has served on numerous committees, been the lay speaker in the absence of a pastor, served as a trustee and as pastor/parish relations. He has also taught Sunday school and been Chairman of the Administrative Board.

- Governor's Rangeland Executive Committee. As a longtime member of this governor appointed committee, Les provided important insight into rangeland management issues and

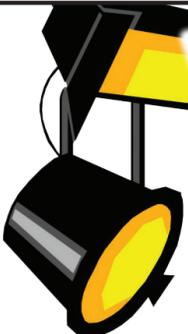
guidance to the DNRC in an effort to sustain healthy grazing land across the state of Montana.

- Ruby Watershed Council. For several years Les was the chairman of the council, working with the RVCD to implement educational and resource management projects alongside a diverse group of community members.

- Ruby Valley Strategic Alliance. More recently Les has joined on to the RVSA, working with a diverse group of local and regional stakeholders to find common ground and support each other's efforts to maintain or improve resource conditions and ranching opportunities in the Ruby Valley.
- Serves as an Alder Fire

Department Trustee and past volunteer firefighter to assist in providing a vital community service.

The RVCD/MVCD awards banquet starts at 5 p.m. Saturday Saturday at the Round Barn in Twin Bridges. Dinner tickets are sold out, but general admission for music and dancing is \$10 at the door after 8 p.m.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

ERICA EVANS MITA



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Erica Evans Mita and her husband, K, first found the Madison Valley after deciding to take a two-month long road trip. Living in New York City at the time, the couple had always loved being outside and doing things outdoors. "We came to this dilemma of 'why do we live in a city when we like to be outside?' We both love the Rocky Mountains and wanted to make change."

The couple started in Denver and drove north to Montana, eventually landing

in Ennis and Madison County. "As soon as we hit Quake Lake we were blown away by the beauty and raw, unspoiled energy we found," she said. A documentary about ranching and wildlife, which highlighted a Madison Valley

local, is what brought the couple to Ennis. "We just started to meet people easily and started to feel like we knew the community."

Evans Mita has now been in the valley for six years and is active within the community through the Madison Farm to Fork program, Ennis Downtown Improvement Committee and BACI. Through MF2F, Evans Mita and the group are hoping to secure grant funding to bring an on-site greenhouse to the school and continue their education outreach.

Through EDIC, Evans

Mita is working on beautifying the down town through improving parking, signage and trash receptacles, and said she is loosely involved with BACI, which stands for Building Active Communities Initiative. BACI looks to make the town more walkable and biker friendly while also highlighting area hikes and walks around town.

"I had never considered volunteering before - having always been in a big city you never really saw examples of volunteerism," she said. "When we were visiting Ennis, we saw examples of people giving back and it seems to me, in a small community you can really see the difference you make."

Encouraging others to be active in the community, Evans Mita listed three good reasons: creating meaningful connections with folks of similar interests, learning about something that might not necessarily be your career, and contributing to your community. "It's empowering to be involved," she said.



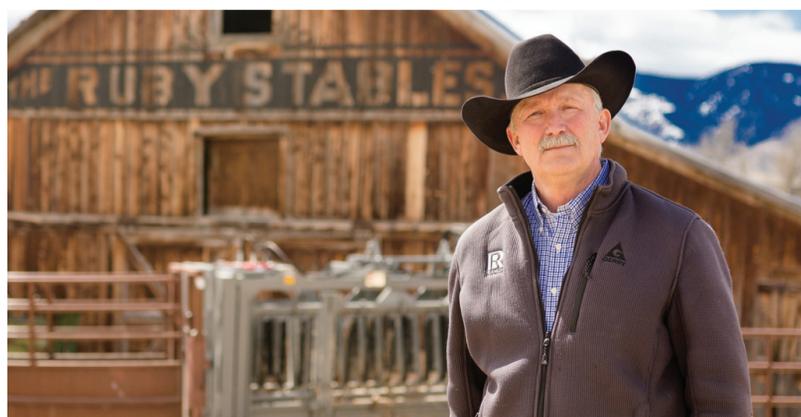
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"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." ~Tom Brokaw



Les Gilman on his family ranch near Alder. (PHOTO BY ANNA INGRAM, HAPPINESS CAPTURED)

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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.

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5 p.m. - Friday

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OPINION

Support for Gary Hadley

Dear Editor,

In the upcoming election for which the ballots will be mailed out on April 19th, Gary Hadley is running for a three-year term on the Madison Valley Medical Center Board of Trustees, and I hope you will vote for him. I'm also a trustee and have appreciated Gary's valuable insights on health care and business performance

optimization since the county commissioners appointed him to the board in 2017 to complete the term of a trustee who resigned. Gary's education and work history are impressive. Of particular interest, he holds both a Bachelors and a Doctoral degree in Pharmacy, has a Board Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy and is actively engaged as a registered

pharmacist with 25 years of broad healthcare experience. He also has over 10 years experience leading, coaching and teaching quality and process improvement concepts and methodologies worldwide, and currently serves on the MVMC Quality Assurance Committee. According to the MVMC by-Laws, the board of trustees "has the final authority and

responsibility for the operations" of MVMC, so it's critical that those who serve as a trustee have the training, experience and temperament to fulfill that duty. Having served on the board with Gary over the past year, I'm confident he will continue to serve the Board, MVMC and you with distinction.

Jeff Montag McAllister

Vote 'yes' and support schools, administrators

Dear Editor,

Two recent LTEs about school taxes elicit response. One letter complains that our school districts should set aside funds for inevitable repair and replacement and goes on to suggest that we should vote 'no' to the current request for new or renewed tax levies. The intent of the Sheridan and Twin Bridges school boards' current requests for building reserve levies is for this very purpose. Sheridan School is asking for a renewable reserve levy, NOT a tax increase, and a technology levy for new computers. In Twin, the reserve levy will fix and improve necessary school

maintenance. Both boards and districts are following legislative directives to use their reserve funds to cover maintenance and emergencies and replenish reserves. It is good to understand these things. The writer forgets that taxpayers, before her and all of us, funded our educations. It is our turn to provide education for our kids which will enable them to continue the cycle for their kids. As for the hyperbole of not being able to afford to live here, statistics say that every dollar that goes into education gives back \$6 locally, a solid investment for educating students who will join the work force.

She might more appropriately direct her tax complaint to the author of the second letter, Republican District HD71 representative. In his letter, he states that he supported the reduction in spending for schools and many areas of government. The bill(s) that created this financial crisis. It is well known that the Republican majority deliberately over-estimated the biennial State revenues, creating a false picture that mandated significant budget cuts. This in turn devastated critical services, lost good jobs, and SHIFTED THE BURDEN of school taxes from the State to local taxpayers.

The representative seems to scapegoat his supportive vote(s) by stating that "educational communities and educational lobbies proposed and supported these budget reductions." Highly arguable and highly unlikely. The Republicans ran the legislature and bragged of their budget accomplishments. Fortunately, we now have a choice for whom we can send to the next legislature and who will likely support education investment.

Our schools, administrators, teachers and children are the heart of our communities. Vote yes and support them all.

Pat Bradley Twin Bridges

Thank you for your caring

A great big thank you to all of you who sent cards, goodies, came to visit, kept me in prayer and ran errands while I spent three weeks in the hospital. I am grateful for all of your care and concerns. Your thoughtfulness is overwhelming.

Thank you so much, Linda Beals.

Twin Bridges Casino Night a Success

The Casino Night 2018 scholarship fund raiser hosted by the Rotary Club of Twin Bridges and Sheridan and held at the Blue Anchor in Twin Bridges on March 24 was a great success. The Rotary wishes to thank all those from the Twin Bridges, Sheridan, Whitehall areas, and beyond that spent the evening having fun with poker and bingo. The silent auction action was steady during the evening and the live auction to capped things off. Thanks to Ross Masser for serving as auctioneer. Thanks to the Dixie Meredith and Blue Anchor and for providing the site. The dollars raised at this event along with cash contributions are used to fund four scholarships for graduates of the Twin Bridges and Sheridan Schools. A big thanks to all the businesses, merchants, and individuals that generously donated auction items, cash donations, and to the dealers that kept the tables fun. We hope to see everyone again next year.

Twin Bridges Rotary

MORE NEWS

Ennis Council learns about floodplain mapping, provides letter of support

CAITLIN AVEY
news@madisoniannews.com

During its April 12 meeting, Ennis Town Council agreed to write a letter of support to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation for a floodplain mapping project. The project has been ongoing in Madison County since last year, when the DNRC first approached the county about updating data surrounding the Madison and Jefferson watersheds.

The town of Ennis, like Sheridan and Twin Bridges, has not seen any updated data since 1975. "The purpose of floodplain mapping is to identify risk areas in the event of a 100-year flood event," said Tiffany Lyden with DNRC. Lyden has been working in conjunction with the Madison County Commissioners to update flood maps to reflect the most current topography.

The project, which is now gearing up for phase two, will focus on the Madison watershed, collecting data via LiDAR. LiDAR is a surveying method that measures distance to a target by illumination with a laser and is a popular tool for creating high-resolution maps.

Phase one of the project was fully funded with grants, which Lyden and the DNRC hope to secure for phase two. "We're applying for grants and doing the survey work and bridge

trafficking and will review and work with the town and county," said Lyden, adding a letter of support from the council would help with the grant application.

"Just remember," added John Bancroft. "This is a very unique area and so please take that into consideration."

Other business

• The Ennis Volunteer Ambulance Board voted and approved raising the ambulance rate changes to market rate. The

board has not raised the rates in the last seven years, according to Chief of Police John Moore. "If we want them to remain in service, they need to raise the rates," he said.

Patti Austin with the Ambulance Board said the rates for basic life support will be increased to \$750 and for advanced life support, \$900. "We made that advanced life support charge in place for when we're ready to start implementing that," she said. Austin added

some refresher courses were needed before the board would start charging for advanced life support but hopes to be ready to move forward by this summer. The board also will increase the per loaded mile wage to \$15 to bring the ambulance up to current rural market value.

• Council approved allowing the chamber to once again hang flower baskets with temporary signs along the downtown for the summer season.



Lisa Roberts, left, and Cory Hardy have a chuckle during the Ennis Council meeting, April 12. (C. AVEY PHOTO)

Twin Bridges raises water & sewer rates

GEOFF HAMILL
 editor@madisoniannews.com

Twin Bridges Town Council approved two resolutions during last Tuesday's meeting to raise the town's water and sewer rates. The increases are necessary to balance the town's water and sewer accounts and build up a reserve fund for future repairs.

The base water rate for customers with a three-quarter-inch supply line will increase from \$28.50 to \$31 on July 1, and increase 2 percent for four years thereafter. After the final 2 percent increase in July 2022, the base water rate will be \$33.56. In addition to the base rate, customers will pay 75 cents for every 1,000 gallons consumed or a proportionate charge for gallons of water consumed in excess of any 1,000 gallon increment.

The base rate for town sewer customers with a three-quarter-inch water supply line will increase from \$36.59 to \$46.89 on July 1 and increase by 2 percent every year for four years thereafter. After the final 2 percent increase in July 2022, the base sewer rate will be \$50.76.

Following public comments opposed to an increase in the sump pump charge from \$5 to \$10, council deleted the sump pump charge increase from the resolution.

During his report to council, Sheriff Roger Thompson said thefts and burglaries in the area had "dropped off to nothing" since the arrest of two individuals suspected of burglarizing a Twin Bridges storage unit. Thompson praised the efforts of two

Twin Bridges men who helped apprehend the suspects after observing suspicious activity at the storage unit business. "I love it when the public gets involved," said the sheriff. "That's how things get resolved and things get taken care of. They did an excellent job. I really applaud when people really want to get involved and do something.... There is a risk that private citizens take, but I'm really glad there are people out there who are willing to take that risk."

The sheriff reported a counterfeit bill had been passed at Three Rivers Quick Stop. "This comes up about every six months to a year with someone pushing counterfeit money," said Thompson. "It's been going on for several years, so this is the next round of counterfeit money that's being circulated. You could have a counterfeit bill in your pocket now and eventually you pass it and someone will eventually notice it."

During the library report, board member Silvia Schwartz said the library is planning to convert a back room into a multipurpose meeting room with a rustic western style. Schwartz said the library would not be requesting money from council for the project.

Mayor Tom Hyndman reported Great West Engineering has been selected as the design engineer for the Sixth Avenue stormwater and sidewalk project. The mayor said council members would meet with school officials on May 11 to discuss the project.

Maintenance supervisor Sam Novich reported a pump

shaft at a lift station broke and insurance will not cover the cost. Novich said a rebuilt pump could be purchased at a cost of \$3,057, but would carry just a 90-day warranty. The supervisor said a new pump would cost \$4,600 and have a much longer warranty. Council voted 4-0 to direct Novich to purchase a new pump.

Novich gave an estimate of \$266,765 for construction of a new town shop building. The supervisor said the project could be completed in phases as funds become available.

In other business, council:

- Approved a resolution designating eight locations in town for posting public notices.
- Approved a resolution allowing elected town officials and contracted public officers to participate in the employee benefits program.
- Approved a commitment of \$5,000 as matching funds for a \$5,000 Treasure State Endowment Program grant to update the town's capital improvement plan.
- Approved a yield sign option for traffic control at the intersection of N. Senator Street and E. 9th Avenue.
- Approved a preliminary plan for a new water line to the county fairground, to be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality for approval.
- Approved having a memorandum of understanding in place between the town and county for maintenance of the new fairground water line before construction begins.



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April 8 - 14, 2018

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>4/8/18
 Medical Aid in 200 Blk S Main St Twin Bridges
 Disturbance on Main St Harrison</p> <p>4/9/18
 Medical Aid in 200 Blk Two Bumps Rd Ennis
 Citizen Assist on Valley View Dr Twin Bridges
 Welfare Check in 200 Blk E Williams St Ennis
 Wildlife Complaint on Jeffers Rd Ennis
 Medical Aid in 200 Blk Ruby St Sheridan</p> <p>4/10/18
 Medical Aid in 3700 Blk US Hwy 287 Cameron
 Suspicious Circumstances in 700 Blk Beaverhead St Ennis</p> <p>4/11/18
 Wildlife Complaint in 200 Blk Jack Creek Rd Ennis
 Dog Complaint in 200 Blk N Bridge St Twin Bridges
 Warrant Service in 200</p> | <p>Blk N Bridge St Twin Bridges
 Wildlife Complaint MT Hwy 287 MM 26 Laurin
 Animal Complaint Main St Sheridan
 Suspicious Circumstances in 5300 Blk MT Hwy 41 N Twin Bridges
 Trespass Complaint on Judd Ln Silver Star
 Theft Complaint in 100 Blk N Main St Sheridan</p> <p>4/12/18
 Accident at Potosi Rd & S Willow Creek Rd Pony
 Trespass Complaint on Ramshorn Creek Rd Sheridan
 Dog Complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 60 McAllister
 Privacy in Communications in 600 Blk Beaverhead St Ennis
 Accident on MT Hwy 287 MM .5 Ennis
 Animal Complaint on MT Hwy 283 MM 3 Pony</p> | <p>4/13/18
 Accident on US Hwy 287 MM 59 McAllister
 Traffic Complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 38 Cameron
 Animal Complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 40 Cameron
 Abandoned Vehicle in 400 Blk MT Hwy 287 Ennis
 Medical Aid on Pennington Bridge Rd Twin Bridges
 Wildlife Complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 28 Cameron</p> <p>4/14/18
 Fire Call on Bivens Creek Rd Sheridan
 Traffic Complaint on Jeffers Rd Ennis
 Theft Complaint in 5300 Blk MT Hwy 41 N Silver Star</p> <p><i>The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 80 Calls for Service from Apr 8-14, 2018.</i></p> |
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SCHOOL BOARD ROUNDUP

Ennis board passes new drug testing policy, Alder school cancels trustee election

CAITLIN AVEY
news@madisoniannews.com

The Ennis School Board unanimously passed a new drug testing policy during the April 11 meeting, according to Superintendent Casey Klasna. The passage of the policy comes after a second public reading, which Klasna said had no naysayers to the policy – the first reading was held during the board's March meeting. "We had a lot of good discussion and the board received good feedback from the public," said Klasna. "The next step is to enact the

policy." The drug testing policy likely will begin next fall, at the start of the 2018-2019 school year. Klasna said no major changes were made after the first reading but the board did eliminate the fourth consequence, which removed students from participating in extracurricular/co-curricular activities for the remainder of their high school career upon a fourth offense. "Some folks thought it was a little harsh, as we still want to give kids hope," said Klasna. A third offense to the policy will result in a loss of

participation for the remainder of the school calendar year, but with the opportunity to return. "The biggest part of this policy is to get kids the help they need and not to be real punitive," Klasna said. A question regarding drug and alcohol prevention efforts was brought to the board asking what they are doing to take preventative measures. Aside from various efforts working with the elementary, junior high and high school kids to talk prevention, Klasna said the drug policy is just that. "This is one part of the prevention."

Klasna did say some community members raised concerns about the cost of the policy, which according to last month's figures, Klasna budgeted \$15,000. "We budget high for lots of things and I did budget the cost of implementing the policy high," he said. Working hand-in-hand with the drug testing policy, the board held a first reading for a reasonable suspicion policy, which allows trained staff to enforce policy if there is reason to believe students are not following the rules. The board will continue discussion

and hold the second reading at the May 16 meeting. **Other business** The board unanimously approved to eliminate the Jack Creek bus route for next year and will pay individual transportation contracts. "We talked at length about it and we have two drivers on that route and we decided we needed them back in their respective roles," said Klasna. The remaining four routes, Cameron, McAllister, Virginia City and Varney, were approved, as Klasna said they have sufficient staff for next year. "Bus routes are becoming a thing of the past."

If you are interested in applying for a position as a route driver, contact Klasna at 682-4258. The school will be cancelling its trustee election after two people filed for two seats. Kris Inman, board chair, was elected via acclamation to keep her seat, which holds another three-year term. Jennifer Rohrback was voted via acclamation to fill the remaining three-year term, which was previously held by Chad Coffman.

Alder School According to Madison County Clerk and Recorder and Election Administrator Kathleen Mumme, Alder, along with Ennis and Harrison, cancelled their trustee election. District Clerk Kathleen Wueling said only one person filed for one three-year term; Jake McDonald was elected via acclamation. The board will send out ballots to the district, as they have asked for a general fund levy increase in the amount of \$2,853, or approximately 1.66 mills. If passed, taxes would increase by \$2.24 on a \$100,000 home and \$4.48 on a \$200,000 home.



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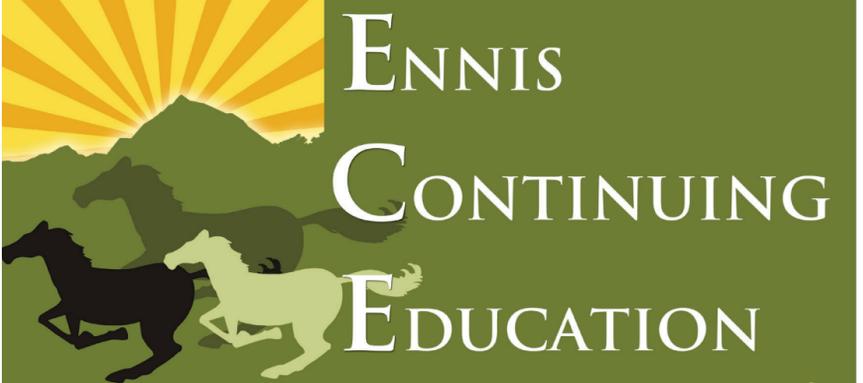
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Jamie Diehl & Kathy Olkowski | High School Rm#6
Maximum of 10 students
LIMITED SPACE

Geology Class on Prospecting | Mondays | 5:30-6:45 pm | Russell Scruggs | HS Science Room #4

Bird Watching for Beginners | Monday
6:00-8:00pm | Rm. #5, HS & Field | Marc Elser
Materials Fee \$13.00 | Limit 10

Lapidary | Monday | 7-9 pm | Russell Scruggs
Location TBD

Early Bird Yoga | Tuesday & Thursday | 6am-7am
Cori Koenig | Commons Room | Maximum of 14 students

Village Quilt Class | Tuesday | 5 pm-8pm
Kathy Olkowski & Lexie Brundin | High School Rm#6 | Students will purchase their own pattern and fabric for this class!

Spring Blast Circuit Workout | Tuesday
5:15-6:15 pm | Vicki Richardson | Commons Room
Maximum of 14 students **LIMITED SPACE**

Beginning Woodworking | Tuesday & Thursday
6-9pm | Charlie Zitting | High School Shop | Materials Fee \$40 | Maximum of Students 8

Zipper Pouches Class | Wednesday | 5 pm-8pm
Lexie Brundin | High School Rm#6 | \$5 Materials Fee and students provide their own fabric

Chainsaw Use & Safety: Keep your chainsaw in top shape & learn technique professional timber fallers use to keep themselves safe and productive in the woods | John Knapton | Thursdays
6:00-9:00pm | 5, 3, 5.10, 5.17 and field day 5.19
9:30-12:30pm | HS Shop

Workshops

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10 am-12:30 pm | \$10 plus \$55 Materials fee

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Gary Forney | Tuesday, April 24
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CHANGING TIMES, HISTORICAL AND PRESENT
John Kolstoe | Wednesday, May 2nd | 6-8 pm
\$10

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GEOLOGY FIELD TRIPS | Russell Scruggs
Saturday May 12th and Saturday May 19th
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Track and field, golf struggle to keep meets

CAITLIN AVEY
news@madisoniannews.com

Once again, Mother Nature has reared her ugly head cancelling both high school and junior high track meets left and right. But with a sunny future forecasted for the weekend, teams are hopeful to hit the track, or course.

Despite nasty weather, teams were able to get some meets in last week. Harrison, Twin Bridges and Sheridan all traveled west for the Florence/Darby Invitational on April 10, while Ennis trudged over the pass for the Butte Invitational

on April 14.
*Only Harrison results were submitted by Tuesday's press deadline.

HARRISON

Boys
100 meters
Lane Buus, 12.38

1600 meters
Derik DeFrance, 5:15.17
Jackson Nye, 5:17.61
Zane Christiansen, 6:41.25

300 meter hurdles
Derik DeFrance, 46.55, fifth place

Long jump
Lane Buus 18' 11.5"
Zane Christiansen:15' 3.5"

Disc
Derik DeFrance: 117' 2"

Triple Jump
Lane Buus, 38' 4", fifth place

Girls
100 meters
Rosie Chater
Aleena, 15.66

800 meters
Aleena, 3:00.04

Shot put
Aleena: 27' 5"
Kayley Christensen 24' 10"

Javelin
Kayley Christensen, 50' 9"

400 meters
Makenna Christiansen, 1:18.96

1600 meters
Maddison Christiansen, 7:34

4x400 Relay (Aleena, Maddison, Makenna, Rosie) 1:01

Disc
Kayley Christensen, 64' 6"



(L) Derik DeFrance hits the home stretch during the 300 meter hurdles in Corvallis last weekend.
(R) Zane Christiansen hits the long jump pit during a meet in Corvallis last weekend.
(PHOTOS COURTESY KAYSHA YOUNG)

Dr. Al OLSZEWSKI
U.S. SENATE 2018

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- Serving on MVMC Quality Assurance Committee
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Geriatric Pharmacist

- Active Montana Pharmacist
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Please vote by May 8, 2018.
Ballots must arrive in the Recorders office or Ennis School by May 8th to count.
Thank-you for your consideration

Paid for by Gary Hadley | PO Box 1183, Ennis, MT 59729

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BROKER
596-4288

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\$395,000 | #317240 | NEW LISTING

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OBITUARY

Boyd LeRoy Whittaker
November 2, 1930 - April 13, 2018

SHERIDAN -- Boyd LeRoy Whittaker, age 87, of Sheridan died Friday April 13 at the Tobacco Root Mountain Care Center at Sheridan.

Boyd was born November 2, 1930 to LeRoy and Hattie (Nettles) Whittaker in St. Anthony, Idaho. At age three, the family moved to Melrose, Montana, where his father worked for the Union Pacific Railroad. He received his schooling in Melrose and Dillon, Montana. At the outbreak of WWII, the family packed up and moved to Long Beach, California to

work in the defense plants. After the war the family moved to Idaho Falls, Idaho.

He served in the US Air Force as a crash fireman; serving on bases in Washington, Guam and England. He always said he enjoyed every minute he was in the service. After the service, he worked at Plant 42, in Palmdale, CA in the crash department, where they built and tested airplanes. He stayed at that department for the next ten years.

He married Shirley Jeffery, June 17th, 1956, in Glendale, California.

Boyd always longed to get back up north. So, the winter of 1965 he packed up Shirley and they moved to Sheridan, Montana where his mother lived. He was so happy to be able to fish on the Big Hole River like he did as a child. He liked nothing better, than to be out on his four wheeler on a strange trail or fishing on one of the higher lakes with a buddy.

He worked as a heavy equipment operator in the local mines. He was a "CAT" man. He always wore his "CAT" belt buckle. He retired in 1998 at the closing of Montana Talc Company.

He was an avid reader and quite a student of WWII.

Boyd was preceded in death by his mother and father, nephews: Brian Eckersell and Lance Eckersell, and sister Joyce Whittaker Eckersell.

Survivors include his wife Shirley Whittaker and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside military service will be held Saturday, June 30, at 1:00 PM from the Sheridan Cemetery at Sheridan, Montana.

K&L Mortuaries & Crematory of Sheridan is assisting with arrangements.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK TWIN BRIDGES

BROOKE ANDERSON



The student of the month for the fourth grade is Brooke Anderson. Brooke always works hard, gives her best effort, listens, and follows directions. She willingly assists her peers and serves as a positive role

model for the class. Brooke consistently demonstrates a positive attitude towards school as well as to her peers and teachers. Brooke excels in art and writing of both short stories and poems. Recently, one of the poems Brooke created for a writing contest was chosen to be published by Scholastic. Keep up the great work Brooke!

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4 PAWS RESCUE PET OF THE WEEK



KIKI

I'm purrrfectly amazed by the proficiency of this newspaper! I ran an ad last week and then got adopted right away. Thank you very much. Thank you to my new mom too. I get the run of the house, lay in the window looking outside and, of course, get lots of loving. Please go see my friends and give them a great and loving home too. Call Misty at 439-1405 and she'll help you get the purrrfect match, just like me. Gratefully yours, Kiki

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PANORAMA



Rocky Mountain Front's first ranger (Part 2 of 3)



Winter snow blankets the Rocky Mountain Front north of Augusta.

COMPILED/EDITED BY
RICK AND SUSIE GRAETZ
University of Montana Department
of Geography

Authors' Note: This piece is excerpted from a report Clyde Fickes wrote in May 1944. It appeared in "Volume 1 - Early Days In The Forest Service." His words are excerpted with light editing. Fickes retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 1947. He died at age 103 on Dec. 29, 1987 - from an accident on the dance floor.

The Sun River country comprises some interesting and spectacular topography. The river comes out of the mountains in a due east and west course for some 8 or 9 miles and breaks through a series of five sawtooth-like reefs, ranging in elevation from 6,000 to 8,000 feet, with the river at 4,500 feet. The reefs are perpendicular on the east face and at a 45- to 60-degree angle on the west. They look just like a row of sawteeth. At the junction of the North and South Forks, the river runs due north and south for some 45 to 50 miles

and forms a beautiful valley with many open parks and side streams that head up against the Continental Divide on the west, part of which is known as the Chinese Wall - as spectacular a piece of country as you will see anywhere.

Natives of the area are brown, black and grizzly bears; blacktailed deer; elk; moose; mountain sheep and goats; and the usual run of mountain small fry. Cattle grazing was permitted on all the Sun River Ranger District except the West Fork of the South Fork and Pretty Prairie, which was reserved for winter elk feed. In May 1908, I counted and estimated that 500 to 600 elk wintered on the West Fork licks and vicinity. That was about all the elk in that area at that time.

The business of the district, which included all the forest from Deep Creek on the north to Ford Creek on the south, included 10 or 12 grazing permits for cattle on the upper North Fork, Beaver Creek, Woods Creek, Ford and Willow Creeks and along the boundary

south of the North Fork. Also there were a few free use permits for wood on Willow Creek. A typical entry in my diary for Aug. 13 reads: "Rode up Beaver Creek road to Willow Creek, crossed over to Ford Creek and then rode NE to Witmers ranch. Range along Beaver Creek getting short. Posted 4 fire warnings on Beaver Creek. No fires. 8 to 5."

On Sept. 30, notice was received from Supervisor Page S. Bunker of Kalispell that a ranger meeting would be held at the mouth of White River on the South Fork of the Flathead River from Oct. 14 to 18 inclusive. The supervisor had just returned from a six months detail to the Washington office, and I guess he wanted to find out if his rangers could get around in the mountains satisfactorily. Eustace A. Woods, who was the ranger on the old Dearborn District and on occasion known as "Useless" to his close friends, was in town the same time I was and we agreed that, in company with four others, we would assemble at the mouth of the

West Fork of the South Fork on the North Fork of the Sun River and trail over the Continental Divide together. Only one of the group had been over the route with a hunting party and was to be the guide. I call it a "route" advisedly, because there was no such thing as a located trail except along the main river. The appointed day of our meeting for departure was Oct. 8, but due to circumstances I could not get there.

On the morning of Oct. 9, Linc Hay, the ranger from Teton District and I left Hannan and camped at the beaver dams on the West Fork. The others had not waited for us, so it was a case of finding our own trail over the divide. My diary for Oct. 10 reads, "moved up West Fork Trail, camped on top of the divide under the cliffs. Jumped about five miles of logs. Bum trail." The next day we pulled down to the mouth of White River to be the first arrivals at the meeting site. Woods and the others had stopped to try to get some elk meat but failed to do so.

All in all, nearly 20 rangers and guides gathered here to meet with Supervisor Bunker and Inspector D.C. Harrison from Washington, D.C. Like all its successors, the ranger meeting on White River was mostly talk. We also did a Ranger Station survey under the direction of Inspector Harrison and on the third day, all moved down the river to Black Bear, where a new cabin was being built for the ranger headquarters.

Snow was beginning to cover the high country so those from the east side - some nine of us - pulled out for home. No one wanted to buck the logs on the West Fork, so we went up to the Danaher Ranch and crossed through Scapegoat Pass and some 16 or 18 inches of snow.

On Nov. 6 I received a notice from the Civil Service Commission that I had passed the ranger examination and was eligible for appointment. On July 1, I had been appointed a forest guard at \$720 per annum, promoted to \$900 on Aug. 1, appointed an assistant forest ranger on Nov. 11 at \$900 and

on Jan. 1, 1908, promoted to deputy forest ranger at \$1,000.

The Hannan Ranger Station consisted of an old log cabin, 16x20, and dirt roof, a 14x16 hewn-log cabin with box corners, a log barn, corral, hay meadow and pasture - all taken from a former homesteader or squatter named Jim Hannan, who allegedly operated a station on the old Oregon-Montana horse rustling trail. The story is that Jim also liked beef steaks and occasionally butchered a steer, regardless of whose brand it might bear. Seems like the neighboring ranchers, led by one of the largest cow owners in the Sun River country, surrounded Jim in his old cabin and convinced him with a few "Winchester salutes" that it would be advisable to do a little dickering if he wanted to continue life's journey. Bullet holes were still evident when I occupied the cabin. Old Jim agreed to leave the country and not come back. Shortly after that, maybe 2 or 3 years later, the Government pre-empted it for use of us Forest Rangers.

Snowpack Still on the Rise, Well Above Average, and Setting Records in Some Parts of Montana

SUBMITTED BY NRCS

BOZEMAN - Unlike February, snowfall wasn't record-breaking in Montana during March, but it was sufficient to keep the snowpack near to well above normal on April 1, according to snow survey data collected by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). "One thing is for sure; it's been a snowy winter across the state of Montana," said Lucas Zukiewicz, NRCS water supply specialist for Montana, "and there's still more to come."

Last month, records were set for both monthly totals for February snowfall, and for total snowpack accumulation on March 1. Many snowpack measuring locations that feed

Montana's rivers and streams remain record high for April 1. Ten SNOwpack TELemetry (SNOTEL) and snowcourse locations remain the highest on record for this date, and 12 measurement locations are the second highest on record. These sites can be found in the mountains that feed the Upper Yellowstone River, Upper Clark Fork and Missouri Mainstem River basins, where snowfall has been abundant throughout the winter months. "Although not record-setting like these regions, the snowpack in other river basins across the state is well above normal for this time of year," Zukiewicz said.

2018 is looking to go down as one of the biggest snow years on record for some parts of

the state, prompting questions on how it compares to other memorable snowpack years. "1972, 1997, 2011 and 2014 were all big winters across the state, and many are wondering how this year compares," Zukiewicz said. "So far, the only snowpack that has topped all other water years for peak snow water contained in the snowpack is the area near Cooke City which feeds the Clark's Fork River of the Yellowstone River."

For the most part, the snowpack in the rest of the state hasn't reached the levels of 1997, 2011 and 2014. "During those years, snowpack peaked at the beginning of May to early June. For now, it looks like there is still a lot of winter left to come and this year could break

more records if it keeps going," Zukiewicz said.

Long-range predictions by the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center continue to forecast above average precipitation and below average temperatures through the end of April.

Due to the abundant snowfall, many measurement locations have already reached, or exceeded, the normal amount of snow water that is typically contained in the snowpack before runoff occurs, all but assuring at least normal surface water supply this spring and summer, Zukiewicz said. Long-duration volumetric streamflow forecasts issued for the April 1 - July 31 period are well above average for most stream gages

in the state, and could approach record levels this spring and summer at the stream gage at Belfry, Mont., located along Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone.

"Having a big snowpack is a double-edged sword," Zukiewicz said. "You know there will be plenty of snowpack to feed the rivers, which is typically great news, but the uncertainty of how and when it will come out can keep you up at night."

The coming month will be critical in determining how much water is available in the snowpack for runoff this spring, and the day-to-day and week-by-week weather patterns during May and June will determine the timing and volumes of water in Montana. Water users are encouraged to read the May

1, 2018, NRCS Water Supply Outlook Report, which will summarize the conditions that occurred over the month of April, and help water users prepare for runoff this spring and summer.

Individual point forecasts for streams and rivers can be found in the monthly NRCS Water Supply Outlook Report and should be consulted as conditions vary from basin to basin, and even within the basins themselves.

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



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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Spring Tips to Start an Exercise Routine



SUBMITTED BY STATEPOINT

Spring is an ideal time to get active outdoors and kickstart a fitness regimen that can carry you into beach and pool season.

Need some motivation? Try out these ideas for getting started and sticking with the program.

Get Social

A personal trainer can be expensive, but a friend is free and potentially just as motivating. Besides, a little friendly competition never hurt anybody. Find a buddy to join you for runs and hikes, and with whom to hit the new HIIT class -- that's high-intensity interval training -- or spot you in the free weights section of the gym. Joining an organized run crew, cycling club or other fitness group can be another great way to keep yourself inspired to move -- as these meet-ups can be fun social events in addition to a great workout.

Gear Up

New wearable technology is not only fun, it can help you analyze your daily movement and workouts. See how much progress you make with wearable devices like the GBA800 Training Timer, a water- and shock-resistant watch that comes equipped with a three-axis acceleration sensor tracking your step count, a countdown timer that allows for up to 20 timer combinations, as well as 200-lap memory. With the download of the dedicated G-SHOCK Connected app to a smartphone, the watch can even track movement and support daily fitness. Employing a new algorithm, the app displays a graph breaking down daily steps taken in each of five metabolic equivalent (MET) levels, from data based on your step count and walking pace. It also displays the exact location and time where the wearer's calories were burned, while measuring MET levels, making it useful for interval training.

Give it a Purpose

Find your motivation and dedicate your workouts to this purpose. One great way to do this is to sign up for a competitive athletic event that requires training. Whether that's an obstacle course, a triathlon or a 5k foot race, having such an event on your calendar will provide the daily motivation you need. Check out free training plans that can offer you guidelines for the best way to prepare for each type of event. Need further incentive? Use the event to raise money for a cause that matters to you. From new friends to new gear, you can make getting active this spring easier with the right motivational elements.

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COLUMNS



Hollowtop Smoke Signals by Art Kehler

NATIONAL HUMOR MONTH Questioning the need for an April designation

Recently, I read where April is designated as “National Humor Month.” Further study revealed that science has verified the curative power of humor to relieve stress. It also boosts morale, enriches quality of life and results in better well being. Therefore, the overall purpose of the designation is to heighten public awareness of the therapeutic value of humor. What’s more, when one considers that the first day of the month is April Fools’ Day, the designation seems entirely appropriate.

However, having been blessed to grow up in a less-than-dour (loony) family, I question the need to dedicate a particular month

in which to be comical. I can’t point to a calendar date when I was young and say that’s when it all began. But I do know that in our house, comedy was prevalent the year-round for so long as I can remember. We just reckoned that, as often as possible, life was supposed to be fun. Even when I was too little to know what was going on, I’d sometimes laugh hard enough to spit up my Gerber’s crushed pears, just because everybody else was laughing.

As a case in point, on occasion during supper, my father would spontaneously spring from his chair and run laps around the dining room table. Like a man

possessed, the old boy would repeatedly circle his stunned wife and two boys while hooting deliriously all the time. Then, just as suddenly as the screwy spectacle had begun, Pop would sit down again and carry on with his meal as though nothing had happened.

At any rate, the apple didn’t fall far from the tree because, before long, I began to jump up and follow him on his trips of temporary insanity. Fortunately, my brother was equally daft; otherwise he would have had to put himself up for adoption. The three of us, circling the table simultaneously made for an attention-grabbing sight to say the

least.

At such times, our mother would bury her head in her hands and woefully question what she had signed up for. Thankfully, she came from a more normal (civilized) background. If not for Mother’s refining efforts, who knows, my brother and I might have grown up to be even more harebrained than we did. One thing for sure, we were seldom boring.

Even today, that early emphasis on pursuing humor in everyday life, regardless of the circumstances, is paying dividends. For instance this morning, after having already endured six

consecutive months of winter weather, I exited my house only to be greeted by a frigid, gale-force wind. Rather than complain, like the guy in the TV commercial who laughs hysterically while repeatedly bashing his head into a board, I flung my jacket open to better confront the wind. I was still making fun of its paltry strength when a gust blew me over the handrail.

Similarly, it takes a special kind of happy jack to envision shoveling a foot of heavy, wet snow as a comical endeavor. Nonetheless, I stayed true to my upbringing. I made it a point to toss every shovel full of snow directly into the wind

(thereby filling in what I had just shoveled out), while belting out a rousing rendition of—“I Did It My Way!”

Ultimately, I have to admit that a sense of humor is vital to surviving April in Montana. Nevertheless, I’ll continue striving to be less-than-dour year round. After all this time, it’s hard to break old habits.

© Art Kehler

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

COMMODITY INSITE: Trump Tariffs & Chinese Retaliation

BY JERRY WELCH

After the Trump tariffs, aimed at China were put in place in early March, China retaliated this week. The result has been historically volatile price swings with the US commodity markets, US stocks and cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin. And because I do not understand what makes bitcoin rise or fall, let’s see how that mysterious market has performed this week amid the China vs. U.S. trade war.

The first three months of 2018, bitcoin endured its greatest loss in its history, shedding more than 40 percent. But two other cryptocurrencies, Ripple and XPR lost 77 percent. This week, Bitcoin slipped as low as \$6480 well below the high of \$17,600 set in early January. But that is enough about cryptocurrencies because I do not understand

what makes that market rise or fall. Or, why anyone would invest hard earned money in such things.

However, when China slapped a tariff on soybeans this week, I know good and well that is what caused the hairy legume to drop sharply. When news of the soybean tariff hit the wires, front month soybean futures fell as much as 5.2%, the largest one-day decline in history. Plus, volume of trade was the largest in history for futures and options on futures. A huge percentage decline amid record volume is generally viewed bearish based on history.

Once the initial shock of the soybean tariff was fully digested most grain markets rallied to regain half the losses. As did a goodly number of other markets

as well. Nonetheless, there is a trade war underway with the US and China and history shows in such a war there are no winners.

Here are just a few of the headlines about China retaliating against the United States due to the Trump tariffs. From Reuters News. “CHINA TARIFFS ON SOY, SORGHUM SPREAD FEAR IN U.S. FARM COUNTRY.” From the St. Louis Post Dispatch. “Vulnerable U.S. agriculture ‘on the tip of the spear’ amid China’s retaliatory tariff threats.” From Bloomberg News. “Midwest Farmers Have Trump to Thank for Their Latest Export Woes.” And this editorial headline from the St. Louis Post Dispatch. “Editorial: ‘Trump’s trade war will inflict heavy agriculture-sector casualties here.’”

The Chinese specifically targeted 106 US products with a 25% tariff. They did so less than 11 hours after President Trump targeted 1300 Chinese industrial technology, medical products and transport with a 25 per cent tariff. China is matching the US, tit-for-tat with tariffs. And that is no surprise because I stated several times the past month in this column that China would not sit idly by if they were singled out for trade violations, real or imagined.

The trade war between the US and China has spawned uncertainty. History shows that uncertainty is always bearish. The tendency with market and participants, investors, speculators or ag- producers is to shoot first and ask questions later. The markets are now convinced,

and rightfully so, there is a great deal of uncertainty everywhere. And no one knows what the consequences will be from one week to the next. Or, one day to the next for that matter.

From the St. Louis Post Dispatch. “Across Missouri — and in much of the American heartland — anxiety is especially high among farmers, who fear they stand to bear the brunt of the retaliatory tariffs proposed by China, after President Donald Trump’s initial moves to curb key Chinese imports, like steel.”

“It’s an awful day for Missouri agriculture,” said Blake Hurst, president of the Missouri Farm Bureau, who expressed particular concern about China’s proposed tariffs on soybeans, pork and cotton. “Three really important products to Missouri are no

longer competitive in the Chinese market if these go into place.”

It remains to be seen how this trade war between the US and China will shake out. But as I have been saying for some time, history shows there are no winners in a trade war. Thus far, the so called war has spawned two major market moving scenarios. One, there is uncertainty with all markets not simply the ag-markets. The other force is unprecedented volatility because no one knows what is going to unfold from one day to the next.

If you want to read about the history of markets go to, www.commodityinsite.com and check out my one-of-a-kind book, *Haunted By Markets*. With a purchase, you receive 1 month free of my twice a day newsletter.



NATURAL Resource News

THE SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP

SUBMITTED BY
SUNNI HEIKES-KNAPTON
Madison Conservation District

The health of our land and water becomes an important topic to remember every year at the end of April. It’s a refreshing time of new life: plants are beginning to grow again, the rainbow trout begin to spawn,

and our local farms and ranches are a flurry of activity. Fitting for this season, there are several dates that help honor the themes of healthy water, soil, and working lands in our area and across the nation.

The annual Ruby Valley and Madison Conservation District Banquet in Twin Bridges is the first to kick off

the series of dates, and includes a special program to honor the 2018 Stewardship Award winners for both the Ruby and Madison Valleys. The selected recipients are nominated by fellow community members for their dedication to healthy and productive lands, and they are honored in the gathering of conservation supporters at the

Round Barn in Twin Bridges.

This year’s banquet will also feature the award winning photographers who capture the beautiful images of these landscapes and provide us a reminder of how valuable our resources are in our region. Next in line is Earth Day on April 22. In the early 1970’s, a growing awareness of environmental problems created the first Earth Day. While the theme of that era was to protest the problems being faced by the nations waters, April 22, has now become a day when people take action to improve their surroundings. In Montana today, these events include tree plantings, river and neighborhood clean ups, youth education programs, and restoration projects.

Arbor day falls on April 27, and is a national effort to

encourage people to plant trees on their property for the many benefits they provide. Initially started in Nebraska Territory in 1872, people in that region were encourage to plant trees to provide shade from the hot sun, erosion prevention, materials for fuel and building, and for the simple aesthetics and beauty. Today, the effort continues nationally, with this day being dedicated to continuing the planting legacy that has been successful for nearly 150 years.

Soil and Water Stewardship week is a nationally recognized effort from April 29 to May 6. The week provides opportunities for community members to understand the value of healthy soils and water throughout the United States and how our actions can make a positive impact on

these important resources. The theme for 2018 is “Watershed: Our Waters, Our Home” and it emphasizes the fact that the health of the soil, range and forests ultimately affects the health of our waterways.

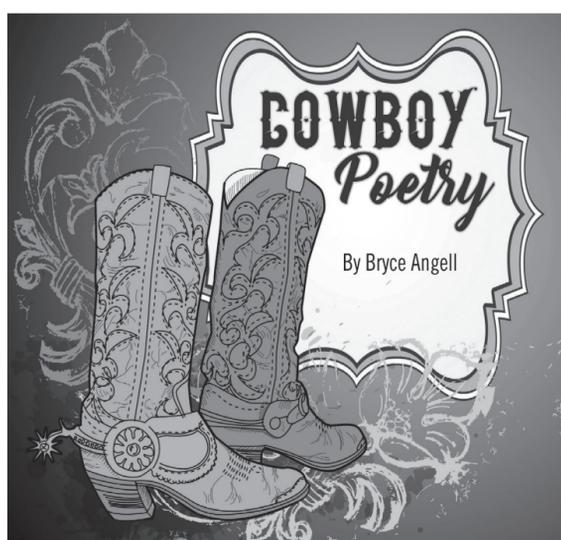
Through the series of events and recognition days, the importance of understanding the value of conservation is a common theme. Each topic provides us all a chance to consider the benefits we provide to our landscape and opportunities where we can be better stewards.

It is thinking of the next generation that may be our best motivation. As the great naturalist John James Audubon once said, “A true conservationist is a man who knows the world is not given to him by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.”

Generation Rifle

These guns I have are mine alone. Won’t ever give ‘em up. Without my guns I’d probly feel like one defenseless pup. Today this weekly poem of mine is slightly personal. I’ve owned a gun since twelve years old. For sure no arsenal. When I was young my father told me, “Time to buy a gun.” He purchased my new rifle. Gift from Father to his son. He taught me, “Your new rifle isn’t meant to be a toy. If you’ll heed to some instruction your new gun will bring you joy.” I enrolled in Hunter’s Safety. Dale Barney taught the class. He spoke with firm conviction. Not a person dared harass. He showed me how to hold a gun while walking in the field. Said, “Never take a blind man’s shot. Just keep those brown eyes peeled.”

And then he made it very clear. “Hold on to this new gun. Take care of it till you’ve grown old. Then pass it to your son.” Well I didn’t wait, till I’d grown old, to pass my rifle on. I gave it to my oldest son. And now he’s grown and gone. That day was thirty years ago. The time has turned its page. Our rifle would be passed on ‘cuz my grandson was of age. My son called me this morning. Said, “I’ve passed our rifle on. My oldest owns the rifle. Now, two generations gone.” So, my grandson has the rifle. And like ours it’s his first gun. He said, “I can’t believe I get to be the lucky one!” Would I ever tell my grandson that his rifle has to go? The answer would be never! That’s a promise you should know. Now I speak with firm conviction ‘cuz I’ve learned a thing or two. When we’re talking ‘bout our rifles, please don’t tell me what to do!

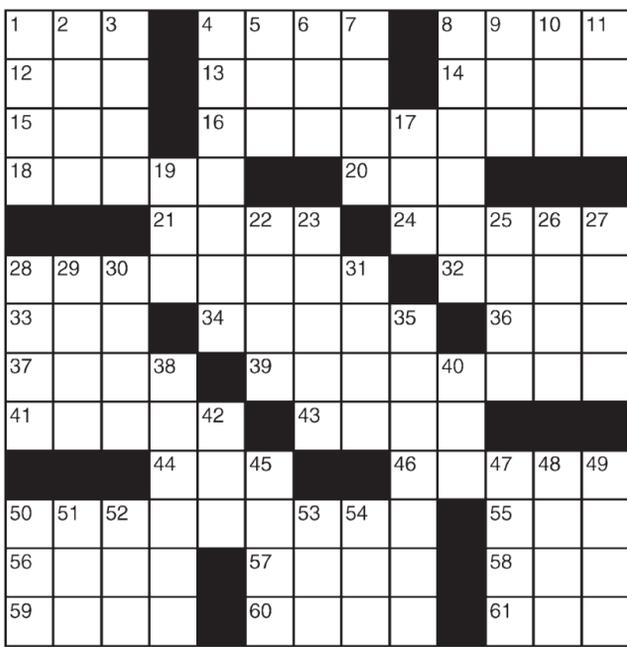


COMICS & PUZZLES

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Bandleader Kyser
- 4 Equitable
- 8 Frizzy hairdo
- 12 Hockey surface
- 13 Andy's pal
- 14 Circulate
- 15 Historic time
- 16 Twist
- 18 "Aida" composer
- 20 Expert
- 21 Food
- 24 Poolroom supply
- 28 Bring together
- 32 Hammer or sickle
- 33 Inseparable
- 34 Casino machines
- 36 "Kitchy- —!"
- 37 Young female
- 39 Remorseful
- 41 Milkmaid's place
- 43 Analgesic target
- 44 — long way
- 46 Fortunetellers' reading matter?
- 50 Recite a verb's forms
- 55 Verily
- 56 Notion
- 57 "— Brockovich"
- 58 Uncooked



- 60 Transmit
- 61 Type measures
- DOWN**
- 1 Ukraine's capital
- 2 Farm measure
- 3 Once around the sun
- 4 Salon treatments
- 5 I love, to Livy
- 6 Charged bit
- 7 Answer an invite
- 8 Showing buoyancy
- 10 Deteriorate
- 11 Have bills
- 17 Sphere
- 19 Dict. info
- 22 Body powder
- 23 Urban hang-out
- 25 Mischievous Norse god
- 26 Swag
- 27 — gin fizz
- 28 Gear teeth
- 29 Not procrastinating
- 30 Pianist Peter
- 31 Sicilian spouter
- 35 Grad student's income
- 40 Genetic letters
- 42 "Skip to My —"
- 45 Quite some time
- 47 Muse's instrument
- 48 Intend
- 49 Cutting implements
- 50 "El —"
- 51 Praise in verse
- 52 Born
- 53 Exist
- 54 Can matter

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



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

We can help!

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

We can help!

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

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Tina Blair

512-762-6691

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			1				9	
				8	1			
9		5				2		3
	5		1	4			2	
		7				3		
	6			3	9		7	
2		4					5	8
		6	8					
7				2				

© StatePoint Media
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.



Get the Good News!

www.madisoniannews.com
The local news of the Madison Valley, Ruby Valley and surrounding areas

SOLUTION	1	3	9	6	2	8	4	7	5
	2	7	4	3	5	8	9	6	1
	8	6	5	7	1	9	4	3	2
	5	4	7	6	3	9	2	1	8
	1	9	3	1	5	8	6	7	4
	6	2	8	7	4	1	9	5	3
	3	8	2	6	4	7	5	1	9
	7	5	1	8	9	3	2	4	6
	4	6	9	4	1	2	6	8	7

All puzzle answers on B7

SKYLINE SURVEYING INC.

MARGARET STECKER, PLS • (406) 581-0144
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* Property Corner Location * Boundary Surveys * Boundary Realignments
* Family Transfer Surveys * Subdivisions * Construction Layouts
* Elevation Certificates * Aerial Mapping * Topographic Surveys

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Kathy Schafer
Nikki Picken

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BACK GLASS MIRRORS WINDSHIELDS DOOR GLASS

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ESTATE SALES

Moving? Downsizing?
Liquidating an Estate?



WE CAN HELP
AbleEstateSales.com
Call Mike at 842-5251

LIFE ESTATE FOR SALE
128 Harrison Street
Harrison, Montana
Shown by appointment only
Call 406-244-0156 or
406-682-3304
12-1mo-b

ESTATE SALE
226 Hugel Street, Ennis
Friday, April 20, 10 am - 2 pm
Saturday, April 21, 10 am - 4 pm
To include: Living room, recliner,
bedroom furniture, lamps, china,
crystal, kitchen -
"Great Stuff and Great Prices"
26-1-p

HELP WANTED

REGISTERED NURSE (RN)/
LICENSED PRACTICAL
NURSE (LPN)
Tobacco Root Mountain Care
Center (TRMCC) is a skilled
nursing facility located in
Sheridan, Montana. TRMCC
provides 24-hour long term
nursing care and has the capabil-
ities to care for adults with
acute medical needs or seniors
recovering from surgery needing
rehabilitation services.
We are looking for passionate
and talented team members to
join TRMCC. This is an amaz-
ing opportunity for a LTC RN or
LPN to work in a great relaxed
environment assisting the resi-
dents of our facility.
Employee Benefits:
• Health insurance avail-
able (County sponsored benefit
with 30 hours or more per week),
optional dental, and vision plans
• Flexible spending account or
Health Savings account available
• Montana Public Employee Ad-
ministration (retirement benefit)
and optional 457-b savings plan
• Life insurance • Vacation and
sick time benefits.
TRMCC promotes a drug and
alcohol-free workplace. Offers of
employment are contingent upon
successfully passing pre-em-
ployment screenings.
Contact Information
Holly Haithcox – Business Of-
fice Manager
Tobacco Root Mountain Care
Center
326 Madison Street, Sheridan
MT
406-842-5600
11-tfc-b

Help Wanted:
Route delivery person needed at
Madison Laundry and Cleaners in
Ennis, Montana. Stop at the
Dry Cleaners or Contact John at
682-4933 or 600-0575
26-tfc-b

Come to work at Ennis True
Value and supplement your
fishing habit.
Shifts open, Fri., Sat., Sun.,
Mon., individually, 2, 3,
or all 4 days.
Pick up an application at the store
and talk to Lori.
26-1-b

NOW HIRING!
TOBACCO ROOT
MOUNTAINS CARE CENTER,
IN THE HEART OF THE
RUBY VALLEY IN
BEAUTIFUL SOUTHWEST
MONTANA HAS
POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR
CERTIFIED NURSE'S AIDES.
WE WILL TRAIN IF NOT
CERTIFIED.
COMPETITIVE WAGES,
GREAT BENEFITS.
IMMEDIATE PLACEMENT
POSSIBLE. CALL HOLLY AT
406-842-5600 FOR MORE INFO
AND APPLICATION. EOE
26-4-b

Ruby Valley Ranch is looking for
a seasonal employee. Month of
May - August. Irrigation expe-
rience preferred. Wages depen-
ding on experience. Interested
candidates call 842-5138 & leave
message.
24-tfc-b

Live in dog whisperer/housesitter
for two dachshunds. Dependable,
clean, conscientious. References
requested. 682-7809
21-3-b

Ennis Lumber Company is
wanting to hire a sales associate
to assume the position of Cabinet
Designer. Candidate should pos-
sess excellent customer service
and computer skills. Job consists
of working with customers to
provide computer-generated
drawings of cabinet designs, as
well as countertops. Sales of
other building materials would
also be involved. We are willing
to provide training but prior
experience is preferred. Wage
is dependent upon experience.
Please contact Kyle Marsh, 5080
US Hwy 287 Ennis, MT. 59729
406-682-3889
22-tfc-b

Place Your Classified
682-7755

**Bus Route Driver
Advertisement—**
Sheridan School District No. 5
is seeking a reliable, energetic
person who loves to work with
kids to be a regular route driver
for the upcoming 2018-2019
school year. Candidates need
to have a current Montana CDL
with school bus certification, or
have the ability to obtain. They
will also have to be certified in
First Aid and CPR. Sheridan
Schools is more-than-willing
to help the right candidate
through the process of obtaining
their CDL and the additional
required certifications. Hiring
will be dependent on passing a
pre-employment background
check and drug screening. This
position will also have the po-
tential for additional hours
driving extra-curricular trips
for the District. For further
information, contact Principal,
Rod Stout at 842-5302 or go to
Sheridan's school website at
<https://sheridan.k12.mt.us/>.
26-3-b

**Madison Valley Manor
is hiring!**
Housekeeper/Laundry Aide -
Full-time/Part-time
Dietary Aide/Cook -
Full-time/Part-time
Activity Assistant - Full-time
This is a great opportunity to
work in a personal healthcare
setting.
Excellent Pay
Government retirement
Benefits including life and
health insurance.
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 24-tfc-b

R.L. Winston Rod Co. in Twin
Bridges has openings for full
time production workers. Hours
are 6:00 am until 2:00 pm. We
offer competitive wage and
benefit package. Applications
are available at the Winston
Rod Plant. Inquiries to jbeglin@winstonrods.com. Come help us
make the finest fly fishing rods in
the world.
23-5-b

Wanted - cook/chef to prepare
meals to be taken in to the back
country. Prepare them at your
place or mine. Approximately
30 hours per week July - August.
406.581.7056
24-tfc-b

Ennis Lumber Company is
searching for an individual to
work in the yard. Candidate
will be responsible for loading
customers, building loads for
deliveries, unloading trucks, and
some deliveries. Candidate must
be able to lift 100 lbs. Forklift ex-
perience preferred, but not nec-
essary. We can train and certify
forklift driver. CDL license is
not required but preferred. Wage
dependent upon experience.
Please contact Kyle Marsh,
Ennis Lumber Company
406-682-3889
5080 U.S. Hwy 287 N.
Ennis, Mt. 59729
24-tfc-b

**The Sportsman
Ennis, MT**
Accepting
applications for
Team Members with
great attitudes!
FT/PT
Bartenders;
Line/Prep Cooks,
Servers; Front Desk,
Exp. Preferred.
Call Chad or
Michele Chapman
406-682-4242

Now Hiring Truck Drivers
Tanker and Doubles required.
Tanker experience required.
Pay DOE. Apply in person at 111
West Legion, Whitehall or call
406-287-5047.
24-tfc-b

**Paraprofessional
Advertisement—**
Sheridan School District No. 5
is seeking a reliable, energetic
person who loves to work with
kids to be a paraprofessional for
the upcoming 2018-2019 school
year. This position will have
many duties, including, but not
limited to library aide, classroom
paraprofessional, recess duty,
and testing assistance. Potential
candidates must have excellent
communication skills, be
flexible, be a cooperative team
player and be willing to learn
various computer-based skills.
Prior to employment, candidate
will have to successfully pass a
pre-employment background
check. This position may include
other duties as assigned based on
the District's needs. For further
information, contact Principal
Rod Stout at 842-5302 or go to
Sheridan's school website at
<https://sheridan.k12.mt.us/>.
26-3-b

Harrison Public School will be
hiring coaches for Varsity, JV
and JH teams for volleyball,
basketball and track for the
2018-19 school year. We are also
seeking a JH/HS Cross Country
Coach as well as a coach for
Speech & Drama. For more
information, please contact
Harrison AD, Connie Young at
685-3428. If you are interested
in any of these positions, please
submit a letter of interest to
Fred Hofman, Harrison School
Superintendent, PO Box 7,
Harrison, MT 59735.
26-2-b

Vacancy – Appointment of
Sheridan Council person
position starting May 14th, 2018
accordance with MCA 7-4-4112.
If you are interested in serving
as a council person, please send a
letter of interest to
PO Box 78 Sheridan, MT 59749
stating your qualifications.
Letters must be received by May
4th, 2018 by 4:00 p.m. Interest-
ed parties must have resided within
the Town City limits for at least
90 days prior to applying.
The applicant will serve a vacant
position until the next general
election in November 2019.
26-2-b

Temporary/Seasonal 0.45- 0.9
FTE Registered Nurse, Per Diem
Madison Valley Medical
Center is currently accepting
applications for a Temporary/
Seasonal Registered Nurse.
The RN is expected to plan and
implement nursing processes
of assessment, evaluation, and
execute clinical skills in the
promotion of health. Graduate of
an accredited School of Nursing
and current Montana State
License as an RN. Visit www.mvmedcenter.org for a detailed
job description and information
on how to apply.
26-2-b

Place Your Classified
682-7755

FOR RENT

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

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

For Rent - Lone Elk Mall: Retail/
office unit, 2000 sq ft, \$700/
month plus utilities and mainte-
nance dues. 682-5653
47-tfc-b

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

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

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

For Sale or Rent
Lone Elk Mall Unit 1E, 908+ SF
Newly remodeled into 4 rooms
with lobby
Currently Esthetician/Massage
therapy, can also be used for
office space.
Call 406 490 9464 for more
information
19-4-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

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

**Chimney & Vent
CLEANING**
Gary Kinney OR send a text
843-5486 596-7003
**WINDOW
CLEANING**

**Madison County
Employment Opportunities**

Madison Valley Manor, Ennis

- Activity Aide, Full-time;
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time;
- Dietary Aide/Cook-Part-time;
- Housekeeping/Laundry Aide Full-time-Permanent;
- Housekeeping/Laundry-Part-time-Temporary;
- Resident Aide, Full-time/Part-time-CNA Class/Independent Study Program "paid position" while in class; and
- RN & LPN Full-time or Part-time-Madison Valley Manor, Ennis and Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center, Sheridan;

Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center, Sheridan

- Business Office Assistant-Full-time Temporary;
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time;
- MDS (RN) Coordinator-Full-time; and
- Resident Aide, Full-time/Part-time-CNA Class/Independent Study Program "paid position" while in class.

Madison County, Virginia City

- Communications Officer, Part-time;
- Court Compliance Officer, Part-time

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

FOR SALE

FOR SALE
ANTIQUA WALNUT BED -
OVER 100 YEARS OLD
3 COUCHES, LEATHER
COMPRESSOR
BEST OFFER - CALL 682.3135
20-3-f

Vintage 1965 Honda 55 Trail
Cycle
3465 actual miles
\$1750 firm 682.3532

Koehler & Campbell piano with
bench
\$2000.00 682.3532

2013 Jeep Wrangler Sport
hard top, black, new tires, 3.6 V6
6 speed
46,735 miles \$21,999 682.3532
21-6-f

For Sale: Collection of Larry
Zabel framed and unframed
prints and giclees. Can buy any
or all. Pick up in Butte, or we can
ship for fee. Leave message 406-
490-1712.
45-tfc-f

**2013 Toyota Prius II
Winter Grey Metallic, 85,000
miles, one owner, very good
condition. Great gas mileage,
tons of space inside. This has
been an extremely reliable
car! 406-596-0661
\$11,500**

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

150 gallons of home heating oil
w/tank.
\$2.00 / gallon
Ennis, 596-0025
23-free-tfc

Sailboat
Walking golf cart with clubs
Large metal desk
Propane patio fire pit w/ 4 chairs
581-1552
24-2-f

3 piece desk set, desk hutch,
2 drawer file cabinet Only 3 yrs.
old. Asking \$600 OBO.
801-450-7380.

Cabinet for sale - TV. Black \$150.
801-450-7380
25-3-f

AUCTION

Ennis Lions Club 38th Annual
Auction, Saturday April 28,
9 a.m., Ennis Rodeo grounds.
Tools, furniture, electronics,
appliances, antiques and much
more. Barbecue lunch available.
23-4-f

GARAGE SALE

Huge Indoor Moving Sale
Saturday April 28, 8-2 pm
206 Madison at T&E Storage
next to D&D Auto. Household,
camping, fishing, furniture,
pictures, name brand clothes,
misc.
26-1-p

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Ad #111
Real Estate- Northwest Montana
- Company owned. Small and
large acre parcels. Private. Trees
and meadows. National Forest
boundaries. Tungstenholdings.
com (406) 293-3714

Ad #112
Northwest Community Health
Center (NWCHC) is looking to
add a full time Financial Officer
to manage and provide over-
sight 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 #113
Northwest Community Health
Center (NWCHC) is looking to
add a full time Dentist to
expand its dental services to
underserved families. If you are
interested in this practice oppor-
tunity please inquire with Maria
Clemons, Executive Director.
maria.clemons@northwestchc.org or (406) 283-6919

Ad #114
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# 115
Help Wanted Musselshell County
is accepting applications for a
full time EMS provider / admin
staff position.
This full-time position involves
Scheduled work hours and some
variable call hours. Job descrip-
tion
and application may be Picked
up at 704 First St East, Round-
up, MT 59072 or can be Mailed
Upon request.
Contact Ron Solberg @
(406)323-3554 or rsolberg@Co.musselshell.mt.us. Applica-
tions accepted until Position is
filled.

Ad #116
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 #117
Largest selection of used boats
ANYWHERE! Super clean and
all with warranty!
www.boatsmidway.com, Call
or text 307-272-7444 (ask about
Free delivery)

Ad# 118
200 PRIVATE TREATY AN-
GUS BULLS 150 Yearlings, 50
Two Year Olds. Fertility Tested
& Ready to Work!
Proven Calving Ease & Per-
formance Genetics. STEVEN-
SON'S DIAMOND DOT -
Hobson, MT. Clint Stevenson:
(406)366-9023

Ad# 119
ATTENTION EASTERN Mon-
tana. Petska fur buying Antler/
Finished Fur. All Grades, no lot
too large or small. Fair grad-
ing, competitive prices. www.petskafor.net "antler routes",
308-750-0700

PUBLIC NOTICES

FOR THE WEEK OF
APRIL 19, 2018

MONTANA STATE LAND BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On April 16th 2018 at 9:00 am the Montana Heritage Commission/Montana State Land Board will hold a public hearing at 9:00 am State Capitol, Room 303 Helena, MT to consider the donation from the Montana Historical Foundation to the State of Montana for the McFarland Center with an physical address of 700 MT Hwy 287 and a legal description of S21, T06 S, R03 W, C.O.S. 7/686, TR A IN SEC 21 & 22.
(Pub. March 15, 22, 29, Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2018) mhc MNAXLP

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that in Madison County on May 8th, 2018, an election will be held to elect two trustees to the MADISON VALLEY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD.
This election will be conducted BY MAIL ONLY and will be run with the regularly scheduled SCHOOL ELECTION.
No polling places will be available.
BALLOTS FOR THIS ELECTION WILL BE MAILED ON APRIL 19TH.
If you feel that you are registered to vote and do not receive your ballot, call our office immediately at 843-4270.
Only ACTIVE voters will receive a ballot in the mail.
Ballots must be received in this office by 8 pm on MAY 8TH, Election Day in order to be counted. If you are mailing your ballot, please allow plenty of time for it to arrive here.
BALLOTS WILL BE HAND-COUNTED IN VIRGINIA CITY at the Public Meeting Room, beginning at 5 pm by an Absentee Counting Board which will be appointed to this task.
Those who wish to observe this procedure will be sequestered until voting ends at 8pm.
If you have any questions, please contact us at the number above.
Dated this 29th day of March, 2018
Kathleen D. Mumme
Madison County Election Administrator
(Publish April 5th, 12th and 19th, 2018)
MNAXLP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, MADISON COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: MARY LOU LIELKE, Deceased.
Probate No. DP 29-2017-28
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
Claims must be either mailed to KEVIN

LIELKE, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, P.O. Box 281, Ennis, MT 59729, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.
Dated this 20th Day of FEBRUARY, 2018.
/s/ KEVIN LIELKE
Kevin Lielke
(Pub. April 12, 19, 26, 2018) kl MNAXLP

MADISON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Madison County Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on Monday, April 30, 2018 at 6:15 pm in the Public Meeting Room of the Madison County Administrative Office Building, 103 W Wallace, Virginia City, Montana.
The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comment on the North 40 Phase 4 Subdivision preliminary plat to subdivide Lots 1-3, Block 10, North Forty Subdivision into 22 individual lots and Lot 1, Block 11, North Forty Subdivision into 5 individual lots. Lots will range in size from approximately 0.08 acre to 0.41 acre. The subdivision is located on Otis Street south of Clark Ave., Ennis, in Section 33, Township 5 South, Range 1 West, P1M. Written comments should be received by 3:00 p.m. on April 30, 2018, and may be sent to the Madison County Planning Board by: Mail to P.O. Box 278, Virginia City, Montana, 59755; Fax to (406) 843-5229; or E-mail to planning@madisoncountymt.gov. Oral or written comments may also be given at the public hearing.
The preliminary plat and supplemental information pertaining to this proposed subdivision is available for review at:
• Madison County Planning Office, 103 W. Wallace, Virginia City;
• Madison Valley Library, 210 West Main Street, Ennis;
Call (406) 843-5250 for more information.
John Fountain, President, Madison County Planning Board
(Publish April 12, 19, 2018) mcpb MNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Ruby Valley Conservation District will revise the natural streambed and land preservation act rules governing the administration of the district's stream permitting program. A public hearing will be held Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 7:00pm, at the NRCS Conference Room, 402 South Main Street, Sheridan, Montana, to provide an opportunity to present views and submit written comments on the proposed rules. Copies of the draft rules are available by contacting the district at 402 South Main Street, Sheridan, Montana, (406)

842-5741 ext. 101.
(Pub. Apr 5, and April 18, 2018) rvc MNAXLP

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE:

This is a public notice from B & D Keylock to the Lessee Of Unit #42 located at 3538 Hwy 287 in Sheridan, Mt 59749 to inform you that your Unit is under foreclosure proceedings.
(Pub. April 12, 19, 2018) b&d MNAXLP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, MADISON COUNTY
NANCY S. LEADBEATER, Deceased.
Probate No. DP 29-2018-2
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that TIMOTHY BEARDSLEY has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
Claims must be either mailed to TIMOTHY BEARDSLEY, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, in care of John M. Kauffman, 716 South 20th Avenue, Suite 101, Bozeman, MT 59718 or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court.
Dated this 29th Day of March, 2018.
/s/ John M. Kauffman, counsel for Nancy Leadbeater
(Pub. April 19, 26, May 3, 2018) kkm MNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO TRANSFER LOCATION OF AIR QUALITY PERMIT (PURSUANT TO SECTION 75-2-211, MCA AND ARM TITLE 17, CHAPTER 8, SUBCHAPTER 7, PERMIT, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF AIR CONTAMINANT SOURCES).
RE Miller & Sons will file on or about 4/16/2018 a notification of intent to transfer to location of an air quality permit with Air, Energy & Mining Division/Air Quality Bureau of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. Applicant seeks approval of its transfer of location of Portable Crushing Equipment Montana Air Quality Permit 3040-02 to Sec. 17, Township 035, Range 05W, Madison 11 E Bench Road, Sheridan MT 59749.
The division must review the permit transfer within 30 days of receipt of a complete notice of intent. Any member of the public with questions or who wishes to review a copy of the permit and the analysis of it, or to submit comments on the change of location must contact the AQB at 1520 E 6th Ave, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 or (406)444-3490.
Any comments on the location transfer must be submitted to the division within 15 days after the

date of this publication.
(Pub. April 19, 2018) rem MNAXLP

ENNIS SCHOOL DISTRICT 52 - NOTICE OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned Clerk of Ennis School District No. 52, Madison County, State of Montana that the Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, by mail ballot. Ballots may be returned to the following locations, at the following times:
Location Prior to Election Day:
Clerk & Recorder, 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 and Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Ennis High School, 223 Charles Ave and Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. -3 p.m.
Location on Election Day:
Clerk & Recorder, 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 and Hours: 8 a.m. -8 p.m.
Ennis High School, 223 Charles Ave and Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Electors will consider the following issues at the election:
• Mill levy proposition to finance the school's special education costs. Shall the district be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of \$2,853.00 which is approximately 1.66 mills for the purpose of assistance in the payment of special education costs. Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with the market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$2.24 and on a home with the market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$4.48. The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies the amount at least once in the next five years.
• The Trustee election is cancelled as received nominating petitions and write-in intent declarations were equal to the number of positions to be elected, there is no other reason for the Trustee Election.
A qualified registered elector who will be absent from the district during the time the election is being conducted may: a) vote in person in the election administrator's office as soon as the ballots are available and until noon the day before the ballots are scheduled to be mailed; b) make a written request,

A qualified registered elector who will be absent from the district during the time the election is being conducted may: a) vote in person in the election administrator's office as soon as the ballots are available and until noon the day before the ballots are scheduled to be mailed; b) make a written request, signed by the applicant and addressed to the election administrator, that the ballot be mailed to an address other than the address that appears on the registration card. The district clerk/election administrator's office is located at:
103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755
If you miss this regular registration deadline (30 days prior to the election), you may still register for the election by showing up at the county election office up to and including on election day. Between noon and the close of business on the day before election day, you may complete and submit a voter registration card, but you will need to return to the district voting location on election day to pick up and vote a ballot. The county election office is located at:
103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755
A late registrant may obtain a ballot on election day at the following location:
103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755
District Clerk: Ginger Martello
DATED this 6th day of April, 2018
/s/ Ginger Martello
(Pub. April 19, 26, 2018) es MNAXLP

ALDER SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 - NOTICE OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned Clerk of Ennis School District No. 2, Madison County, State of Montana that the Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, by mail ballot. Ballots may be returned to the following locations, at the following times:
Location Prior to Election Day:
Clerk & Recorder, 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 and Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Alder School, 36 Upper Ruby Road and Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. -3 p.m.
Location on Election Day:
Clerk & Recorder, 103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755 and Hours: 8 a.m. -8 p.m.
Alder School, 36 Upper Ruby Road and Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. -3 p.m.
Electors will consider the following issues at the election:
• Mill Levy proposition to finance the school's special education costs. Shall the district be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of \$2,853.00 which is approximately 1.66 mills for the purpose of assistance in the payment of special education costs. Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with the market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$2.24 and on a home with the market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$4.48. The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies the amount at least once in the next five years.
• The Trustee election is cancelled as received nominating petitions and write-in intent declarations were equal to the number of positions to be elected, there is no other reason for the Trustee Election.
A qualified registered elector who will be absent from the district during the time the election is being conducted may: a) vote in person in the election administrator's office as soon as the ballots are available and until noon the day before the ballots are scheduled to be mailed; b) make a written request,

signed by the applicant and addressed to the election administrator, that the ballot be mailed to an address other than the address that appears on the registration card. The district clerk/election administrator's office is located at:
103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755
If you miss this regular registration deadline (30 days prior to the election), you may still register for the election by showing up at the county election office up to and including on election day. Between noon and the close of business on the day before election day, you may complete and submit a voter registration card, but you will need to return to the district voting location on election day to pick up and vote a ballot. The county election office is located at:
103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755
A late registrant may obtain a ballot on election day at the following location:
103 W. Wallace St., First Floor, Virginia City, MT 59755
District Clerk: Kathleen F. Wuelfing
DATED this 6th day of April, 2018
/s/ Kathleen F. Wuelfing
(Pub. April 19, 26, 2018) as MNAXLP

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Ennis School District #52, located at 223 S. Charles Street in Ennis, Montana, is accepting bids for "Contracted Cleaning/Custodial Services" for the 2018-2019 school year. Duties will include all summer cleaning duties and all custodial duties during the school year. Extracurricular and occasional week-end events will also be part of the duties. Contract will start July 1, 2018 and end June 30th, 2019.
Sealed Bids are due to the Ennis District Office on or before Friday May 11th at 4:00p.m. Bids can be delivered in person or mailed to and addressed:
Ennis School District #52
"Custodial Bid"
PO Box 517
Ennis, MT 59729
(Pub. April 19, 26, May 3, 2018) es MNAXLP



Blake Amberson (406) 270-2716
Ennis, Montana 59729 ambersonfencing@gmail.com



Klasen Septic

Need your septic tank pumped **NOW**?
We're available!
Call for a quote.

We also rent portable toilets.

683-2063 OR 925-1076



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We Install Windshields - Alignments

ENNIS • 682-4537

Daily Parts Deliveries to Alder, Sheridan & Twin Bridges Areas
24 Hour Towing (CELL 406-570-9872)



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Hands on care for all your body needs.

Orthopedic & Sports Injuries
Total Joint Rehabilitation
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Tension Headaches & Chronic Pain

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Home Safety
Adaptive Equipment
Hand, Wrist & Elbow Syndromes
Neurological Rehabilitation

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220 E. Crofoot, Sheridan, MT 59749-9508 **406-842-5081**



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Give us a call or email to place a classified ad.
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Call or email :

Tina Blair
512-762-6691
tina@madisoniannews.com

Ennis High School announces District Music Festival results

SUBMITTED BY ANDREW SCRUGGS
Ennis Schools

Ennis High School reported the results from the District Music Festival, held in Bozeman on April 12-14.

EHS Band received a rating of II or "Excellent" on their prepared selections - Star Wars and Hyperdrive.

EHS Band received a rating of III or "Good" on their sight-reading. EHS Choir received a rating of II or "Excellent" on their prepared selections Stars and Lunar Lullaby. EHS Choir received a rating of III or "Good" on their sight-singing. EHS Women's Vocal Quartet received a rating

of II or "Excellent" on their performance of Homeward Bound. EHS Saxophone Duet received a rating of II or "Excellent" on their performance of Winter.

The following students performed solos and received a rating of II or "Excellent": Kelsie Frey - horn solo,

Elyse Conklin - baritone sax solo and Kelsie Frey - vocal solo.

Chloe Chapman performed "O, Mio Babbino Caro," for which she received a rating of I or "Superior," earning her a place at State Music Festival in Billings in May.

Twin Bridges Legion presents awards

SUBMITTED BY
TWIN BRIDGES LEGION POST 31

American Legion Post 31 in Twin Bridges presented Twin Bridges High School students with numerous

awards on April 5. Earlier this winter two contests were conducted. Post 31 organized a Senior Government survey contest followed later by a Constitutional Essay contest.

The 1st place winning papers were sent to the state competitions. After all the judging was completed, the following awards were presented: Senior Surveys:

1st Sierra Rinta, 2nd Roman Hendrickson and 3rd Savanna Stewart. High School Essays: 1st Sierra Rinta, 2nd Megan Bausch and 3rd Savanna Stewart.

Billings Livestock Commission 406.855.1947
Billings, MT



He Sells!
April 28
Loose Sell 8 A.M.
Catalog 12 Noon
www.billingslivestock.com

2018 Season
49 years of bringing live theatre to Northeastern Montana

FORT PECK
Summer Theatre

GUYS ON ICE
June 1 - June 10

CABARET
June 15 - July 1

The Ellie Greenwich Musical
LEADER OF THE PACK
July 6 - July 22

Disney's
THE LITTLE MERMAID
July 27 - August 12

ALMOST MAINE
August 17 - Sept. 2

SHOW TIMES
Fridays & Saturdays • 7:30 p.m.
Sundays • 4 p.m.

NEW TICKETING SYSTEM
Order online at www.fortpecktheatre.org and choose your seat!

201 Missouri Ave, Fort Peck, MT
Call 406-228-9216 for more information

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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)
Wed. 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:
8:00 A.M. AT NOTRE DAME IN TWIN BRIDGES
9:30 A.M. AT ST. MARY'S IN LAURIN
11:00 A.M. AT ST. PATRICK'S IN ENNIS

Please call the Rectory for the daily Mass schedule at 842-5588
Father John Crutchfield, Pastor

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

The Church of Word and Sacrament
Visitors Welcome
Easter is Fast Approaching!

Pastor Ken Stensrud

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

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

HARRISON COMMUNITY CHURCH
Harrison, Montana

Adult Bible Study ~ 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Church Services ~ 10:30 a.m.

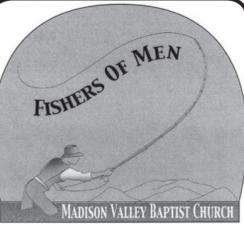
Pastor Joe Miller
Come Worship & Sing Praises To Our God. Spread the Word!

Madison Valley Presbyterian Church
WORSHIP

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

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

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



Phil 2:16
Holding forth the word of life:

Dr. Ray Teston
Pastor
Nathan Nutter, Minister of Music and Youth

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

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

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Ennis Branch

Sacrament Meeting
10:00 a.m.
Sunday School
11:20 a.m.
R S & Priesthood
12:10 p.m.

Family History Center
682-4911, 682-7415, 682-3614
President Chandler
682-3020

Christian Science Services

Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m.

ALL WELCOME

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

4983 US Hwy 287 N. • Ennis, Montana
www.ChristianScience.com

Valley Assembly
Love Jesus • Love People • Reach the Valley

114 N. Main, Sheridan
842-5845
Pastor Duane B. Dasher
Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Valley Kids - after school to 6:45 p.m.

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

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

Ruby Valley 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

THE BAHAI FAITH
Do not allow difference of opinion, or diversity of thought to separate you from your fellow-men, or to be the cause of dispute, hatred and strife in your hearts.

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Bahá'ís of Madison County

ENNIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Loving God, Loving People

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

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

Ruby Valley Baptist Church

Tony Shaw, Pastor
842-5602

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

One block behind IGA, Sheridan

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

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Pastor Tom Luksha

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Trinity Jeffers/Ennis
10 a.m. adult forum
11:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Virginia City
Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Christ Church Sheridan
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study 9:00 a.m.

www.rvec.org
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call 682-7755 to make a plan.

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C	O	N	F	L	A	T	E	T	O	O	L
O	N	E	S	L	O	T	S	K	O	O	
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G	O	A									
C	O	N	J	U	G	A	T	E	Y	E	A
I	D	E	A								
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— **King Crossword** —
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

ENNIS FAMILY and FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP
100 Prairie Way, Ennis (599-3659)

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

Tuesdays ~ 5 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Meeting Every Thurs. at 8 p.m., Church of the Valley, Twin Bridges
ALANON MEETING
Same Time - Same Place

ALANON
Twin Bridges • Church of the Valley
Thursdays, 8 pm

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

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

Vennis Over The Hill Unity Group
Faced with a drinking problem?
Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help.

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

MON. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking
WED. - 7:30 p.m., Trinity Church in Jeffers
FRI. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking

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

Meets every Saturday at 6 p.m. & starts with a meal.

DAYSRING MISSION
3648 Hwy 287, Sheridan
596-0707

12 step program

Madison Dam road to be restricted April 24

SUBMITTED BY NORTHWEST ENERGY

A one-day closure on Madison Dam road will limit public access to the area near the dam on April 24. The road closure will allow crews to safely make upgrades that

will enhance the dam's public-safety warning system. The road closure will begin at 7 a.m. and continue to about 6 p.m. on April 24. The road closure will begin at the small parking area about 800 feet north of the dam. The boat

launch in the area will also be closed and those with a raft or trailer should turn around at the Trail Creek parking lot. Those without trailers will be able to use the small parking area north of the dam. The closure will allow

workers to safely install power poles and make other improvements that will accommodate the installation of a new public safety warning system. The system consists of audible evacuation alarms, visual beacons and signage in

an area that begins at the dam and stretches about 1.5 miles to the powerhouse. Along with improving public safety, the improvements will allow for quicker, more reliable flow restoration in the Madison

River below the dam. Both the safety and flow-restoration measures are required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license issued to NorthWestern Energy, which allows it to operate Madison Dam.

Twin Bridges alumni announce scholarships

SUBMITTED BY TWIN BRIDGES ALUMNI ASSOC.

The Twin Bridges Alumni Association is pleased to offer graduates of Twin Bridges High School the following scholarships for continuing education:

- \$500 Salutatorian Scholarship.
- \$1,000 scholarship for a TBHS graduate who has completed at least one year of college.
- \$700 for a TBHS graduate who wishes to continue their education at a four-year

college, two-year college, technology or trade program. • \$500 of a TBHS graduate who is pursuing an education in Fine Arts or Education. The graduate must write a letter of intent of the use of the scholarship and why they feel they deserve the award.

- Please include:
- Name and address.
 - Year graduated from TBHS.
 - Institution or institutions of higher learning attended.
 - Primary area of study.
 - Current academic transcript.
 - List of other financial

assistance and awards. • Involvement in community services. Applicants will be judged on the presentation of the application, academic performance, community involvement and financial need. Previous applicants

are encouraged to apply. Applications must be received prior to June 6. Please mail applications to: Twin Bridges Alumni Assoc., Box 142, Twin Bridges, MT 59754.

Madison County Sanitarian's Office
P.O. Box 278 - 103 W. Wallace Street
Virginia City, MT 59755
(406) 463-4275 sanitarian@madisoncountymt.gov

SERVSAFE TRAINING

The Madison County Sanitarian's Office will be holding a ServSafe training. A successful passing grade will satisfy the Montana Food Code, which requires all licensed food establishments to have a Certified Food Manager on staff. The date and location is listed below:

DATE: APRIL 24TH, 2018, TUESDAY, 8:00AM-5:00PM
MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC MEETING ROOM VIRGINIA CITY
Fee: \$75.00
Registration Deadline: One week prior to the class

Registration forms can be found on the Sanitarian's page of the Madison County website at madisoncountymt.gov or the Sanitarian's Office, located at 103 W. Wallace Street in Virginia City. Textbooks will be available for pick at the Madison County Sanitarian's Office. Applicants must be registered and fee paid in advance of receiving your textbook and exam materials. Lunch will be provided at no cost. Please call the Sanitarian's Office at 843-4275 to register for this training. Seating is limited, so please register early.

MADISON SQUARE ATHLETIC CLUB

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HIIT (HIGH INTENSITY INTERVAL TRAINING)
BOOT CAMP • STRENGTH • LOW IMPACT
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APRIL 30, 2018 - MAY 11, 2018
8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.
75 HOURS (\$750 VALUE)

11th Annual Open House Parts Sale

April 2nd - April 30th 2018

* Limited to Quantities on Hand *
* Certain Parts Excluded *
~ Refreshments ~

Spend \$100 and "Spin to Win" an Extra Discount!

Outlet Stores
Deer Lodge - Deer Lodge Auto Parts 846-1300
Phillipsburg - Angel's Nest Ranch 491-2655
Ennis - D&D Auto 682-4234

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PERFORMANCE PLUS DEALER

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AMERICORPS AND SOUTHWEST MONTANA

How Big Sky Watershed Corps members are working to conserve, protect landscapes in Madison County

CAITLIN AVEY
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Madison County is once again playing host to three new Big Sky Watershed Corps members: Claudia Macfarlane, Tess Dubé and Quincey Johnson. BSWC is an Americorps program placing young professionals in Montana watershed communities. This year, the Ruby Valley Conservation District, Madison River Foundation and Wildlife Conservation Society have welcomed new members to help share conservation efforts and education around the community and surrounding areas.

Ruby Valley Conservation District

Claudia Macfarlane moved to Sheridan at the beginning of the year, having never heard of the town. Originally from central California, Macfarlane made the move to Montana for an 11-month stint with the Ruby Valley Conservation District. "I googled Sheridan Montana and saw that they had a brewery and a farmers' market," she laughed. "So, I figured it would be great!"

A recent graduate of the University of California - Berkeley, Macfarlane holds a degree in environmental earth science with a concentration in conservation and resource studies. "I've always been interested in nature and science - I collected bugs and rocks as a kid, all the nerdy things," she said. Macfarlane said she is excited

to do purposeful work with the district and to put the theories she learned in school to practical use. During her term, she'll be working on updating the district's website, willow harvesting, stream restoration and monitoring work, just to name a few of her tasks. "I also have plans to hopefully do some education work with the schools or groups," she added.

Macfarlane said the way of life in Montana is vastly different than California. "Here, people are more focused on the health of the land and the idea of conservation is more positive," she said.

Encouraging others to get involved, Macfarlane said conservation is as simple as "going on a hike without your phone" and to be present on the landscape. "You're not

signing your life away if you go to one conservation event or organization. It's one day of volunteering or visiting a conservation organization to learn about what's going on around you and what you can do to help."

Madison River Foundation

Originally from New York, Tess Dubé moved to Ennis from Savannah, Ga. A 2015 graduate of Le Moyne College with a degree in mathematics, Dubé is new to the conservation scene. "I was considering a job in the conservation field and with my degree, it was hard to find something," she said of finding the BSWC.

Having worked at a summer camp that was environmentally

conscious, Dubé was familiar with various conservation practices, but wished to expand her knowledge. "Working at that camp instilled a lot of really cool values and I've always been concerned for the planet and this is way for me to help make a difference."

Through her work with the foundation, Dubé is focusing on education and outreach outside of the Madison Valley. She is working on some education programs with different groups and organizations in the hope to expand the foundation's mission - preserve, protect, enhance.

Being a mountain girl through and through, Dubé said life in the Madison Valley is also very different from her home state and her previous home in Georgia. "Here, it's more like that camp community in the sense that it's close-knit and people have similar ideas," she said.

Dubé understands the importance of the work she's doing and encourages others to keep up with their conservation efforts, despite not seeing immediate results. "The work you do here, the results are long lasting and it's important. You might not see immediate results but it's important work for future generations to enjoy."

Wildlife Conservation Society

Quincey Johnson is a native of New Hampshire but spent last year in the Glacier area working with The Glacier Institute. She graduated in 2016 from Hobart and William Smith Colleges in New York with a degree in environmental studies.

With plans to continue her education by earning a master's degree in conservation biology, Johnson has always been

interested in science. "I've done some research and forestry work in school and worked as a field tech studying salamanders and lizards," she said of finding her way to BSWC and the Wildlife Conservation Society. "I've always felt that conservation, in general, is important and since we're intimately sharing the landscape, by being engaged we will hopefully be more successful."

Right now, Johnson is working toward planning the summer Wildlife Speaker Series and said they are hoping to incorporate more urban communities. "The speaker series informs and engages the community of the efforts toward wildlife and presents science and show's what's happening," she said. "We're trying to also incorporate urban areas and how urban and rural communities can work together to find solutions for our wildlife habitats."

While she enjoys working in the wildlife field, Johnson said she hopes to focus more on research. "I think I'd like to stick with wildlife but a more research-based path," she said. "I like the science aspect of it."

The openness of Montana allows for a lot of wildlife viewing, which Johnson enjoys, but said she also misses the heavily forested area of her home state. "Everything here is more prominent," she said. "It's much more open and the mountains are bigger; and I like the small-town vibe and community."

Johnson encourages people to value and enjoy the landscape and all that it offers. "In order to be able to enjoy it we need to conserve the land and be aware of our impact, especially for generations to come."



(RIGHT) Claudia Macfarlane is the Big Sky Watershed Corp member serving in the Ruby Valley with the Ruby Valley Conservation District. (LEFT) Tess Dubé, left, and Quincey Johnson are Big Sky Watershed Corp members serving in the Madison Valley. Dubé is working with the Madison River Foundation and Johnson with the Wildlife Conservation Society. (C. AVEY PHOTOS)

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*Paid for by Mary Oliver, P. O. Box 84
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REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

- MONDAYS**
- Bridge, Ennis**
Every Monday at 11:30 at the First Madison Valley Bank. New players welcome.
 - 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.
 - Senior Fitness**
9:15 at Madison Square Athletic Club.
 - 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.
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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**
- TOPS, Ennis**
- WEDNESDAY APRIL 18**
- Kindergarten Roundup, Sheridan**
Sheridan School's kindergarten roundup at 6 p.m. Contact Rod Stout 842-5302 for more information.
 - Donkey Basketball, Harrison**
Taking over the Harrison gym at 7 p.m. Dinner served at 5:30 p.m.
- THURSDAY APRIL 19**
- MVHA, Ennis**
Tom Satterly brings Butte to life; he is a descendant of early Butte families, and his flexibility as a speaker is the product of a lifetime of fascination with Butte and over a decade of experience on the Speakers Bureau. 4 p.m. at Madison Valley Senior Center.
- APRIL 20-25**
- Book sale, Sheridan**
Library book sale; great bargain and flea market. During regular library hours.
- SATURDAY APRIL 21**
- Reading, Virginia City**
Reading with Montana Poet Laureate Lowell Jaeger at the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center at 7 p.m.
 - Petropolis, Ennis**
Aerial perspectives of Alberta tar sands.
- THURSDAYS APRIL 26**
- Mad Gals, Ennis**
Monthly lunch and meeting at the Sportsman's in Ennis. Bring a friend. 12 p.m.
- SATURDAY APRIL 28**
- Chautauqua, Virginia City**
Chautauqua presentation at the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck and performances starting at 7:30 p.m.
- TUESDAY MAY 1**
- Estate planning seminar, Sheridan**
Free Estate Planning Seminar on Wills Trusts and Probate. Presenter; Marsha Goetting with MSU Extension Services. 12 p.m. at the Philanthropy Building in the Moraine Room.
- THURSDAY MAY 3**
- BAH, Ennis**
Business After Hours Hosted by Bozeman Job Service/Madison Valley Public Library the MVPL at 5 p.m.
- SATURDAY MAY 5**
- Expo, Twin Bridges**
- THURSDAY MAY 10**
- Buy Local Expo**
sponsored by the Ruby Valley Chamber of Commerce at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Call Bob at 842-7900 to be a vendor or for more information.
- SUNDAY MAY 6**
- Poetry reading, Virginia City**
- Favorite Friends, Famous Poems at the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center at 3 p.m.**
- Presentation, Virginia City**
"Me and Martha: Intimate Reflections of Dora DuFran about the Real Life of Calamity Jane" (portrayal by Mary Jane Bradbury). 7 p.m. at the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center.

Documentary shot from helicopter by filmmaker Phillip Mettler, showing at the MVPL at 11 a.m.

Monthly lunch and meeting at the Sportsman's in Ennis. Bring a friend. 12 p.m.

Chautauqua presentation at the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck and performances starting at 7:30 p.m.

Ennis Lions Club annual auction at 9 a.m., preview before, at the Ennis rodeo grounds.

Buy Local Expo sponsored by the Ruby Valley Chamber of Commerce at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Call Bob at 842-7900 to be a vendor or for more information.

The Vigilante Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation invites you to our 22nd annual banquet at the Round Barn in Twin Bridges at 5 p.m.! Don't miss this opportunity to share an evening of food and fun benefiting elk, wildlife habitat and public access. For tickets, call (406) 580-1842 or email klvessey@gmail.com.

Favorite Friends, Famous Poems at the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center at 3 p.m.

"Me and Martha: Intimate Reflections of Dora DuFran about the Real Life of Calamity Jane" (portrayal by Mary Jane Bradbury). 7 p.m. at the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center.



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