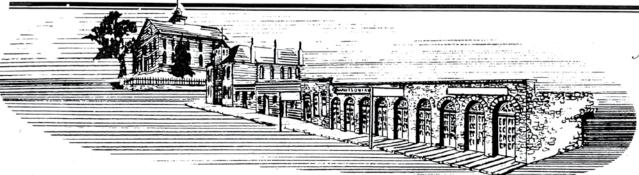
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Thursday, October 26, 2023



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"Dam good job!"

MADISON HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECOGNIZED AS A "STAR" WORKSITE BY OSHA



The Madison hydro facility crew has earned its third recertification as a "Star" worksite by OSHA. The team has exhibited continuous workplace safety improvement and ownership from the employees. PHOTO COURTESY NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

By CORI KOENIG editor@madisoniannews.com

he Madison hydro facility crew has earned its third recertification as a "Star" worksite by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). VPP "Star" is the agency's highest level or recognition for workplace safety and health excellence.

On Wednesday, Oct. 18, the achievement was celebrated at Kobayashi Beach on Ennis Lake, followed by lunch and a tour of the Madison hydro facility. Representatives from Northwestern Energy, Senator Daines'

and Tester's office and Madison County Commissioner Bill Todd were there to honor the crew.

"It only happens by daily commitment and focus by the crew here," said director of hydro operations, Jeremy Clotfelter.

- NORTHWEST ENERGY continued on A3

Madison County Board of Commissioners (MCBC) Oct. 17, 2023

THE MENACE IN ENNIS AND WHO PAID FOR THAT BAR TAB?

By KATE JOKI ROSE news@madisoniannews.com

mongst a whole host of motions (see below) MCBC discussed matters that need solving. First up, the Arena Bar Invoice. It seems, according to Dana Escott, Fairgrounds Manager, that a bar tab from one of the two beer gardens at this year's Fair was paid from the

incorrect funding source. An account meant for contest payouts such as the Calcutta and cow milking events, and overseen by the Arena Committee, was used to pay the invoice. Escott suspected that new committee members may not have seen the bylaws clarifying this. County District Attorney (D.A.) David Buchler expressed concern over county funds being used to pay bar tabs. As Escott was the only

- MCBC continued on A2

"Neighbors helping neighbors" FIREWOOD BANK OF THE RUBY

FIREWOOD BANK OF THE RUBY VALLEY PROCURES 'NEW' TRUCK WITH GENEROUS DONATION

By CORI KOENIG editor@madisoniannews.com

he Firewood Bank of the Ruby Valley (FBRV) is sporting new wheels thanks to a generous grant from the Trails End Foundation and elbow grease from FBRV volunteers and various local establishments. In February of 2023, the Firewood Bank of the Ruby Valley (FBRV)

received a grant of \$10,000 from the Trails End Foundation aimed at "general support" of ongoing efforts, according to Frank Ford, FBRV executive director.

FBRV has used much of that Trails End grant money to purchase and bring into service a "new" (to FBRV) delivery truck with which to take firewood to needy families. In recent years such deliveries have been made in a 1981 International 1½ ton truck

FIREWOOD BANK continued on A3

MCPB review training

COUNTY PLANNING BOARD RECEIVES SPECIALIZED TRAINING

By LIZ MANNARINO reporter@madisoniannews.com

Oct. 19, 2023 the Madison County Planning Board hosted a legislative and subdivision review training course that delved into the intricacies of public participation and regulation policies surrounding land use. It was presented by Karen Alley, of Montana Association of Counties (MACo). A special note was made during introductions that while this meeting was public, the agenda did not list any particular ongoing projects specifically, and thus all pending issues were not to be discussed.

Special consideration was given to the discussion of ethics particularly Ex Parte communication, and the challenges that often conflict with this while living in a rural community. Ex Parte is any one-sided form of communication that is verbal, written, electronic or visual that is received outside of the public record and goes hand in hand with a discussion of ethics. Identifying and avoiding conflicts of interest, and examples of appearances of impropriety were also examined. "Person to person is Ex Parte. Person to public, is not", said planning board member John Malovich.

"Everything you do, everything

-MCPB continued on A2

37th Annual Hunters' Feed

BEAR SPRAY TRAINING FEATURED

By LIZ MANNARINO reporter@madisoniannews.com

he weather couldn't have been nicer for the 37th Annual Hunter's Feed in downtown Ennis on Friday, Oct. 20. Crowds enjoyed mingling with one another while trying tasty wild game concoctions.

The Montana Bear Education Working Group, in conjunction with Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife Management Institute, and non-profit People and Carnivores sponsored a bear spray training event at the Hunter's Feed on Friday, Oct. 20, 2023. This working group provides and supports bear

HUNTERS' FEED continued on A2

Getting into the spirit



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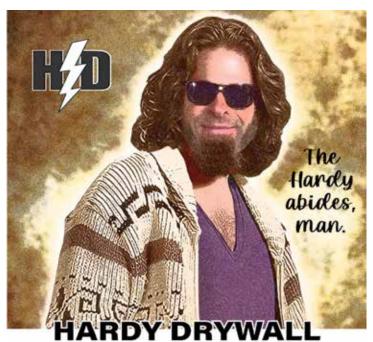






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MCPB from A1

The Open Meeting Act under Montana's Constitution was given particular consideration of the public's need to know what the meetings are about and the right to participate within them. Common ground rules for public participation include:

- · Agreement not to interrupt the person currently speaking
- Avoidance of shouting and personal attacks. Disruptive conduct such as jeering, whistling or booing during a comment is prohibited
- Sincere and active listening should be practiced, even during disagreements
- Cell phones should be silenced

you collect as a planning board

is the public record", said Alley,

in response to a question about

impromptu communications.

• No single person should be allowed to dominate and talk over other attendees

- No person will be allowed to speak twice until all other participants have had the opportunity to speak
- Discussion should not deviate from the established agenda
- All questions should be directed towards the Chair of the Planning Board, instead of other audience members

staff planners have access to it is of utmost importance. Asking the other person to submit their questions via email or letter

outside of that public record ensures that all board members and MCBC from A1

party at the MCBC meeting it has been bumped to a future agenda. Commissioner Todd requested a copy of the bylaws and MCBC requested that all Arena Committee members and Escott, Fairgrounds Manager attend the next meeting. Though initially set for the Oct. 24, 2023 regular MCBC meeting it does not appear on the agenda.

The second discussion, Varney Road in Ennis, centered around a plethora of complaints about the "incorrectly installed reflectors...they are a menace," Commissioner Todd declared. The 'high density of reflectors [is] dazzling' and not safe. Commissioner Allhands added that it hinders snow removal, is causing "In the spirit of fundamental

fairness, rules of conduct are a way to say everyone in the room is valuable, and everyone has a voice", said Alley.

tion updates, Alley discussed four bills that affect the county. The first bill number, HB 211 modifies the standard for subsequent hearing. New information must be relevant or change in design must be significant and have a substantial effect on the governing body's consideration. Basically, it gives the Madison County Board of Commissioners some flexibility in determining whether new information presented is valid enough to warrant a new hearing.

In regard to Land Use Legisla-

SB 130 allows a county to consolidate land use boards into one that includes planning, zoning and board of adjustment. While this does not currently affect Madison County, if in the future multiple boards exist, all land use department boards could be consolidated into one and combine specialized knowledge.

SB 131 establishes a 20 business day review timeline for subdivision exceptions once the application is complete. It also restricts the ability to impose conditions on exemptions, except as required to ensure compliance with survey requirements. As per the current rule, an admission of land for a subdivision is exempt from review if they meet the qualifications including surveys and adequate paperwork completed.

SB 158 allows a family transfer within a platted subdivision. It restricts conveyance of a lot created by family transfer for a period of two years unless a variance is requested. If a family transfer is a documented evasion, the penalty is \$5,000. This went into effect in May 2023. Previously a landowner could divide the property and give it to an immediate family member only if it was outside a platted subdivision. This bill changed how family transfers work and now allows for those transfers to occur within a platted subdivision as long as it complies with zoning and acreage requirements.

The Madison County Planning Board meets on the last Monday of every month at the Thomas Hickman Library in Virginia City at 6 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, Oct. 30, 2023.

damage to trucks and affects the mowers. MCBC discussed who initially installed them and Todd recommended District 3 and 1 road crews remove them. The conversation wrapped up with, "We have to do something, more to come on that."

One of the motions of interest was the approval of Resolution 64. It states that the county will collect 95 mills for statewide school quality and equalization; give 77.89 to the state and hold 17.11 in escrow (discussed in previous meeting) until the matter is judicially resolved.

In a related motion, 64-2023, MCBC "Allow[ed] MACo (Montana Association of Counties) to be legal representatives to

intervene on behalf of Madison County in the mill levy litigation. D.A. Buchler stated that the firm out of Helena, Crowley Fleck, will be representing

Approvals included: Moonlight Basin: Moonlight Trail- Dedication of Public Access Easement; submit AIM Concept Paper for Potential Grant Opportunity for Wildfire Mitigation efforts in Big Sky; District #3 Service Truck Purchase, \$56,095; MVM Transport Van go out to bid on new van with handicap ramp (in MVM budget); Employee Resignation rescinded by Jennifer Wetzel; Action Inc. Contract; Temporary Employee Status Changed to permanent, Public

Health; Carney Lane Culvert project, Montana crane service contract; Resolution 63-2023 -A Resolution of Intent to Establish a Madison County PACE Program; Agency Budget Approvals; Resolution 62-2023 Rescinding Burn Ban, Resolution 45-2023, First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement Between Gallatin County and Madison County for Interjurisdictional Disaster and Emergency Services; Madison County Airport RFQ; Twin Bridges Airport Improvement Pay Request #4; ARPA Sheridan/ Mad.Co Water Project Grant Management Plan; 103 East Wallace Property Appraisal and Evans Quit Claim Deed for portion of closed West Street, Pony, MT.



outreach and education efforts across bear county in Montana.

This training gave residents a chance to practice their skills at quickly mobilizing a can of faux bear spray at a remote-controlled bear bot, and enter a drawing to win a free canister of bear spray.



Leslie Ball serves up a lasagna soup on Main Street during the Hunters' Feed. PHOTO BY LIZ MANNARINC



(Standing) Jim Forsburg. (Sitting, L-R) Ken Sciuchetti, Bob Loveland, and John Bancroft of the Ennis Lions Club hosted a rifle raffle. PHOTO BY LIZ MANNARINO



Crowds enjoying the warm weather at the 37th Annual Hunters' Feed on Friday, Oct.20th. PHOTO BY LIZ MANNARINO



The bear spray training event at Friday's Hunters' Feed. PHOTO BY LIZ

Hunter kills grizzly bear in close encounter in Gravelly Range

Submitted by MORGAN JACOBSEN, Region 3 FWP

hunter killed a grizzly bear Saturday during a close encounter in the Gravelly Range.

The hunter was reportedly charged by the bear before shooting and killing the bear at close range in self-defense. The hunter was not injured.

Staff from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks visited the scene the next day and confirmed the bear mortality. The bear was an adult female grizzly with no known conflict history. The bear was in good body condition and appeared to be digging a den near where the encounter took place.

This incident is still under investigation by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Be bear aware

Montana is bear country. Grizzly bear populations continue to become denser and more widespread in Montana, increasing the likelihood that residents and recreationists will encounter them in more places each year.

This time of year is when bears are active for longer periods as they prepare for hibernation. This period overlaps with hunting season and other fall recreation activities. Hunters should be aware that bears will remain active throughout the general season.

Avoiding conflicts with bears is easier than dealing with conflicts. Here are some precautions to help residents, recreationists and people who work outdoors avoid negative bear encounters:

- Carry bear spray and practice to be prepared to use it immediately.
- Make noise to alert bears to your presence and travel in groups.
- Stay away from animal carcasses, which often attract bears.
- Follow food storage orders from the applicable land management agency.
- Keep garbage, bird feeders, pet food and other attractants put away in a secure building. Keep garbage in a secure building until the day it is collected. Certified bear-resistant garbage containers

- are available in many areas.
- Never feed wildlife. Bears that become food conditioned lose their natural foraging behavior and pose threats to human safety. It is illegal to feed bears in
- If you are attacked by a bear and you are without a deterrent or the deterrent hasn't worked, stay face down on the ground, protecting your face and neck with your arms. Stay still until you're certain the bear has moved

People who hunt in places that have or may have grizzly bears which includes areas of Montana west of Billings—should take special precautions:

- Carry bear spray and practice to be prepared to use it immediately.
- Look for bear sign and be cautious around creeks and areas
- with limited visibility. • Hunt with a group of people. Making localized noise can help
- alert bears to your presence. • Be aware that elk calls and cover scents can attract bears.

- Bring the equipment and people needed to help field dress game and remove the meat from the kill site as soon as possible.
- If you need to leave part of the meat in the field during retrieval, hang it at least 10 feet off the ground and at least 150 yards from the gut pile. Leave it where it can be observed from a distance of at least 200 yards.
- Upon your return, observe the meat with binoculars. If it has been disturbed or if a bear is in the area, leave and call FWP.

Grizzly bears in the lower 48 states are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Management authority for grizzlies rests with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, working closely in Montana with FWP, the Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Geological Survey, Wildlife Services, and Native American tribes. This collaboration happens through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.

For more information and resources on bear safety, visit fwp. mt.gov/bear-aware.

FIREWOOD BANK from A1



Mariah Oliver, of Signs West, installing signs on the side of the new truck with help from Ann Goldthwait and Bob Flynn. Signs West replaced the deteriorating signs on the two trucks they already had as well as the new truck, using the group motto, "Neighbors helping neighbors." PHOTO COURTESY FBRV

donated by Larry Melhoff's 7L Angus Ranch in 2016. Increasing mechanical issues led to the recent decision to purchase a used 1974 Chevrolet 1 ton truck (with dump bed) to augment and probably ultimately displace the current delivery truck, according to Ford.

"FBRV volunteers and local establishments pitched in to perform necessary maintenance; purchase needed new auxiliary equipment; and modify the bed of the newly acquired truck to perform its intended task of hauling bulk loads of firewood yearround. It is now in full service, making deliveries in preparation for the onset of winter," wrote

While putting that "new" truck into service used up much of the \$10,000 obtained from the Trails End Foundation, the remainder has been put to work on other FBRV support, principally in procuring logs to be cut up, split and delivered by the volunteer men and women of the FBRV in their efforts to assist families in that area otherwise unable to keep their homes warm during Montana's sometimes harsh winters.



A typical weekly assemblage of volunteers at the wood lot just south of Sheridan preparing firewood for use by FBRV clients during the coming winter. Participants are (L to R): Jim Wallace, Bob Flynn, Glenn Goldthwait, Patrick Irwin, Frank Ford, Ann Goldthwait, Jeff Westover, Mikayla Burt, Gerry Maughan and Jim Killoran. The location of the wood lot is made available by Neil and Gloria Barnosky, ranch owners. PHOTO COURTESY LYNN HOFLAND

The "average age of the volunteers who are actively engaged is in the 70s, with at least one or two octogenarians in their number. With this in mind, the volunteers are quick to tell the visitor that they would eagerly welcome any younger folks who would like to take part in their activities, including scheduling work sessions on weekends from time to time to accommodate those whose employment precludes participation during the working week,"

according to FBRV.

The FBRV reports "providing varying levels of support to some four dozen families during the winter of 2022-23, an upward surge on the order of 50% in requests for help. This, in turn, required a record 140 cords or more of firewood due to the severity of the weather, economic conditions, individual circumstances and the like."

Contact a FBRV officer for more information or to offer assistance.

RUBY RIVER CONDITIONS

October 25, 2023

Submitted by DAVE DELISI dave@rubyhabitat.org

ith the weather calendar preparing to turn the page to something even more dramatic, it's fun to observe the preparations folks make in advance of the unknown. Raking, repairing, replacing, emptying, draining, building, insulating, storing, shoring up...folks in these parts are generally acting more ant than grasshopper. It was a year ago at this time that we received a

doozie of an introduction to the winter that was still forming at that time. The questions now center on whether this year will be quite as challenging. The cold, the relentless snows, and the interminable length took their toll last year, but a friend recently mentioned that there's an element of beauty in discomfort, and truly, beauty, like gold, is both where you seek it and where you find it. There's certainly an element of beauty in the margins—look at the edge of a field, forest, or river, and it's hard to disagree. The edges between seasons, too,

serve up a banquet of beauty: the deer have winter coats that look better than any other time of year, and moose, too, have shaggy coats well-suited to the unknown snowstorms to come; grasses have lost chlorophyll, and the fantastic oranges, reds, and yellows that remain are a feast for the eyes; the procreative baton is passing from moose to deer and trout, and each creates a spectacle worth seeing. It's all worth seeing, it's all right there, so get outside and enjoy the change we are about to witness!



The Ruby Range. PHOTO COURTESY RUBY HABITAT FOUNDATION



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DAVE DELISI, Outreach Coordinator 406-660-2709 | www.rubyhabitat.org

NORTHWEST ENERGY from A1



The history of Madison Dam providing power to Montana residents began in 1901 and continues today. The group had the opportunity to tour the facility, led by foreman David Carney. PHOTO BY CORI KOENIG



The Madison Dam as seen during the Oct. 18 tour.

The Madison/Hebgen Hydroelectric Project has participated in the OSHA VPP program since March 2008. Safety projects have included road maintenance safety, walking working surfaces, machine guarding, fall hazard mitigation, process improvements including confined space and lockout tagout and ergonom-

ic improvements, according to Northwestern Energy's publication Bright Magazine.

are our hazards here, what are our biggest issues that we need to manage?' and they make a list, and they get after them," said

Northwestern Energy's hydro superintendent, Jeremy Butcher.

"As we say, dam good job. Keep it up, keep leading the way, keep raising the bar for the rest of the sites and together we can all make each other so much better. Congratulations," said Clotfelter

The power from this dam operates approximately 8,000 Montana households at any given moment. PHOTO COURTESY NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

"Plant employees get together and they meet with their safety professionals, and they say, 'What

Boulder River restoration

STREAMFLOW AND TEMPERATURE PROJECT AFFECTS JEFFERSON RIVER



(L to R) Ron Spoon, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Regional Fisheries Biologist, Chuck Buus, Sustainability manager at Golden Sunlight, Chris Edgington, Montana Trout Unlimited and Kristi Murphy, general manager at Golden Sunlight on the banks of the Boulder River. PHOTO COURTESY MTU

Submitted by CHRIS EDGINGTON, Jefferson Watershed Project Manager, MTU

rout in the Jefferson River may have more access to spawning areas and thermal refuge thanks to a new partnership announced Monday by Montana

Trout Unlimited (MTU) that will remove three aging diversion dams on the Boulder River. MTU is collaborating with Barrick Gold, owners of the Golden Sunlight Mine, with complimentary support from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and L.R. Huckaba Ranch on the Boulder River near Cardwell, Mont., to increase stream flow and connectivity on the Boulder.

"We commend Barrick and Golden Sunlight for taking a proactive approach to replace deteriorating infrastructure and for considering the potential benefits for the river and all the creatures

JEFFERSON RIVER continued on A15

QLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

MADISON VALLEY KIDS DIG IN TO HELP THE RIVER

Volleyball team and Adventure Academy take part in fish rescue

By CORI KOENIG editor@madisoniannews.com

ast week, many volunteers answered the call from the Madison River Foundation to help rescue fish trapped in dwindling waters as the seasons change. Some of those willing to dig into the mud and water were the Lady Mustang volleyball team and kids from the Adventure Academy in Ennis.

"We look to volunteer every season and this was the perfect opportunity to give back to the environment, get outside and work together as a team outside of the gym. Plus, we got to take advantage of the beautiful weather last week! The Madison River Foundation does such a great job getting the word out to the community that the fish need help and it is such a unique volunteer opportunity to this area, specifically Ennis. The girls got to see the entire process and had no fear of getting in there and getting dirty to save the fish," said Ennis volleyball coach Sarah Frings.



Ally Hilton holding a fish she caught before putting it in a bucket to be released into the river. PHOTO **COURTESY SARAH FRINGS**



The Lady Mustang volleyball team gather together near the Madison River after pitching in to help the Madison River Foundation. PHOTO COURTESY SARAH FRINGS





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Susanne Hill & Cori Koenig EDITOR:

Cori Koenig: editor@madisoniannews.com
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/RECEIVABLE: Susanne HIII
DESIGNER: Christine Dubbs
REPORTERS: Kate Joki Rose:
news@madisoniannews.com

Liz Mannarino: reporter@madisoniannews.com
SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE: Jessie Sperrazza
connect@madisoniannews.com

CONTRIBUTORS:

Bryce Angell, Keith Axberg, Dave Delisi, Matt HIII, Peter Rosenberger, Charlie Rossiter, Janet Howard-Ducsay, Kurtis Koenig & Dan Rose

ENNIS, MONTANA

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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

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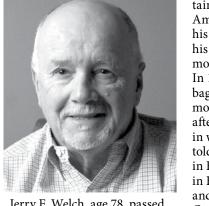
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OBITUARIES

Jerry F. Welch October 23, 1944 - October 2, 2023



Jerry F. Welch, age 78, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, October 2, 2023 in Billings, Montana. He is preceded in death by his mother, Avis, his younger brother Jim, and his lifelong friend and father figure, Clovis.

Jerry was born on Oct. 23, 1944 in Ironton, Miss. After watching the 1963 film Spencer's Moun-

tain, he fell in love with the American West. In 1989, he met his best friend and the love of his life, Carrie, and within three months they were married. In 1992, the two packed their bags and achieved his dream of moving to Montana. In 1996, after a discussion with his wife in which she very specifically told him not to buy a house in Ennis, he bought a house in Ennis. With Jerry's eternal and unrealistic optimism and Carrie's ability to spin straw into gold, the two built a life and a family in the Madison Valley for nearly thirty years.

Jerry was a man of many hats
— literally and figuratively.
Over the years, he was a state
legislator in Missouri, a private investigator, a high school
history teacher (we would be

remiss if we did not note that he was the favorite teacher of famous actress Kate Capshaw), a basketball coach, a surprising Twitter influencer, a writer and columnist, a so-so fly fisherman (his words) and a commodity broker. He was a lifelong Democrat — and proud of it — calling politics "the best ball game in town." He often told his family to "take politics seriously, but never personally."

But more than anything, Jerry was the best husband, father, and grandfather any of us could have ever asked for. He was a man with a kind and gentle heart who adored his family beyond words — and we're talking about a man who was fantastic with words. He would have lassoed the moon and brought it down for us if we would have

asked. If Jerry loved you, there wasn't a moment that went by when you didn't know how lucky you were.

Words cannot express the loss we are feeling over the greatest man we knew. Jerry is survived by his wife, Carrie, his son Jeff (Kelly), his daughters, Jennifer (Christian), Ally, and Sam, and his granddaughters, Adelle, Scarlett, Elsa, and Mira — or, as he would put it, all of his huckleberries.

We will be forever grateful — you went soaring into the heavens in peace and without pain. We will love you until the end of time.

To leave a tribute to Jerry or find information about the service, go to bit.ly/jerryfwelch.

OPINION

Letter to the editor policy about elections

Readers,

Welcome to the opinion page. In light of the Nov. 7 municipal elections in Virginia City, The Madisonian would like to reiterate our policy pertaining to political letters.

This policy is in place to maintain fairness for everyone and to protect the integrity of the election process. It is not intended to stifle conversation or prevent anyone from having his or her voice heard.

Generally speaking, candidates cannot campaign on the opinion page.

In the edition immediately preceding the municipal election, which is Nov. 2, we will not publish letters about the municipal elections because they do not allow candidates time for rebuttals. That means the Oct.26 paper is the last one to place a letter pertaining to the Nov. 7 election.

There is one exception to the no letters policy the week before the election. If a letter runs this week and specifically challenges a candidate, that candidate is allowed to run a rebuttal letter, addressing only that specific issue, in the

Nov. 2 edition of the paper.

We understand the technicalities and the dates are a little difficult to understand, so anyone with questions should call the paper at 682-7755 and we can talk you through it.

As always, letters may be edited by The Madisonian staff for length and content. We reserve final decision on what runs – this applies to advertisements and letters. We are more than happy to work with those placing advertisements or writing letters to ensure submissions adhere to our policy. All that being said, we do encourage discussion on this page of the paper – that is why it is here! We want our readers to use this page to discuss important issues and engage one another. So, please interact!

A general reminder: Letters to the editor must be kept to 350 words. A verifiable author's name, address and phone number must accompany the letter – though only the name and resident's town name will be printed. Citizens can have their letters published twice per month.

The Madisonian

Tax debacle and GOP

Dear Fellow Montanans,

Now that you have received your new revised property tax statement, are you still thinking of giving your vote for any GOP candidate who will continue to turn our State government into a right-wing circus? This tax debacle might finally alert citizens to the serious harm the GOP has inflicted on Montanans. However, this is only one of the some twenty 2024 laws that are currently wending their way through the courts as deemed unconstitutional.

As example: womens' personal rights; your tax money diverted to private schools; politicaliza-

tion of our FWP and wildlife; ridiculous assertion that the Legislature controls the courts (do they even understand our Constitution?); their abusive and cruel attempts to harm medicare and health coverage of so many citizens; their reinterpretation of lawful voting rights; the Governor's aversion to lawful transparency; ad infinitum/absurdum.

Perhaps it takes a financial jolt to alert us of the right-wing takeover of our State. Allowing the GOP to selectively give lower IN-COME tax breaks to the State's wealthiest, not average citizens, as well as their skewed policies of lowering property taxes for big corporations and to raising taxes on homeowners and small businesses shows their radical intentions of governing. Their ploy of portioning out small rebate checks to homeowners (nothing to renters) was tricky legislation. As well, they outrageously returned some millions of Govid funds to the Feds because of their misguided policies, where other States used that money, OUR money, to benefit kids and families in difficult times.

The next election will continue this massive tax shift and harmful government if Montanans send this ulltra-conservative coalition back to Helena. The record shows what our Democratic

members tried to bring to the past session to actually aid and help all Montanans, but were entirely bullied throughout the session just because the GOP could. Check the laws for yourselves, or watch as their harmful and unconstitutional legislative attempts to control us are being heard in our trustworthy courts.

Meanwhile try to find the money to pay your share of THEIR ideas of telling you what is best for you.

Pat Bradley Twin Bridges, MT

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

OCTOBER 16, 2023:

Avery Rose Majcher, 7 pounds, 3 ounces, a female born to Alicia and Nolan Majcher at the Shane G. Lalani Family Birth Center at Livingston HealthCare.



It's Red Ribbon Week

ACTIVITIES TO ENGAGE STUDENTS IN NOT EVEN ONCE METH PREVENTION

Submitted by MONTANAMETH.ORG

SHARE THE NOT EVEN ONCE MESSAGE!

Red Ribbon Week is an opportune time to talk with students about the risks of Meth use. Here are some ideas on how to engage the young people in

Play the 20-minute Montana Meth Prevention Lesson Video for middle school and high school students. The lesson is the only Meth curriculum endorsed by the national Red Ribbon Campaign and demonstrates the effects of Meth on

the mind and body. https://montanameth.org/lesson-video/

Share MethProject.org with students. The interactive website features animations, games, and videos about how Meth use affects users' bodies, behavior, and relationships.

Review the online gallery of Montana Meth Project 2023
Paint the State entries and have students select an art piece that resonates with them. Prompt them to write a brief essay about why they connected to the art piece. https://paintthestate.org/gallery/

IF I TRY METH, WILL I BECOME ADDICTED?

WHAT'S METH MADE OF?

HOW CAN METH AFFECT MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY?

HOW DANGEROUS IS METH?

DOES METH MAKE YOU VIOLENT?

WHAT IS "CHASING THE HIGH"?

WHY DOES METH CAUSE PARANOIA?

WHY DO METH USERS HAVE OPEN SORES?

WHAT IS THE HIGH FROM METH LIKE?

COURTESY MONTANA METH PROJECT

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MADISON COUNTY

IN AREAS WITH LOW CELL SERVICE, A TEXT MESSAGE MAY BE SENT TO 911 IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

OCTOBER 15

- A false alarm was reported in Twin Bridges.
- Motor vehicle accidents were reported in Sheridan.
- A livestock complaint was reported in Sheridan.
- · A follow up was initiated in Sheridan.
- An ambulance was dispatched to Sheridan.
- A search was conducted in Ennis.
- An agency assist was performed in Sheridan.

OCTOBER 16

- 911 hang ups occurred in Gallatin Gateway, Ennis and Twin Bridges.
- A livestock complaint was reported in McAllister.
- An ambulance was dispatched to Ennis.
- Fraud was reported in Ennis.
- Abuse or neglect was reported in Twin Bridges.
- Follow ups were initiated in Sheridan.
- Criminal mischief was reported in Ennis.
- A traffic stop was conducted in Ennis.
- Ambulance patient transfers were dispatched to Ennis and Butte.
- Trespassing was reported in Ennis.
- An animal bite was reported in Harrison.
- in Ennis. A disturbance was

Threats were reported

- reported in Cardwell.
- A wildlife complaint was reported in Cameron.

OCTOBER 17

- A disturbance was reported in Ennis.
- A welfare check was conducted in Cardwell.
- A disabled vehicle was reported in West Yellowstone.
- Civil services were performed in Harrison, Norris, McAllister and Ennis.
- A 911 open line occurred in Ennis.
- Lost property was reported in Sheridan.
- Trespassing was reported in Sheridan.
- Traffic stops were conducted in Sheridan and Ennis.
- A natural gas leak was reported in Big Sky.
- A burglar alarm was reported in Ennis.
- A follow up was initiated in Twin Bridges.
- An ambulance was dispatched to Twin Bridges.
- A dog complaint was reported in Sheridan.

- A motor vehicle accident was reported in Ennis.
- Suspicious circumstances were reported in Ennis and Norris.
- An ambulance patient transfer was dispatched to Ennis.

OCTOBER 18

- Burglar alarms were reported in Sheridan and Virginia City.
- Suspicious circumstances were reported in Ennis.
- An order of protection violation was reported in Sheridan.
- A civil service was performed in Ennis.
- A city ordinance violation was reported in Ennis.
- A follow up was initiated in Twin Bridges.
- A traffic stop was conducted in Ennis.
- A citizen's assist was performed in Ennis.
- A disturbance was reported in McAllister.
- A traffic complaint was reported in Norris.

OCTOBER 19

- A livestock complaint was reported in Ennis.
- Traffic stops were conducted in Virginia City and Norris.
- Civil services were performed in Ennis.
- A disabled vehicle was reported in Norris.
- Theft was reported in Ennis.
- A parking complaint was reported in Ennis.
- Fire or smoke was reported in Norris.
- Suicide threats were reported in Alder.
- An abandoned vehicle was reported in Sheridan.
- A disturbance was reported in Twin Bridges.

OCTOBER 20

- A dog complaint was reported in Ennis.
- Civil services were performed in McAllister, Ennis and Cameron.
- A fire alarm was reported in McAllister.

• Traffic stops were

- conducted in McAllister. An ambulance patient
- transfer was dispatched to Ennis.
- Officers ran checks in Ennis.
- A standby to assure safety was performed in Ennis.
- An assault was reported in Ennis.
- Wildlife complaints were reported in McAllister, Sheridan and Cameron.

- An abandoned vehicle was reported in Cameron.
- 911 hang ups occurred in Ennis.
- 911 open lines occurred in Ennis, Big Sky and Twin Bridges.
- A motor vehicle accident was reported in Ennis.
- A community event was
- patrolled in Ennis. An ambulance was
- dispatched to Ennis. Suspicious circumstances were
- reported in Ennis. • A suspicious person was reported in Alder.
- A prisoner transfer was dispatched to Butte.
- A shooting was reported in Sheridan.
- A citizen's assist was performed in Twin Bridges.
- A livestock companion was reported in Cardwell.
- A disturbance was reported in Sheridan.

OCTOBER 21

- Suspicious circumstances were reported in Sheridan and Silver Star.
- A dog complaint was reported in Ennis.
- Ambulances were dispatched to Virginia City and Ennis.
- A 911 open line occurred in Big Sky.
- Trespassing was reported in Whitehall.
- Carbon Monoxide was reported in Melrose. A motor vehicle

accident was reported in

- Ennis. Traffic stops were conducted in Ennis and
- Sheridan. A suspicious vehicle was reported in Harrison.
- Ambulance patient transfers were dispatched to Sheridan and Big Sky.
- A citizen's assist was performed in Cameron.
- A search was conducted in Cameron.
- An agency assist was performed in McAllister.

The Madison County

Sheriff's Office responded to 165 calls for service between October 15 and October 21. Concealed carry permits and fingerprinting services are available by appointment only. Call 406-843-5301 to schedule.



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SPORTS

ON THE FIELD

FOOTBALL SCORES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
ENNIS VS. MANHATTAN CHRISTIAN
MUSTANGS 64, EAGLES 28

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
TWIN BRIDGES VS. WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS
FALCONS 53, HORNETS 13

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
SHERIDAN VS. CASCADE
PANTHERS 8, BADGERS 54

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
WHITEHALL/HARRISON VS. THOMPSON FALLS
TROJANS 12, BLUEHAWKS 21



Sports teams around are calling attention to Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October through their uniforms, pink hairbows and even socks. Seen here, the bright pink "tackle cancer" socks that the Whitehall/Harrison Trojans were sporting. PHOTO COURTESY LA DAWN MCMILLAN

Mustangs finish regular season undefeated

HEAD INTO PLAYOFF SEASON



Zach Foss intercepts a pass that leads the Mustangs to a 64-28 win over the Manhattan Christian Eagles. PHOTO COURTESY COACH SPECK

Submitted by COACH MIKE SPECK

The Mustangs have finished the regular season with 9 wins and 0 losses. They have scored 490 points while only allowing 118. The Mustangs have only gotten better throughout their regular season.

"There is something to say about a group of young men that work their tails off in search of one

SPORTS COVERAGE?

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EXT. 2

thing. The Mustangs set the goal of going 13 and 0 at the beginning of the season and are well on their way," said Coach Mike Speck.

However, it is going to be a grind to make a beaten path through the playoffs. The Mustangs match up with the 6 and 3 Charlo Vikings. This will be the first time that the Vikings and the Mustangs line up across from each other since Ennis beat them

30-24 in the 2016 state championship. As we approach November, the lights on the football team get brighter and brighter.

"As a coach, my goal is for the Mustangs to be locked in and ready to go, but to not let the lights get too bright. Worrying about the Mustangs and the Mustangs only is the goal!" said Coach Speck.

ATHLETE of the Week



ENNIS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM ENNIS ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

This week's athlete of the week is actually athletes of the week. The Ennis CrossCountry Team just finished competing at the State Cross Country Meet, in Kalispell Montana. These student athletes did an excellent job representing our school and community.

THE STATE PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE: Tyler Barsness, Finn Graden, Peter Kelley, Sam Benson, Amber Rolfe, Ella Rolfe, Grace Stecker, and Hannah Stecker.

THEIR TIMES ARE AS FOLLOWS: Grace Stecker 24:23, Hannah Stecker 22:50, Amber Rolfe 22:48, Ella Rolfe 22:37, Sam Benson 22:43, Tyler Barsness 21:58, Peter Kelley 20:12, and Finn Graden 20:04.

THANK YOU CROSS COUNTRY CREW FOR A GREAT SEASON, YOU MADE US ALL PROUD!



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SPORTS

Congratulations Madison County Athletes on a great season of fall sports!

Good luck as you head into post season play!



Whitehall/Harrison Trojan Seniors Andrew Bacon, 11, and Campbell Smith, 4, make an offensive gain in Friday's match up against the Thompson Falls BlueHawks. PHOTO COURTESY LA DAWN MCMILLAN

AT THE NET Olleyball Scores



The Lady Mustangs are seeded 3. They match up against number 6 seed, Whitehall/Harrison at 10:45 a.m. on Thursday morning for the first game of the District 5B Tournament in Manhattan. FB PHOTO

MONDAY, OCT. 16 WHITEHALL/HARRISON 1, JEFFERSON 3

> TUESDAY, OCT.17 **ENNIS 0, TOWNSEND 3**

THURSDAY, OCT. 19 WHITEHALL/HARRISON 1, SHIELDS VALLEY 3

SATURDAY, OCT. 21 TWIN BRIDGES 3, DEER LODGE 1

Hey sports fans.

IF YOU'RE A SPORTS FAN AND YOU ARE AT THE GAME OR ON THE COURSE TO CHEER ON YOUR HOME TEAM WITH CAMERA IN HAND, PLEASE SHARE YOUR GREAT SPORTS PHOTOS WITH US! WE'D LOVE TO SHARE THEM WITH THE **REST OF MADISON COUNTY! WE'LL GIVE CREDIT WHERE** CREDIT IS DUE, SO PLEASE SUBMIT WITH A CAPTION AND PHOTOGRAPHER'S NAME TO:

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Congratulations **Madison Hydro Plant Employees!**

We are so proud to announce the recertification of the Madison Hydroelectric Project as a "Star" worksite, one of the highest levels of recognition for workplace safety and health excellence. This honor is a testament to our high standards, and we want to thank our incredible crews for going above and beyond every day to keep our worksites safe.



SPORTS

MADISON COUNTY ATHLETES COMPETE AT STATE CROSS COUNTRY MEET @ REBECCA FARMS IN KALISPELL: SATURDAY, OCT. 14



Freshman Finn Graden runs hard at the State XC meet in Kalispell. PHOTO COURTESY KARI MONTGOMERY



WILDCATS RESULTS

Cooper Montgomery, 32nd: 19:28 Kaden Armstrong, 40th: 19:43 Logan Reeves, 52nd: 20:32 Declan McBurney, 70th: 21:35

GIRLS:

Bria Ohs: 18th, 23:27





Twin Bridges' Allie Dale ran a 22:51 for Beaverhead County at the State Meet on Saturday, Oct. 21. The Beaverhead County team placed 10th this year in the Class A Division. PHOTO COURTESY KARI

Freshman Finn Graden runs hard at the State XC meet in Kalispell. PHOTO COURTESY KARI MONTGOMERY **MUSTANGS RESULTS**

BOYS:

Finn Graden, 20:04 Peter Kelley, 20:12

Tyler Barsness, 21:58 Sam Benson, JV: 22:43

GIRLS:

Ella Rolfe,22:37 Amber Rolfe, 22:48 Hannah Stecker, 22:50

Grace Stecker: 24:23



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Basic Spreadsheet--Spreadsheets are a powerful tool in your software toolbelt. Discover how to organize information so it can be used in a practical way. We will use both Google Sheets and Microsoft Excel.

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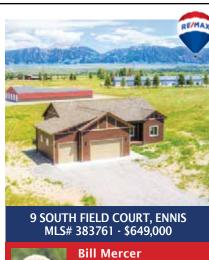
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tying it Together--Unleash the full power of your desktop office software! We will use the mail merge feature to demonstrate how word processors and spreadsheets can work together to take advantage of your information and work effectively.

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To sign up: Call or email Susan at 3 Rivers 406-467-4133 • susan.wilson@3rivers.coop Class limited to 20

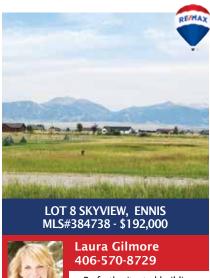




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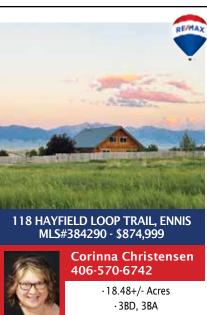
·Tremendous views of the Madison Range! ·Close to downtown Ennis, shopping and schools. Minutes to the Madison River. ·Enjoy common area pond with walking trails, cart path to access the Valley Garden Golf Village



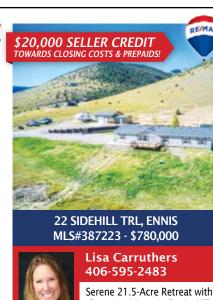
and provider.

Perfectly situated building lot in the desirable Sky View area. The name matches the view with amazing big

sky views of the Madison Range. This 1.44 +/1 acre lot is tucked up against the hillside offering privacy. Conveniently located to town creating a desirable location for both full-time and vacation home. Enjoy all that Ennis has to offer with close proximity to fishing, boating, hunting, skiing, hiking, snowmobiling & ATV riding.



·Swedish Cope Log Cabin ·Flood irrigated organic grass and alfalfa · Meticulously developed gardens Ideal property for horses, chickens, hobby



Stunning Views in Ennis, MT Nestled in the picturesque Shining Mountains 1

Subdivision, this 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom home offers the perfect blend of comfort, luxury, and Montana's rugged beauty. Situated on a sprawling 21.5-acre parcel, this property is a true paradise for those seeking a serene, Montana lifestyle.



Heart of the home is the immaculate chef's kitchen with vaulted ceiling and skylights ·Located in a quiet neighborhood, offers mature landscaping, and a large covered front porch perfect for entertaining family and friends

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MONTANA NIGHT SKY: HIGHLIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER

By RICHARD STOUFFER

The astronomical highlights for the Montana skies in November include the two bright planets, Jupiter and Saturn, shining brightly in the evening sky with Jupiter gracing the nighttime sky almost all night. Then, the brightest of the planets, Venus, joins Jupiter in the pre-dawn hours and shines brilliantly the rest of the night.

As November begins, look about 30 degrees high in the southern sky, once the sky darkens sufficiently after sunset, to find the ringed planet Saturn. Then, right about sunset, the giant planet Jupiter rises in the eastern sky. Later in the night sky, Saturn sets at about 2:10 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time. Venus joins Jupiter when it rises in the night sky at about 4 a.m. Mountain Daylight time. About November 26, Mercury becomes visible after sunset once the sky darkens sufficiently when it sets in the western evening sky at about 5:45 p.m. Mountain Standard Time. By the end of the month, Mercury sets at about 5:50 p.m. Mountain Standard time, Saturn sets at about 11:15 p.m. Mountain Standard Time, Venus rises at about 3:55 a.m. Mountain Standard Time, and Jupiter sets at about 5:05 a.m.

Mountain Standard Time. On the morning of November 30, Venus passes to the left of Spica, the brightest star in the constellation Virgo.

As for the moon, the moon passes below Castor and Pollux, the two brightest stars in the constellation Gemini, on the mornings of November 2 and 3. Then, the moon passes to the left of Castor and Pollux on the

morning of November 4. A thin crescent moon passes just below and to the left of Venus on the morning of November 9. Then the moon passes above and to the right of Jupiter on the evening of November 24 and below and to the left of Jupiter the next evening. The moon is full on November 27.

For meteor shower watchers, the annual Leonid meteor

shower peaks on the morning of November 17. The shower produces up to about 15 meteors per hour at its peak. With no moon interference this year, this will be a good year for observing the Leonids.

Richard Stouffer is a lifelong amateur astronomer and former member of Delaware Astronomical Society and National Capital Astronomers.

FWP releases 2023 Montana Gray Wolf Conservation and Management Plan for public comment

Submitted by MT FWP

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is seeking public comment on a draft plan and environmental impact statement to guide the agency's recommendations for the long-term management and conservation of wolves across the state.

The draft 2023 Montana Gray Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (2023 Wolf Plan) incorporates updates in wolf-related research, more than 20 years of management experience, evolution in conflict management, new laws, social perspectives, and public input.

The new draft plan builds on a foundation of FWP wolf management: monitoring populations, tracking harvest, effective conflict management, and flexibility to integrate evolutions in science.

"The 2003 Wolf Plan guided our successful management for two decades. And under that management, wolves have become well established in Montana," said FWP Director Dustin Temple. "This new plan relies on the best available science and reflects current Montana law and all the public input we've heard over the years regarding wolf management in Montana. I encourage folks to comment."

The draft 2023 Wolf Plan shifts a key counting metric from the number of breeding pairs to the number of wolves representing at least 15 breeding pairs. The draft 2023 plan establishes that 450 wolves would ensure 15 breeding pairs. Population estimates will continue to be determined by the peer-reviewed Integrated Patch Occupancy Modeling method, or iPOM. The draft 2023 plan also describes

the current depredation prevention and response program.

In the past 20 years, the public has had opportunities to comment on various components of wolf management as it was considered by the Montana Legislature, the Fish and Wildlife Commission, and FWP. Given this and the current direction within statute for wolf management in the state, FWP is not convening a citizen advisory group for wolf

management at this time.

FWP is seeking public comment for 60 days on both the draft 2023 Wolf Plan and DEIS. The deadline for comments is Dec. 19 at 5 p.m. To view the draft 2023 Wolf Plan and comment, visit https://fwp.mt.gov/ aboutfwp/public-comment-opportunities/draft-wolf-mgmt-

FWP is also seeking public

comment on the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS). This document analyzes the environmental impacts of the proposed plans. To view the associated DEIS, click https://fwp. mt.gov/binaries/content/assets/ fwp/aboutfwp/public-comments/ draft-wolf-plan/wolfdeis_.pdf.

Comments on the plan and DEIS will be collected online and can also be sent by mail to 2023 Montana Wolf Man-

Ruby Valley
Medical

Center

agement Plan DEIS, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Wildlife Division, 1420 East Sixth Avenue Helena, MT 59620, or by email to FWPWolfPlanEIS@mt.gov.

Public meetings to answer questions about the draft 2023 Wolf Plan will be scheduled prior to the close of the public comment period and announced soon on the FWP website.



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Ruby Valley Medical Center is accepting applications for PRN Registered Nurses for back-up and staff emergencies

Twelve hour shifts vary between days and nights. Orientation will be provided.

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NATURAL RESOURCE NEWS

The Granite Creek Reclamation Project Reveals The Importance of Sustaining and Restoring Our Waterways

Submitted by TIM WEIGHART

In order to gain a better understanding of one of my organization's most complicated projects, I recently drove south of Sheridan to visit Granite Creek. Back in 2016, the Ruby Valley Conservation District (RVCD) and other stakeholders were brought in by the landowner to discuss a need to implement a large-scale project in the area surrounding the confluence between Granite Creek and Alder Gulch Creek. As I approached the project site, I could easily spot the large, gray dredge piles of loose cobble that obstructed the flow of the creeks, which have

Prevented the creation of new channels, polluted the waters and, occasionally, restricted the free movement of water altogether. Native fish populations are also harmed by this significant loss of habitat, and the configuration of Highway 287's bridge over Granite Creek and the Granite Creek channel has threatened to cause floods over-road flooding. These conditions led to concerns of public safety on the highway during the flooding season. After the stakeholders identified these issues, a long seven years of planning, acquiring funding, and pulling in project partners ensued before the full project began to be implemented earlier this year. However, that's nothing in comparison to the centuries that have passed since the dredge piles that caused these issues were

originally placed here. Dredging is a common practice that was used on Alder Gulch Creek during Virginia City's famous gold rush back in the 1800's. It can be best described as a method of removing rock deposits from water bodies for a variety of both harmful and helpful purposes. The dredging originally occurred because it was the best method for miners to find gold deposits. Seeing as the gold rush holds so much cultural relevance to Virginia City and the surrounding area, these large piles of loose cobble were kept in the area following the end of the gold rush due to their significance. However, the landowners quickly recognized upon speaking with the project partners that they needed to prioritize the conservation of their waterways over the history of the area, and the cobble started to be cleared as early as 2016. The project to reduce nonpoint source (NPS) pollution in Alder Gulch and Granite Creeks had begun.

NPS pollution can be defined as water pollution that comes from accumulated exposure to pollutants in a channel. At Alder Gulch Creek, for example, heavy metals were a primary concern when examining the health of the project area. Metal pollution can be harmful for all water users downstream. Sediment is another major source of NPS pollution in the area. This project is aimed to create floodplain connectivity in order to find an equilibrium where sediment can be transported and stored within the riparian corridor. Sediment pollution can also decrease habitat for native fish populations.

Upon arrival at the project site, my first stop was the current highway bridge over Granite Creek, which is right next to Granite Creek Road. I parked on the dirt road a short ways off the highway and hopped out of the truck, where I was quickly met by a lively gust of wind and the sound of rushing water. Granite Creek is at a low flow by this time of year, and I took a moment to consider the gradual motion of water through the narrow channel, a few feet below the top of the bank line and the top of the bridge. While the bridge is sturdy and reliable, and well above the water at this time of year, it was built too small when considering the fact that Granite Creek is prone to flooding in the springtime. Granite Creek didn't have the appropriate channel capacity below the bridge due to sediment build-up, which increased the potential for floods to overtop the bridge. A temporary channel that could transport water and sediment was excavated in 2016 in order to reduce flooding rates until the project could be implemented. All of this was

reported to Madison County early on in the planning of this project, who ultimately brought in the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) as a project partner to create a new road alignment. The new bridge on the alignment will be several hundred feet south of the original bridge, and it will be designed to have a higher clearance above the Granite Creek, which will enable adequate sediment transport in the new channel.

Satisfied with what I had seen from the road, I proceeded to drive into the project site on Granite Creek Ranch. The site is covered in loose cobble from the dredge piles, leaving the area eerily devoid of any substantial vegetation and bleaching the ground with the bleak grays and whites of stone. My boss has compared visiting the area to walking on the moon. As I drove upstream alongside Alder Gulch, I recognized the current point of confluence between Alder and Granite Creek's artificial channel, which is largely blocked off by the tailing piles of cobble, forcing the water to flow subsurface before reemerging downstream, drastically reducing the connectivity between the two creeks. RVCD's part in the project is to improve the riparian health through the corridor from Granite Creek to Alder Gulch Creek. We are consistently working with the MDT to ensure that their bridge will align with our restoration project, and vice versa. The chosen design will move the confluence location and create an adequate connectivity between Granite Creek and Alder Gulch. Due to historic mining practices, there is virtually no floodplain for these creeks. The RVCD aims to reestablish a floodplain in order to return the system to a more natural state. To achieve that, we're hoping to enhance vegetative cover, and allow for overland flows and the deposition of sediment within the floodplain. The end result will be a naturally functioning creek, even amidst the dredge. And then we will see another piece of the natural world that was once here

begin to reemerge. Here's a fun fact: the oldest river in the world is estimated to be at least 350 million years old. It took millions of years for our waterways to develop to how they are today, but it only took centuries for the flow of Granite Creek to be brought to a halt. For the sake of our planet and life itself, it is essential that we ensure the continued flow of fresh water in our waterways. We can only hope that these streams will flow through the countless millennia that will follow after we are gone. We can only hope that someday, the creatures of earth will still be able to lean down to the cold, clear surface of these gentle streams and take a drink.

Information on this project was gathered from the Ruby Valley Conservation District's documents regarding the background of the site and process of implementing the Granite Creek Reclamation and Realignment Project. This project is anticipated to be completed in

the spring of 2024. If you have concerns about your own water sources in the Ruby Watershed,

please contact Audra at audra@rvcd.org or (406) 842-5741 x 105.



The land surrounding the confluence of Alder Gulch Creek and Granite Creek is dominated by loose cobble, severely limiting the capacity for water movement, sediment transportation and or vegetative growth. PHOTO COURTESY RVCD

MADISON COUNTY SANITARIAN'S OFFICE

P.O. Box 278 • 103 W. Wallace Street Virginia City, MT 59755 (406) 843-4275 • 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.

The date and location is listed below:

<u>DATE:</u> Wednesday, November 8, 2023, 9:30am-5:00pm Meeting Room, Thompson-Hickman County Library, 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 if you have questions.

Seating is limited, so please register early.







By KAITLYN BOYD

2023 is flying by.

Cows are either back from summer pasture or in the process of getting back. Hay is put up and in the stack. Irrigation lines and pivots are shut off for the year and ready for the cold weather. These are a few of the big things that mean, FALL is in the air.

He Momen HERE'S YOUR BEEF...

I love the changing of seasons make it as easy on the calves as and when fall work starts. Fall they can! work to most ranchers means

Fall also means that hunting season is underway! As always, please be mindful of where you are hunting, where you are parking and if you go through any gates, remember to leave them as you found them.

Here is a recipe I made the other day when we were wanting some Chinese food but still wanted to use BEEF.

GINGER BEEF

FROM Kaitlyn Boyd

1.5 lb. cubed steak, sliced thin

1.5 cup corn starch 4 tbsp crushed garlic

.....

1/4 cup onion 1/3 cups olive oil 3/4 tbsp ginger

1 tsp salt

1/2 cup coconut aminos (soy sauce substitute) 1/4 cup Brown sugar (or to taste)

1 tbsp sesame oil

2 tbsp vinegar 1 tsp black pepper

Mix sliced beef into cornstarch by hand. Add to skillet once garlic is sauteed in the oil. Make sure the beef is only one layer so it can brown and you can flip it. Add more oil if starts to stick.

Mix remaining ingredients into a sauce pan. Once boiled you can thicken a bit with a dash of flour or wait until you add with the cornstarch beef.

Steam some carrots and add in as well! Serve or rice, fried rice or stir fry noodles.

TROUTDALE HIGHWAY CLEAN UP

preparing your calves to be

shipped off to the sale barn,

their calves. Preconditioning

to most means giving certain

in preparation for weaning.

vaccines to the calves in order to

jumpstart their immune systems

Weaning can be stressful on the

calves; ranchers really do try to

weaned from their momma and

feedlot or another ranch to feed.

Most ranchers will "precondition"



Several homeowners from the Troutdale Association spent Friday morning, Oct. 20, 2023 cleaning both sides of Hwy 287 in the McAllister area. (L to R) Ron & Jeanne English, Wayne Nielsen, Georgie & Clay Todd, Judy Maddox, Mitch Zeissler, Gary Leinonen, John & Ann White. Not pictured: Barbara Gillispie. PHÓTO COURTESY BARBARA GILLISPIE



Feelin' fall. PHOTO COURTESY DAN ROSE

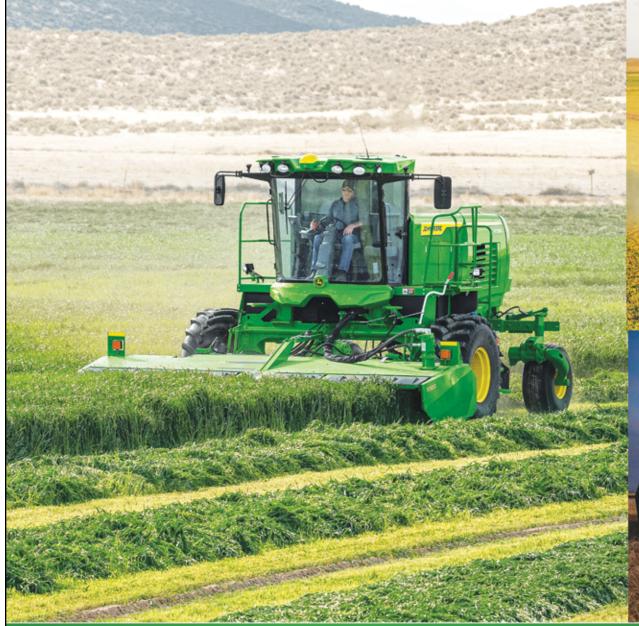
Virginia City Elks Lodge #390 Vocational Scholarship helps students pursue their goals

Submitted by DAWNDI KEIM

The Virginia City Elks Lodge is proud to annou nce the 2024 Vocational Scholarship. Applicants do not need to be related to a member of the Elks. This scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior from a

Madison County High School or from the home school community of Madison County, who will attend an accredited vocational school OR technical school OR trade school. The judging criteria is based on academics, leadership, service, and financial need. The application is completed online

and must be submitted by the Feb. 1, 2024, deadline. Applications for the 2024 contest are available online. For complete scholarship contest details, including the application, contact dawndi. keim91@gmail.com











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BLM's Butte Field Office to burn slash piles

Submitted by DAVID ABRAMS

With winter frosting the calendar this week, smoke from slash-pile burning will soon be drifting through the air.

The Bureau of Land Management's Butte Field Office will burn slash piles during the coming months in Silver Bow, Beaverhead, Lewis and Clark and Jefferson counties, near Wise River, Clancy, Marysville, Helena, and Rader Creek.

The slash piles to be burned near Wise River are in the Tie Creek, Bryant Creek, Jimmie New Creek and LaMarche Creek areas. The Clancy area piles are in the Sheep Mountain Area. The Marysville piles are located off the Empire Creek Road. The Helena area piles are south of

town along Grizzly Gulch Drive. The Rader Creek piles are in Whiskey Gulch.

The timing of these burns depends on weather and fuel conditions but could begin as soon as Nov. 1. Crews will burn the piles when the ground is snow-covered or when the surrounding fuels are wet enough to minimize the potential for unwanted fire spread. Burning will take place only when weather conditions and forecasts allow for adequate smoke dispersion.

The prescribed burns will be implemented by fire managers from the BLM.

For more information, contact Greg Campbell at the Butte Field Office at (406) 533-7608.

Ennis Speech & Debate Meet

JUDGES NEEDED FOR FINALS ROUNDS

Submitted by MARCI WHITEHURST

Nov. 18th, 1-3 p.m. at Ennis

Please sign up using the QR code or email Marci Whitehurst at cowboywife78@gmail.com

Thank you!



How 'recovery doulas' are helping Montanans navigate addiction and parenthood

THE UPSTART PROGRAM AIMS TO CONNECT PATIENTS WITH SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

By MARA SILVERS, Montana Free Press

When Megan Dobbs began planning how she wanted her upcoming birth to go, two goals rose to the top of her list. She wanted to be fully present and remember every moment. And she didn't want anything to compromise her

Dobbs, 30, has a wide smile and is quick to cry, especially when she talks about motherhood and her prolonged battle with addiction. Years ago, she agreed to terminate her parental rights to her firstborn daughter after a period of drug use she couldn't kick. Her second child lives in Florida, the state Dobbs left behind last November as part of her journey to sobriety. She had family in Montana and had heard about health services here for pregnant people struggling with addiction. The day she boarded the plane, she told herself, was a step toward becoming the mother she knew she could be.

"The moment I found out I was pregnant again, I was ready to get clean," Dobbs said in a September interview. "I was done with it."

Soon after she arrived in Lewistown, seven months pregnant, Dobbs became one of the first patients in an upstart health program taking root in parts of rural Montana. She was connected with a "recovery doula"-in-training a certified peer with their own history of addiction learning to become a birth doula — to support her through her pregnancy. If all went according to plan, that support worker would help Dobbs and her baby come through the experience healthy, sober and together.

A year later, Dobbs' goals have become reality. Her son, Riyadh, is nearly 10 months old and already able to mirror his mother's smile. She accepts credit for all that she and her son have achieved, but says that progress wouldn't have been possible without the help she found in Lewistown.

"People can change. I've changed," Dobbs said. "It's literally, I cannot stress enough, the reason that my recovery is working, is because of my support group."

SITTING ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE TABLE

The idea to train recovery doulas in Montana partially grew out of one of Megkian Doyle's closely held beliefs: that one generation can chart a path out of generational cycles of substance use disorder.

Doyle is the director of the Regional Community Action Team at One Health, a network of health care clinics spanning

much of rural Montana. In October, the recovery doula program Doyle dreamed up celebrated its first three graduates and started training another cohort, with members hailing from small towns — Chinook, Sidney, Hardin - across Montana's north, east and southeast regions.

"I wholeheartedly believe that it only takes a generation," Doyle said of breaking the cycle of addiction. She described her own mom, who grew up with parents who used drugs and worked hard to tread a new path for herself and Doyle. "It only took her to change the direction."

But such turnabouts can be immensely difficult, Doyle said, especially for people who are pregnant or parenting and afraid to reach out for help. Many people fear that confessing to drug use or mental health struggles could trigger investigations by law enforcement and child protection agencies, possibly leading to their children being removed and placed in foster care.

"People are trying to stay off the radar as much as they can," Doyle said. In an ideal world, she continued, patients would be willing and able to access prenatal and postpartum health care, no matter what they're dealing with. "We really want to give them support."

Drugs, alcohol and mental illness pose significant risks to maternal and early childhood health. Nationwide and in Montana, overdose and suicide are among the leading underlying causes of pregnancy-related deaths, a category that includes maternal deaths during pregnancy and up to a year postpartum. The same factors often play a role in children being placed in Montana's foster care system, with parental drug use being noted in at least 30% of removals, according to state data compiled in 2021.

The One Health program, a state and federal grant recipient, tries to prevent those outcomes by combining two types of health professionals, doulas and peer support specialists, trained to help pregnant patients and those dealing with mental health and addiction issues.

Merging the specialties is strategic in a few ways, Doyle said. Doulas, as non-medical support workers, are rarely covered by insurance or Medicaid, which often makes their services inaccessible to low-income or uninsured households. Peer support specialists, on the other hand, can be covered by insurance, but aren't trained in the specific skills that can help someone who's pregnant, giving birth and navigating weeks and months of postpartum chal-

RECOVERY continued on A2

In response to parent concerns about student health and well-being, Madison County Schools is partnering with ParentGuidance.org to deliver presentations developed by licensed therapists. This series will be virtual, interactive, and is designed to help parents and caregivers support students. Registration, attendance and interactions are kept totally

anonymous from other viewers.

TIME: 6:00-7:00 PM via Zoom To Register Now...scan the QR code or click the link

WED. OCT. 4

"What Parents Need to **Know About Suicide** Prevention"

https://cookcenter.info/Oct4Madison

https://cookcenter.info/Nov1Madison



WED. MARCH 6 "Your Active Child (ADHD)"



https://cookcenter.info/Mar6Madison

WED. NOV. 1

"Social Media -Protecting Your Child"



"Your Child's Anxiety"

WED. APRIL 3



https://cookcenter.info/Apr3Madison

WED. DEC. 6

"Grief - The Healing Process"



"Helping Your Child Succeed"

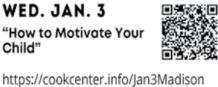
WED. MAY 1



https://cookcenter.info/Dec6Madison



"How to Motivate Your Child"



COUNTY

https://cookcenter.info/May1Madison

For more information, please contact Pam Birkeland at pbirkeland@madisoncountymt.gov

ACCORDING TO A SECOND PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY



4TH GRADE TEACHER, MRS. KATIE GROVER

SUBMITTED BY: A HUGE SUPPORTER OF PANTHER EDUCATION



Katie Grover is the fourth-grade teacher at Sheridan Elementary. This is her fifth-year teaching fourth grade. She was born and raised in Billings, Mont. Mrs. Grover graduated from The University of Montana Western with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education as well as a K-12 Drama Minor in 2019. She completed her student teaching with Mrs. Patritti in the Spring of 2019 and she fell in love with Sheridan Schools. She started teaching in the Fall after student teaching and has been teaching fourth grade ever since. She met her husband, Mr. Mike

Grover, while attending Western, and their first baby boy, Tres, was born in July of this year. She just finished her Masters in Elementary Education with an emphasis in reading through Grand Canyon University in May of 2023. Mrs. Grover loves her decision to become an educator. She is continuously rewarded by her belief that there is never really a finish line in education; learning is a continuous, exciting journey that she shares with her students every day. When asked what she loves about teaching, she responded with, "I love getting to know all my students and

building relationships with each student as well. I love being a part of the Sheridan community and I appreciate all the parent and community support within the school." When she is not in the classroom, Mrs. Grover loves to be outdoors fishing, hiking, and going on trail rides. She loves to spend time with her family, and all her pets. The Grovers have four dogs, three cats, and a hedgehog.

A fun fact about Mrs. Grover is that she loves music and loves to sing.





Ennis/Cameron Check Station Summary 10/23/2023

Submitted by JULIE CUNNINGHAM, FWP

The Ennis/Cameron check station was run opening weekend by Julie Cunningham (FWP), Trevor Thompson (MSU) and Autumn Keller (USFS) on Saturday and by Julie Cunningham, Trevor Thompson, and Avril Baines (FWP) on Sunday. Both days the station opened at 10:30am instead of the normal 10:00am due to picking up a dead radio-collared bighorn

COW

10

3

HD

322

360

TOTAL

sheep on Saturday and due to helping move a moose out of Bozeman on Sunday. Both days, the station was open until dark. Conditions were warm and dry both days, with rain coming in only late evening on Sunday. High temperatures reached the 60° and 70° range both days. There was very little snow present on the mountains and only in the highest elevations.

We checked 437 hunters. Hunters we interviewed harvested 38 elk, 5 mule deer, 2 white-tailed

TOTAL

26

12

38

CALF

5

2

ELK

BULL

12

19

deer, and 1 pronghorn. The hunter success rate was 10.3% for elk and deer only.

Despite unseasonably warm and dry conditions, all harvest data metrics were uniformly within average ranges using data from 2004-present. The number of hunters checked was within, but on the low side of, recent average. The number of white-tailed deer, mule deer, and elk checked were all within recent average ranges.

MULE DEER:

1 doe from HD 322, 4 bucks from HD 322

PRONGHORN:

1 buck pronghorn from HD 360

WHITE-TAILS:

A doe and a buck from HD 322

Table 1: Ennis/Cameron check station results. # hunters checked, # white-tailed deer harvested, # mule deer harvested, and % of hunters with deer or elk. At bottom, note the recent average (2004-2022) for all fields with 95% confidence intervals to describe range of observed variation.

Year	# Hunters	#WT	#MD	#Elk	% Hunters with Deer & Elk
2004	425	1	10	20	7.3
2005	250	3	6	10	7.6
2006*	492	5	6	50	12.4
2007	494	2	7	22	6.3
2008	267	3	2	28	12.4
2009	547	4	6	28	6.8
2010	508	0	3	26	8.3
2011	466	2	7	30	8.4
2012	374	2	5	29	4.5
2013	548	3	5	79	15.3
2014	656	2	7	66	11.4
2015	519	2	14	45	11.8
2016	596	2	5	44	8.6
2017	691	6	6	36	6.7
2018	398	7	3	46	14.1
2019	598	5	2	30	6.2
2020**	218	5	4	11	9.2
2021	579	4	1	59	11.2
2022	414	2	16	24	10.1
2023	437	2	5	28	10.3
2004-2022 AVERAGE	490	3	5	38	9.4
(95% C.I.)	(434, 546)	(2, 4)	(4, 8)	(30, 46)	(8.0%, 10.8%)

* 2006 the check station was open for longer hours (6am to 9pm) but numbers were included in averages ** 2020 the check station was open Sunday only and not included in computing averages





MADISON VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER WELCOMES BRYANNA CORDEIRO, MD



Madison Valley Medical Center is proud to announce and welcomes Dr. Cordeiro to our healthcare provider team.

While obtaining her medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine, Dr. Cordeiro completed a rotation at the Madison Valley Medical Center before going on to complete the St. Mark's Family Medicine Residency Program in Salt Lake City, Utah.

After completing her medical training, Dr. Cordeiro desired to return to Montana to be closer to family and reside in a rural mountain community. She enjoys hiking, camping, and adventuring with her husband and son.

Dr. Cordeiro has a broad scope of practice including family medicine, geriatrics, women's health, as well as preventative and procedural medicine. She joins our expert team of physicians and providers who can see individuals utilizing Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, or self-pay.

Dr. Cordeiro is currently accepting new patients. Please call 406-682-4223 to schedule an appointment with her today.



RECOVERY from A1

lenges. By combining the two skill sets, Doyle and her team reasoned, dually trained staff can fill gaps in the continuum of care available to some of Montana's most vulnerable patients.

"My job as a peer support [specialist] is to be on their same side of the table," said Carson Zeigler, a recovery doula-in-training based in Billings. "So I'm going to sit there with them and I'm going to help them fill out that Medicaid form, that SNAP form. I'm going to make those phone calls with them, not for them."

Zeigler said her work, which sometimes looks like being a "paid friend," is about empowering patients and helping them connect to services designed to help them succeed. That type of support wasn't available during her own first high-risk pregnancy, Zeigler said, even though her medical team knew she was young and had a history of addiction. After the birth of her second child, Zeigler subsequently experienced two miscarriages and again felt stranded without emotional help. She began experiencing postpartum depression, something she didn't know was possible after a pregnancy loss, and tried to take her own life.

Zeigler said her personal experiences with pregnancy, parenthood, addiction and mental health crises made her want to help others who might be struggling. She's now a certified peer support specialist-in-training to become a recovery doula. Even if she doesn't have the exact same experience as her clients, Zeigler said, her past can help her relate.

"For me, it is very important to share what I've gone through," she said. "I get it. I've been there."

'BECAUSE OF MY SUPPORT GROUP'

While pregnancy and the postpartum period are highly

vulnerable times for patients, One Health clinical supervisor Pam Ponich describes them as "a clinical window of opportunity" where patients are more likely to seek and use help.

"They really do realize, well, it's not just about me. There's this other life and I want to be the best parent I can be," Ponich said.

But services have to be available for that motivation to become action, Ponich said. That symbiosis between patients and health care providers ended up happening for Dobbs, the Florida resident who came to Montana to be closer to family and tap into prenatal services

When she arrived in Lewistown, Dobbs found a network of services that began to kick into gear. She was put in touch with Chelsea Solberg, a One Health nurse and care coordinator with the Meadowlark Initiative, a statewide program to help providers address behavioral health risks during pregnancy and decrease family separations for drug use or mental health issues. Solberg connected her with a recovery doula-in-training, another Lewistown resident and peer support specialist named Ty LaFountain. Together, Solberg and LaFountain became pillars of Dobbs' support team as she worked through the early phases of sobriety and began preparing for her son's birth.

As a nurse specializing in labor, delivery and infant care, Solberg said, she saw Dobbs as another expecting parent who needed support — not a person solely defined by her history of addiction.

"She's a mom, just like I am," Solberg said in an October interview. "That's Megan, the person ... I know that that support around anyone is important for preparing to give birth, no matter what their struggles are."

On the day of her delivery,

Dobbs was up-front with medical staff about her history of narcotic use, telling them she didn't want to take pain medications or be sent home with prescription drugs. She waited until she could no longer handle the pain to get an epidural, a numbing injection to counter intense contractions, but said she immediately felt a sense of defeat for accepting medication. LaFountain was there to support her in the hospital room the whole time, bolstering her mood and helping her stay focused.

After her son's delivery, Dobbs faced another setback. A member of the hospital staff had reported her to child protective services, the state health department's child welfare agency, to flag the possibility of Dobbs using drugs. Knowing she was in Lewistown, the child protection worker made contact with Solberg, the Meadowlark Initiative coordinator, to see if Dobbs was on her caseload. Solberg advocated for Dobbs and helped her emotionally prepare for the state worker's visit. Together, they explained that she was working through her treatment plan, maintaining sobriety, and dedicated to caring for her newborn. Eventually, the caseworker found no reason to remove Riyadh from his mother's care.

"Everything that that CPS lady was going to have me do, I was already doing," Dobbs said. "She had a long list of [things] like see a therapist, see this, do this, do that. And I had everything already done."

Months later, Dobbs said, both of those people are still in her corner. She can reach out to LaFountain if she feels challenged in her recovery, and she and Solberg can work through the ups and downs of caring for an infant if issues arise with Riyadh. And, day after day, Dobbs continues to make progress toward her goals of being the best mom she can be. Next year, she'll



Members of the new cohort of One Health's recovery doula training program gather for two days of training in October 2023. PHOTO COURTESY MARA SILVERS, MTFP

have enough time in recovery to follow in Zeigler and LaFountain's footsteps and start training to become a peer support doula herself.

Reflecting on her time in recovery, Dobbs said, the availability of peer support and community resources seem to have made a critical difference.

"I'm not just saying this just to say it, but the reason why is because of my support group," Dobbs said. "The reason why I have never [before] recovered or never got sober long enough was because I didn't have a support group the way I have one now."

FINDING A PURPOSE

On an overcast day in October, the new cohort of recovery doulas-in-training gathered in a warm community room at Boulder Hot Springs. Many said they had been motivated to join the program because of their own experiences as parents with histories of addiction and mental health issues. They talked about having compassion for the people they wanted to serve, and making sure their own experiences don't crowd out the client's voice in decision-making about their health and well-being.

LaFountain and Zeigler, both of whom still have a few more



Megkian Doyle, director of the regional community action team at One Health, speaks to new members of the recovery doula training program in October 2023. PHOTO COURTESY MARA SILVERS, MTFP

requirements to meet until they can complete the course, were there. They and other peer support specialists talked about how meaningful it was for them to use their lived experience to help other people, highlighting another layer to the program: Knowing that they can have a positive influence in someone else's life helps bolster their own commitment to recovery.

Between assisting with demonstrations and offering lessons to the program's new members, LaFountain tried to summarize the importance of his new career.

In some ways, he said, it feels as if everything he's been through has prepared him to help other people overcome their addictions and start down the road to being better parents.

"I know that I have a purpose," he said with tears in his eyes.

Over lunch, Doyle and Ponich lead the celebrations of the program's first graduates, handing out certificates and scrubs with "recovery doula" scripted on the back. The lunch hall rang with the sound of the new cohort clapping.

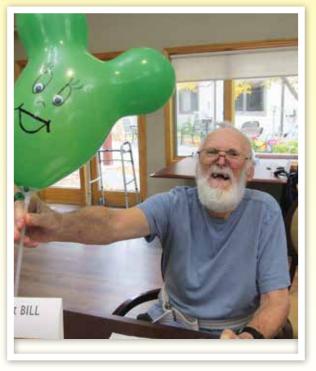
Madison Valley Manon Auxiliany BIRTHDAY PARTY FUN

SUBMITTED BY GAIL ELSER



Once a month the Manor has a big birthday bash for the residents whose birthdays fall in that month. Our party is complete with cake, ice cream, punch, coffee and tea. And of course, we can't forget the faithful Tune Tanglers! They entertain the residents at every birthday party with birthday songs and so much more.

This October we celebrated the birthdays of residents Bob B. and Joyce H. You can tell by the pictures that it was a special day for them. Bob, our resident with the smile that never stops, sure liked his birthday balloon. And Joyce was happy to accept a dancing invitation from Rick Toot, a top notch CNA! Family and friends are always welcome to come and enjoy the festivities!



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CONTACT:

Leona - Activities Director | Christy - Administrator | Gail - Volunteer MadisonValleyManorAuxiliary@gmail.com

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*APY = Annual percentage rate. Sky FCU membership required. Penalty for early withdrawal. Certificate dividends compounded monthly.

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Gallatin Check Station Summary 10/23/2023

Submitted by JULIE CUNNINGHAM, FWP

Opening weekend of rifle season 2023 at the Gallatin Canyon check station (Highway

191) was staffed by Howard Burt and rains not coming in until (FWP). Both days, the station was open from 10am until dark. Weather was unseasonably warm and dry, with daytime highs reaching 60° to 70° range,

Sunday evening.

Howard checked 185 hunters,

11 elk, no deer, and 1 moose.

of hunters checked was below

Although the total number

average, the number of elk

checked was within average,

age range. That no deer were

checked is not uncommon for

opening weekend at this check

station, although most years 1-3

mule deer are checked.

and the percent of hunters with

deer or elk was also within aver-

		ELK		
HD	COW	BULL	CALF	TOTAL
301	0	3	0	3
310	0	3	0	3
360	1	1	2	4
361	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	1	8	2	11

Table 1: Elk harvest checked opening weekend of general rifle season, 2023 at Gallatin Check Station

table 1: Elk narvest checkea opening weekena of general rifle season, 2023 at Gallatin Check Station.					
Year	# Hunters	#WT	#MD	#Elk	% Hunters with Deer & Elk
2010	295	0	0	6	2.2
2011	317	0	0	10	4.5
2012	242	0	4	1	6.6
2013	274	0	0	10	4.4
2014	304	0	1	13	4.6
2015	237	1	6	21	11.8
2016	3283	2	2	13	6.0
2017	256	0	3	16	7.4
2018*	107	0	1	2	2.8
2019	159	0	1	5	3.8
2020**	59	0	0	5	8.5
2021	234	0	2	12	6.0
2022	127	2	1	11	11.0
2023	185	0	2	11	5.9
2010-2022 AVERAGE	248	0	2	11	6.2
(95% C.I.)	(213-283)	(0 - 1)	(1 - 3)	(8 - 14)	(4.5% - 7.9%)

^{* 2018 –} open Saturday only (not included in long-term averages) ** 2020 - open Sunday only (not included in long-term averages)

Table 2: Gallatin Check Station results showing # hunters checked, # white-tailed deer harvested, # mule deer harvested, # elk harvested, and % hunters with deer or elk. At bottom, note the recent average (2010-2022) for all fields with 95% confidence intervals to describe range of observed variation.

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JEFFERSON RIVER from A1

that rely on it," said Chris Edgington, MTU's Jefferson Watershed Project Manager. "With trout numbers near, or at historic lows across much of Southwest Montana, there's no better time for a water quantity and quality project in this area. This is a great example of the win-win projects Montana Trout Unlimited strives to develop."

Rising in the mountains north of Butte, the Boulder River is the largest tributary to the Jefferson River downstream of the Beaverhead-Big Hole River confluence, providing a boost of cold water near the midpoint of the Jefferson's 83-mile length. The Boulder is a high-value coldwater fishery and provides significant agricultural production in Jefferson County. On the Candlestick Ranch, the Shaw Diversion Dam and two smaller diversions deliver water to 233 acres of cropland. The aging infrastructure is getting more difficult to operate and regulate irrigation withdrawal. This project will alleviate infrastructure concerns, by removing the diversion dams and replacing them with instream irrigation pumps, thereby providing a significant ecological uplift to the Boulder and Jefferson Rivers through stream restoration, water savings, continued agricultural benefit, and wetland development.

QUANTIFIABLE PROJECT BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Improving irrigation delivery and efficiency to 233 acres of valuable cropland
- Achieving 7 CFS of cold Boulder River water savings over the current base flow of 28 CFS
- Providing fish and other aquatic organism passage for thermal refugia and spawning
- Eliminating fish entrainment in 3 irrigation ditches
- Reducing nutrient and sedi-
- ment loading Creating wetlands

"We are excited to partner with Montana Trout Unlimited in the removal of a diversion from the Boulder River. This collaborative effort will help to ensure a healthy and thriving fishery for future generations. Barrick's dedication to our community as well as the surrounding wildlife exemplifies our commitment to building sustainable legacies," said Kristine Murphy, Golden Sunlight general manager.

"This project is a win-win for trout and property owners, and we couldn't be more excited to see it get off the ground," said Edgington.

In April 2021, the partners met to discuss the challenges at the project site, to share what resources they could provide, and what the potential outcomes of the project could be. MTU, along with FWP and NRCS, developed

a plan to collect baseline data to quantify project benefits. Methods of data collection have included stream and irrigation flow monitoring, continuous temperature monitoring, fish population estimates, redd counts, juvenile trout out-migration surveys, and a wetland delineation.

"The project adds about 7 CFS of summer flow to the Jefferson River, and Boulder River water is 2 to 3 °F cooler than the Jefferson during August," said Ron Spoon, FWP Fisheries Biologist.

Planning, engineering, and design for the dam removal and stream restoration will begin this fall. The partners anticipate project implementation in the fall/winter of 2025. For more information on this project, contact Chris Edgington at chris@ montanatu.org.



You never know where Halloween spirit might be hanging out. PHOTO COURTESY DAN ROSE



Important Information Regarding Medicare Open **Enrollment**

The Medicare Open Enrollment Period is October 15th through December 7th.

When selecting your Medicare coverage, Ruby Valley Medical Center will be out of network for all Medicare Advantage plans EXCEPT Blue Cross Blue Shield Medicare Advantage.

If you receive most of your medical care at Ruby Valley Medical Center, your best coverage option is:

- Traditional/original Medicare, and
- · A Medicare supplement (Medigap) plan, and
- A Medicare Part D Prescription Plan.

Please refer to the following chart to better understand your Medicare coverage options:

	Medicare Advantage Plan	Original Medicare + Supplement/Medigap
Doctors and Hospitals	Usually required to use doctors and hospital in the plan network or pay more of out of network. (This includes Skilled Stay.)	Any doctor or hospital that accepts Medicare.
Referrals Required?	May be required to use network specialists.	Primary Care provider will refer to specialist of your choice.
Networks	Network restrictions may exist. Emergency care is covered for travel within the U.S. and sometimes abroad.	No network restrictions. Coverage is nationwide in the U.S.
Costs	Usually a low or \$0 monthly premium in addition to your Part B premium. Copays, coinsurance, and deductibles are due when services are used.	Monthly plan premium for your Part B. Out of pocket costs are limited when you use services.
Co-insurance	Determined by plan coverage.	20% (Covered by Medigap Plan)
Prescription Drugs	Prescription drug coverage is usually included.	Prescription drug coverage is not included. A separate Medicare Part D Plan will need to be purchased.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions:

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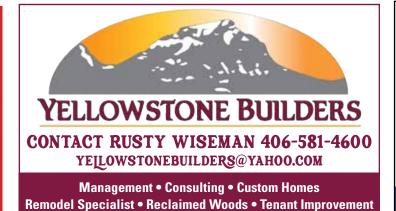
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MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

Thursday



Snow showers will become more widely scattered in the afternoon. High 29F. Winds NNE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of snow 60%. Snow accumulating 1 to 3 inches.

Friday



A mix of clouds and sun early, then becoming cloudy later in the day. High 33F. WSW winds shifting to NNE at 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday



Cloudy skies early will become partly cloudy later in the day. A few flurries or snow showers possible. High 26F. Winds N at 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday



Sun and a few passing clouds. High 32F. Winds SSW at 5 to 10 mph.

Monday



A few clouds from time to time. High 37F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph.

Quote of the Week:

"SUNSHINE IS **DELICIOUS, RAIN IS REFRESHING, WIND BRACES US UP, SNOW** IS EXHILARATING; THERE IS REALLY NO **SUCH THING AS BAD** WEATHER, ONLY **DIFFERENT KINDS OF GOOD WEATHER."** JOHN RUSKIN



RANCH SOUTHWEST

OF TWIN BRIDGES

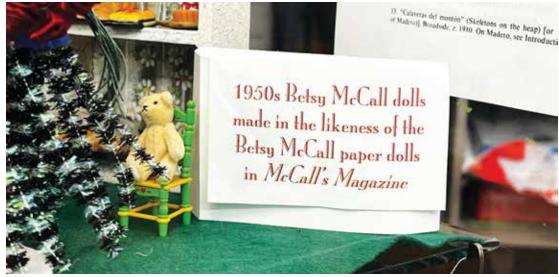
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SHERIDAN PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY DISPLAY











For the last year and a half, Keli Fogle, creates a monthly themed display at the Sheridan Public Library consisting of four Betsy McCall dolls that she owns. Each display is intricately designed and hand-crafted by Fogle, who excels at miniature craftsmanship. This month

commemorates the Day of the Dead celebration just in time for Halloween.









🛅 🗆 Health & Wellness 💥







Helping the skin fix itself

Submitted by NIH

You've likely had countless cuts and scrapes in your life. Normally, when you get a small skin wound, your body can repair it quickly. But sometimes, the repair process doesn't work properly. If this happens, even a tiny tear in the skin can have trouble healing. That can lead to pain and distress and pose a risk for dangerous—or even deadly—

Wounds that don't heal for three months or more are called chronic wounds. Your risk for getting a chronic wound increases with age. But there are ways you can help your body to heal.

Rebuilding skin

When you have an open wound, blood can get out of the body, and germs can get in.

"So the body's goal is to seal that wound as quickly as possible," says Dr. Maria Morasso, a skin biology researcher at NIH.

This normally involves an orderly series of steps. First, a clot forms over the wound to prevent blood loss. Next, cells from the immune system move into the area. These remove dead and damaged cells from the wound. This makes room for new, healthy cells. Immune cells also fight off any germs in the area, like bacteria. This process causes inflammation—heat, swelling, and redness-around the wound.

The body next starts to make new cells to replace the damaged tissue. Finally, your skin begins to heal and creates a scar. This process is called remodeling.

Too much scarring can cause problems after a wound heals. Large scars may prevent nearby muscles and joints in the body from working properly. Scientists are looking for ways to help minimize this scarring.

Not all tissues in the body scar, explains Dr. Kaitlyn Sadtler, who studies the immune system at NIH. For example, the liver and the tissues inside the mouth can heal perfectly. Her lab and others are studying these tissues to find ways to coax other organs to grow back better.

Roadblocks to healing

There are different ways the wound-healing process can go wrong. For example, too little or too much inflammation can lead to problems, Morasso explains.

Too much inflammation can damage nearby tissue. It can also prevent immune cells in a wound from working the way they're supposed to.

If immune cells aren't working properly or if there's too little inflammation, new tissue may not form over the wound. Then your body may not be able to protect itself from germs. If germs get into a wound, infection can set in. Untreated infections can lead to serious complications and become life-threatening.

Health conditions that interfere with blood flow around a wound can also affect the healing process. These conditions include diabetes or problems with blood vessels, such as varicose veins. Smoking, obesity, and aging can also make wounds heal more slowly. Slow healing can put you at higher risk of developing a chronic wound.

If you have diabetes, getting your blood glucose (or blood sugar) under control is crucial for healing, explains Dr. Geoffrey Gurtner, a surgeon who

specializes in wound healing at the University of Arizona. High blood glucose levels "make a wound-healing problem much worse," he says.

People with diabetes are at high risk of developing chronic wounds on their feet called foot ulcers. So it's important to wear well-fitted shoes and check your feet regularly. This is true for everyone with diabetes, whether or not your blood glucose is under control, Gurtner says. But it's especially important if you have nerve damage to your feet.

People with blood vessel problems may be advised to wear compression stockings to help stop small wounds from forming. And everyone can take steps to keep small cuts and scrapes clean and healthy. See the Wise Choices box for more about wound care.

If you have a wound that won't heal, talk with your doctor. They may consider removing some of the old, damaged tissue to start the healing process again.

Or, they may give you special bandages or antibiotics. Some people may need surgery to place new skin over the wound or a special type of cast.

But new treatments are needed to help chronic wounds heal better, Gurtner says.

Finding new treatments

Researchers are working to develop new ways to treat chronic wounds. Morasso and her team are comparing mouth wounds which heal very rapidly—with normal skin wounds and nonhealing wounds.

Her team's recent study showed that diabetic foot ulcers lacked two proteins that are found in wounds that heal normally. Because the proteins were missing, immune cells weren't able to move into the wounds.

"If we can find key proteins, we could target them with drugs to increase or decrease them as needed," says Morasso. "This could help boost healing."

Sadtler and her lab are study-

ing how biomaterials can help wound healing. Biomaterials can be made from substances found in the human body or synthetically designed. Her team is testing whether biomaterials can be engineered to release different drugs at different times. These drugs would draw different immune cells into a wound in the order they're needed for healing.

"Immune cells are the body's defenders. But they're also the construction workers that help build new tissues," Sadtler explains. "We're looking at how we can use them to heal wounds and prevent scar tissue."

Researchers are working on "smart bandages" that could help wounds heal, too. These use features like electrical stimulation to boost wound healing. Smart bandages can also monitor wounds for signs of infection in real time.

Gurtner and others recently tested smart bandages in mice. They found that wounds underneath the bandage healed

faster than those covered with a normal dressing.

"I think we're going to see this type of bandage in the clinic in the near future," Gurtner says.

For now, he encourages anyone with a wound that's not healing to ask their doctor for a referral to a wound-care center if possible.

"These exist in most communities now," he says. "Having the kind of coordinated care they provide really makes a big difference for helping wounds heal."

TAKE CARE OF INJURED SKIN

- KEEP OPEN WOUNDS CLEAN. Washing thoroughly with soap and clean water reduces the potential for infection.
- REMOVE JEWELRY OR **CLOTHING that could** further irritate the wound.
- APPLY A BANDAGE. Keeping the wound clean and protected reduces the chance of infection. Don't cover wounds that can't be cleaned, like bites or deep punctures, and see a health care provider.
- CHECK THE WOUND **EVERY 24 HOURS FOR** SIGNS OF INFECTION. These include redness, swelling, or oozing. See a health care provider if your wound becomes infected.
- SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE if you have fever, increasing pain, shortness of breath, fast heart rate, confusion, or disorientation.





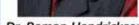
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THIS, OUR VALLEY: North to Alaska By KEITH AXBERG

... there go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport with. Psalm 104

My better half and I just returned from the sea. We set sail earlier this month to check out Alaska's Inside Passage. It's a trip we'd wanted to take for (literally) decades, but could never put enough scratch or time together simultaneously to make it happen. It seemed like every "milestone" (like 10th, 25th, or 40th anniversary) was accompanied by some ship-wrecking family or parish emergency that took precedence. Life happens.

We'd reached the end of summer and I decided it was time to give mother nature and the fates the slip, so I booked the Alaskan adventure when they

weren't looking, and it worked!

I won't bore you by detailing the trip. If there's anything worse than sitting through someone else's home movies, it's sitting through those home movies without the pictures, slides, or super-8s (and accompanying narration). I will say that we had shockingly good weather considering the Alaskan coast sees rain 300 days of the year (we had only two wet days), and relatively calm seas (only two days of the nine where we pushed through eighteen foot swells and felt a bit like we'd signed onto a nautical version of rodeo bullriding).

Before we left, a friend asked what part of the trip I was most looking forward to, and I confessed, "Getting home." I am a home-body. I know that, and my answer was true. But it was true only for the reason I wasn't sure what to expect on our voyage. As a card-carrying pessimist, I prefer to let an adventure unfold and surprise me with something good happening, than to anticipate something wonderful and then be disappointed with a lesser reality.

We took in a few of the standard tourist excursions, like the White Pass train ride out of Skagway, a hike to the Mendenhall Glacier, followed by a whale watching expedition out of Juneau. We caught crabs in Ketchikan and could almost reach out and touch the Johns Hopkins Glacier as it calved a small berg into Glacier Bay. Each excursion was delightful in its own way, but

none was what I would term memorable. I'm sure I will remember them, of course, the way one remembers bits and pieces of life's experiences. But "memorable" as in life-altering?

I realize that Tourism is an important industry; I don't intend to besmirch it. What I enjoyed most was being immersed in nature whilst disconnected from the world. We could pay for internet and cellular service if we wanted it, but my goal was to forego all of that. What good is it to get away if one doesn't actually get away? I did check text messages and send location updates to friends and family when I had cell service in several ports of call, but beyond that, I let the world spin on (or off) without me.

It was being out in the natural world I enjoyed most. It was handling a live Dungeness crab on a small boat (not the Deadliest Catch variety - just a coastal runabout). It was spending time in the bays and inlets watching whales clear their spouts upon surfacing, dolphins porpoising past the boat, harbor seals and sea lions sunning themselves on harbor buoys or floating lazily about just off-shore, each ignoring their hominid cousins bobbing about for their own look-sees and amusement.

Sadly, I did not see any bears on this journey. I was in a tour group that did see a momma Brown bear and her cub on the road on Chichagof Island, but folks crowded the bus's windshield and blocked the view from everyone else. I did see the

bear via several cell-phone view screens, but alas, not directly. That's OK, though. I can bear the disappointment.

Our final stop before returning to Seattle was shortened due to weather, so that was a bit of a letdown. Still, I don't think Gilligan and pals could have hosted a couple thousand additional guests to house and feed, so our captain made the right decision to steer clear of the autumnal storms that threatened us. I can live with that, too, here in this, our valley. It's good to be home.

Keith Axberg writes on matters concerning life and faith. Author of: Who the Blazes is Jesus? Good News for a Vulgar World (available through Amazon in *Print and e-book)*

A word from the

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

RANSOMWARE: Protecting your business's privacy and safeguarding trust

By ROSEANN FREITAS - PR & Communications Manager at BBB Great West + Pacific

Ransomware is everywhere. The number of businesses that fall victim to attacks grows each year, and the consequences for those targeted continue to be costly. According to the FBI, in 2022, adjusted losses due to ransomware exceeded \$34

The prevalence of ransomware attacks emphasizes the need for businesses to protect their customer's personally identifiable information. Safeguarding privacy is not merely a recommendation but a standard

set by the Better Business Bureau. create a robust cybersecurity It's a crucial element of trust in your business.

A breach of privacy harms your reputation and bottom line. Attacks can result in significant financial losses as well as cause operational shutdowns. Furthermore, businesses may face legal repercussions if they fail to protect customer data adequately.

Building a robust business cybersecurity plan

A thorough cybersecurity plan is paramount in safeguarding your business against ransomware attacks. Here's a step-by-step process to help you plan:

1. Risk assessment: Begin by identifying potential vulnerabilities within your system. This includes outdated software, lack of firewalls, and weak password practices.

2. Employee education: Equip your team with knowledge about ransomware attacks, their implications, and how to prevent them. Regular training sessions can go a long way in fortifying your defense.

3. Security measures: Install reliable antivirus software, implement strong password policies, and utilize secure cloud storage for sensitive data.

4. Regular updates and backups: Keep your systems up to date and back up critical data regularly. This can help you recover quickly in case of an

5. Incident response plan: Have a clear plan detailing the steps to take in the event of a breach. This should include identifying the breach, containing the threat, eradicating the ransomware, and recovering the systems.

6. Regular audits: Conduct regular audits to ensure that your cybersecurity measures are effective and updated. This also helps to identify any unnoticed

breaches or vulnerabilities. For small businesses that

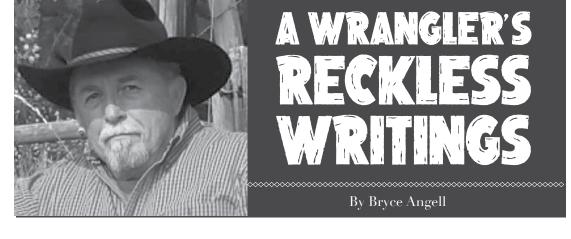
may not have the resources to maintain an IT department, outsourcing to a reputable IT company is a viable and often necessary alternative. But don't just pick the first one you find due diligence is key. Start your search on BBB.org, a trustworthy platform that lists businesses adhering to the highest standards of ethical business practices.

Asking for personal recommendations from trusted business associates can also be invaluable. Remember, your chosen IT company will be entrusted with your business's

cybersecurity, which plays a pivotal role in safeguarding privacy and maintaining trust with your clientele. It's worth taking the time to make the right

The goal of a cybersecurity plan is not just to protect your business but also to maintain the trust of your customers by ensuring their data's privacy. Proactively dealing with potential security threats before they become a problem is a testament to your commitment to safeguarding privacy and trust.

Learn more about protecting your data at BBB.org/ Cybersecurity.



Chimney Fire

There's nothing like the heat that burns off from a wood stove fire. The bright red glow and crackling wood is anyone's desire.

I don't mind sawing down a tree that's completely brown and dead. So, while cleaning up the forest I can keep my wood stove fed.

And getting up, twice every night, to stoke the fire with wood, will teach you to be vigilant as anybody should.

Last year seemed such a long one, talking 'bout the cold and snow. From the wood shed to the wood stove wore three holes in brand new soles.

And to top it off I plowed the ever falling snow each day, while stoking up the wood stove, kept me hostage, you could say.

It must have been a Sunday, after eating eggs and toast. I heard a noise so loud, jet engine decibels almost.

I hurried to the wood stove feeling comatose in stare. And there a roaring chimney fire was sucking up the air.

I was barely post op surgery. A brand new total knee. So, climbing up the ladder was impossible for me.

My sister's husband got here faster than town gossip flies. He was soon to be a firefighter hero in my eyes.

Our ladder was a tall one, thirty feet from ground to top. Yes, our firefighter climbed it fast as water soaks your mop.

He carried up a bucket. Dumped water down the chimney hole. The steam shot like a geyser but the fire still held control.

He tossed the bucket down to me. I missed. It hit the ground. The bucket broke to pieces. Now no time to fool around.

So, I ran inside the garage I'd hung a bucket on a nail. But instead I found our Sunday turkey brining in the pail.

I tossed the turkey and the brine, in panic, way up high. And wondered, in confusion, why the turkey didn't fly.

I tied the bucket to a rope. Now we had a fire aide. And finally doused the fire with our two man pail brigade.

Thank heaven for our brother who'll stay calm and use his head. Who starts the day before the sun and early out of bed.

I can't forget the chimney fire. It caused me such a scare. So, now I'm burning propane while sitting in my easy chair.

Hope for the Caregiver

A COLUMN FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Caregiver advice—Montana style

By PETER ROSENBERGER

During our first winter in Montana, a friend gave me some of the best advice about the snowy road conditions in the Treasure State.

"Drive at the speed you're comfortable slamming into the ditch at."

While laughing at the pointed guidance, I also considered the implications for other areas. As caregivers, we often race around at breakneck speeds—while in treacherous conditions. Rehealth can all be severe hazards. The faster we move, the greater the risks.

lationships, money, and our

Slowing down is the key. We make few, if any, sound decisions when we are "amped up." Just like wildlife jumping in front of our trucks, life has a way of hurling things in front of us as caregivers. Slowing down allows us to protect ourselves better, our property, and our loved ones—and the occasional deer in the road! Ditches and wrecks can't always be avoided, but we can reduce the damage.

Besides, going slower allows us to better see the beauty around

Let thy step be slow and steady, that thou stumble not. —Tokugawa Ieyasu

Peter Rosenberger, a 30+ year caregiver, is the host of the nationally syndicated radio program, Hope for the Caregiver. He and his wife, Gracie, live in Madison County and Peter serves as the director of music for Madison Valley Baptist Church.

www.hopeforthecaregiver.com



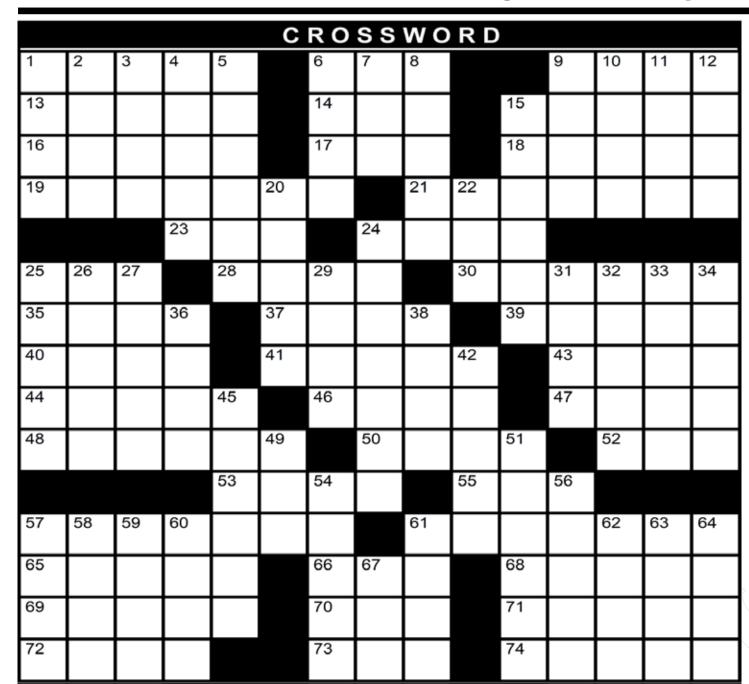


Definition: Having a rumbling stomach.

Sentence: I started the day off feeling great, but I was just a bit wamble-cropped after jostling around on bumpy dirt roads all day with a belly full of greasy food.



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© StatePoint Media THEME: THE 1940s

ACROSS 1. Sylvester Stallone's "

- King'
- 6. And so forth, abbr.
- 9. Mongolian desert
- 13. Uniate church member
- 14. Additionally
- 15. Modified "will"
- Heart surgery prop 17. Remains container
- 18. Follow
- 19. *Thor Heyerdahl's raft
- 21. *Jackie Robinson's new team, 1947
- 23. *Cassius Marcellus Clay,
- Jr., born in 1942 24. Animal prod
- 25. Give a nickname
- 28. Dwarf buffalo 30. Edible corn part
- 35. Functions
- 37. * Strip on Mediterranean Sea, 1948
- 39. Roman goddess, patroness of hunters

- 40. *Moscow cocktail,
- 41. Beach souvenir
- 43. Inspiring horror
- 44. Not long
- 46. Home to Bryce Canyon
- words)
- 50. Links hazard
- 52. Mozart's "L' del Cairo"
- 53. Back of the neck
- All Here"
- 1945
- 66. *The BAA and NBL
- 68. Battle royal
- 70. What divots and divas have in common
- 72. Lad's counterpart

- created in 1940s

- 47. Smoothie bowl flavor
- 48. Become available (2

- 55. Transgression
- 57. *Carmen of "The Gang's
- 61. *United _____, established
- 65. Popeye's sweetie
- merged, forming this ball org., 1949
- 69. Denigrating statement
- 71. Audience's approval

- 73. Number on a birthday cake
- 74. Not o'er

DOWN

- Poacher's trophy
- 2. "Do others..."
- 3. Bank claim
- 4. *1947's "Here Comes
- Claus"
- 5. King of the Huns
- 6. Purse for the red carpet 7. High craggy hill
- 8. Type of dwelling
- 9. "The Show" (1976-
- 1980)
- 10. Yorkshire river
- 11. Hangover memory?
- 12. 15th of March
- 15. Tied the knot
- 20. *Leopold III of Belgium and Christian X of Denmark, e.g.
- 22. Acorn producer
- 24. Common newspaper name
- 25. *"When I See an Elephant
- Fly" elephant, 1941
- 26. Steal a throne

- 27. Misrepresent
 - 29. *Pearl Harbor location
 - 31. Capital of Latvia
 - 32. Narcotics agent
 - 33. *Considered first generalpurpose computer, acr.
 - 34. a.k.a. vampire
 - 36. Espied
- 38. a.k.a. Daminozide
- 42. Apso
- 45. Tornado visual
- 49. Helicopter landing
- 51. Coal miners
- 54. Bear of bamboo forest
- 56. Brother's daughter
- 57. Gangster's gal 58. Hip bones
- 59. Barbecued anatomy
- 60. Birds
- 61. Part of cathedral
- 62. Cantina cooker 63. Sans mixers
- 64. Comedian Meyers

67. *"The ____ Sleep," 1946

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



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9 3 9 Þ 6 8 9 9 ε 6 8 Þ 8 7 9 ς 6 7 6 3 G Þ 8 9 8 6 G 7 8 9 ς ε Þ 6 G 8 6

Crossword puzzle answers on B7

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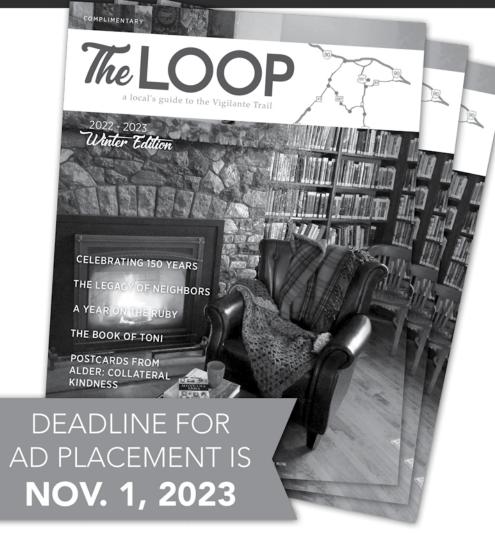
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PUBLIC NOTICES | OCTOBER 26, 2023

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE This is a public notice from B & D Keylock to the Lessee Of Unit #16 located at 3538 Hwy 287 in Sheridan, Mt 59749 to inform you that your Unit is under foreclosure proceedings. B&D Kevlock

Published Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, 2023

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF ENNIS: CANCELED The Town of Ennis will conduct a Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget for the Town of Ennis on October 26, 2023 @ Ennis Town Hall, 328 W. Main, Ennis, MT @ 6:15 p.m. The Budget is available for public review at Ennis Town Hall during normal business hours and on the Town of Ennis Website (www.

ennismontana.org) under "Budget" CLERK TOWN OF ENNIS Published Oct. 19 and 26, 2023 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on February 22, 2024, at 02:00 PM at the North Entrance of the Madison County Courthouse located at 100 West Wallace, Virginia City, MT 59755, the following described real property situated in Madison County, State of Montana: Lot 14 in Block 3 of the Original Townsite of Harrison, the plat of which is on file and of record in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, records of Madison County, Montana. More commonly known as 112 Center Street, Harrison, MT 59735. Christopher Gartner, as Grantor, conveyed said real property to Old Republic National Title Insurance Company, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems. Inc., as designated nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., Beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, by Deed of Trust on May 23, 2016, and filed for record in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder in Madison County, State of Montana, on May 23, 2016 as Instrument No. 166952, and modified pursuant to the Modification recorded on August 30, 2019, as Instrument No. 185301, and further modified pursuant to the Modification recorded on May 4. 2022, as Instrument No. 204273, of Official Records. The Deed of Trust was assigned for value as follows: Assignee: Quicken Loans Inc. Assignment Dated: September 20, 2019 Assignment Recorded: September 27, 2019 Assignment Recording Information: as Instrument No. 185765 All in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder for Madison County, Montana. Jason J. Henderson is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, State of Montana, on September 19, 2023, as Instrument No. 211510, of Official Records. The Beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to the Grantor(s) failure to make monthly payments beginning April 1, 2023, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default. the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due on this obligation is the principal sum of \$127,113.95, interest in the sum of \$2,077.41, escrow advances of \$1,845.77, other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$1,030.87 for a total amount owing of \$132,068.00, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or advanced. The Beneficiary anticipates and may disburse such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Grantor. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's fees and attorney's fees. costs and expenses of the sale, and late charges, if any. Beneficiary has elected, and has directed the Trustee to sell the above described property to satisfy the obligation. The sale is a public sale and any person, including the Beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier's checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed, without any representation or warranty, including warranty of title express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale. The Grantor, successor in interest to the Grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property, has the right, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, to pay to the Beneficiary, or the successor in interest to the Beneficiary, the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Deed of Trust with Successor Trustee's and attorney's fees. In the event that all defaults are cured the foreclosure will be dismissed and the foreclosure sale will be canceled. The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to 15 days for any reason. In the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the Trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least every 30 days. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Successor Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further

recourse. This is an attempt to collect a

debt and any information obtained will be

used for that purpose. Dated this 26th day

of September, 2023. Jason J. Henderson

Substitute Trustee 38 2nd Avenue Fast Dickinson, ND 58601 Telephone: 801-355-2886 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8AM-5PM (MST) File No. MT21749 HALLIDAY, WATKINS and MANN Published Oct. 12, 19 and 26, 2023

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on February 22, 2024, at 02:00 PM at the North Entrance of the Madison County Courthouse located at 100 West Wallace, Virginia City, MT 59755, the following described real property situated in Madison County, State of Montana: Lots 15 and 16 in Block 3 of the Mirza-Norby Addition to the Town of Ennis, Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof filed in Book 2, Page 62 on file and of record in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, Montana. Together with 14 x 70 Vandyke mobile home. More commonly known as 640 Nicole Way, Ennis, MT 59729. Gail Frances Cole, as Grantor, conveyed said real property to Wells Fargo Financial National Bank, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., by Deed of Trust on August 11 2005, and filed for record in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder in Madison County, State of Montana, on August 29, 2005 as Instrument No. 108371, in Book 540, at Page 366, of Official Records. Jason J. Henderson is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, State of Montana, on September 6, 2023, as Instrument No. 211325, of Official Records The Beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to the Grantor(s) failure to make monthly payments beginning January 25, 2020, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due on this obligation is the principal sum of \$67,259,56, interest in the sum of \$4,687.06, and other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$3,351.39 for a total amount owing of \$75,298.01, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or advanced. The Beneficiary anticipates and may disburse such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Grantor. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's fees and attorney's fees, costs and expenses of the sale, and late charges, if any. Beneficiary has elected, and has directed the Trustee to sell the above described property to satisfy the obligation. The sale is a public sale and any person. including the Beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier's checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed, without any representation or warranty, including warranty of title, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale. The Grantor, successor in interest to the Grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property, has the right, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, to pay to the Beneficiary, or the successor in interest to the Beneficiary, the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Deed of Trust with Successor Trustee's and attorney's fees. In the event that all defaults are cured the foreclosure will be dismissed and the foreclosure sale will be canceled. The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to 15 days for any reason. In the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the Trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least every 30 days. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of

Published Oct. 12, 19 and 26, 2023 NOTICE TO CREDITORS MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN RE THE ESTATE OF BETTY LOUISE NOVICH, deceased. Probate No. 29-2023-37 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the Decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to Sam Novich, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, c/o HARSHBARGER LAW FIRM., P.O. Box 445, Twin Bridges, MT 59754 or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

monies paid to the Successor Trustee and

the successful bidder shall have no further

recourse. This is an attempt to collect a

debt and any information obtained will be

of September, 2023. Jason J. Henderson

Substitute Trustee 38 2nd Avenue East

2886 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8AM-5PM

(MST) File No. MT21717 HALLIDAY,

WATKINS and MANN

Dickinson, ND 58601 Telephone: 801-355-

used for that purpose. Dated this 28th day

"I declare under penalty of perjury under

the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct." "I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct." DATED this 19th day of October, 2023. SAM NOVICH c/o HARSHBARGER LAW FIRM P.O. BOX 445 Twin Bridges, MT 59754 HARSHBARGER LAW FIRM Published Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9, 2023

NAME CHANGE HEARING Montana Fifth Judicial District Court Madison County In the Matter of the Name Change of Joshua Clifford Coughlin, Joshua Clifford Coughlin, Petitioner: Cause No:DV-29-2023-65 ORDER SETTING HEARING This Court Orders: Name Change Hearing The Hearing on the Petition for Name Change filed in this case is set for: November 27, 2023 1t 11:30 a.m. at the Madison County Annex Building, Virginia City. Mont. Dated October 3, 2023, District Court Judge, Luke Berger JOSHUA CLIFFORD COUGHLIN Published Oct. 12, 19, 26 and Nov. 2, 2023

NOTICE OF ELECTION Notice is hereby given that in Madison County on November 7, 2023, a Municipal General Election will be held for the Town of Virginia City. This is a MAIL BALLOT ONLY ELECTION. No polling places will be used. Ballots for this election will be mailed to active voters living in the Town Limits of Virginia City Only on October 18, 2023. If you feel that you are registered to vote and do not receive your ballot, call our office immediately at 406-843-4270. In order to be counted, Ballots must be received in this office by 8 pm on November 7th, 2023, Election Day. You may drop your ballot off at the Clerk & Recorders Office in the Madison County Courthouse Administrative Office Building, 103 W Wallace St, Virginia City, MT. If you are mailing your ballot, please allow plenty of time for it to arrive here. If you have any questions, please contact us at the number above. Dated this October 4 2023. Paula Mckenzie MADISON COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER/ELECTION **ADMINISTRATOR** Published Oct. 12, 19 and 26, 2023

MADISON COUNTY TAX APPEAL **BOARD 2023 SESSION** In accordance with 15-15-101 (6) MCA, The Madison County Tax Appeal Board will be in session from July 1st through December 31st, 2023 for the business of hearing appeals of property valuations set by the Montana Department of Revenue. Any taxpayer who disagrees with the appraised value of his or her property may file and appeal with the Madison County Tax Appeal Board within 30 days of the date on the Notice of Classification and Appraisal or Notice to Change Valuation (assessment notice).

Any appeal must be filed with the Office of the County Clerk & Recorder's Office, Upon receipt of the appeal, the County Tax Appeal Board will notify the appellant and schedule a hearing. The Madison County Tax Appeal Board members are Tony Treglia, Kristi Millhouse, and Cynthia Quirk. For further information, contact the Madison County Tax Appeal

Board's Secretary. Dated this 26th day of April, 2023. Paula McKenzie, Madison County Clerk and Recorder

Published weekly May 4-December 31, 2023

MADISON COUNTY AIRPORT -REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS Madison County is soliciting statements of qualifications and experience (SOQ) to be used in selecting a Principal Consultant to provide Airport Engineering and Development Planning Services for Madison County's Airports. Services are outlined in FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E, Change 1, Section 1.4.2 including engineering and planning services for all phases and required incidental services for projects, which may be multiplegrant funded. The contract for consulting services is expected to be for a five-year period. The services to be provided may include, but are not limited to the planning, design, construction inspection, coordination, and administration of all project stages for the following projects: 1. Pavement Construction, Rehabilitation, and Maintenance. 2. Lighting, Signing, Navaid, and Electrical Improvements. 3. Land Acquisition. 4. Environmental Documentation (Project Specific Categorical Exclusions) 5. Complete Aeronautical Surveys 6. Update Airport Layout Plan (ALP)/Master Plan 7. Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) 8. Terminal Building Construction/ Fuel System relocation 9. Fencing, Gates, and Drainage Improvements 10. Acquire snow removal equipment and buildings 11. Site Development 12. Water and Wastewater Improvements 13. Coordinate Other Engineering and Planning Projects as necessary The work may be accomplished during the course of multiple grants. All parties are advised that some of the services may not be required and that the Sponsor reserves the right to initiate additional procurement action for any of the services included in the initial procurement. If more than one part is selected, the expected projects to be performed by each party will be defined, together with the statement of work and the required services, at the time of the procurement action. The Sponsor will provide notification to each firm of the projects they are being awarded. Selection criteria contained in the FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E, will be applied with numerical rating factors assigned to the following: 1. Degree of interest shown in undertaking the project and familiarity with and proximity to the geographic location of the project. 2. Recent experience in similar projects and airports. 3. Quality of projects previously undertaken and capability to complete projects without having major cost escalations or overruns. 4. Qualifications of key personnel. 5. Capability of performing the projects. 6. Capability of meeting

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Reputation and references, 8. Meeting

the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

(DBE) contract goal, evidence documenting that the consultant met the DBE goal, or by documenting that it made adequate good faith efforts to meet the DBE goal. (See 49 CFR, § 26.53) Upon review of the submitted material, Madison County may select a consultant based on the submitted material, or reduce the list of applicants to approximately three (3) for oral presentation A detailed scope of work will be developed with the selected consultant. Firm consulting fees will be negotiated, utilizing an independent cost estimate as necessary, for the services to be performed under an FAA grant as approved by the FAA. This contract is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 11246 (Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Employment Opportunity) and to the provisions of Department of transportation Regulations 49 CFR Part 26 (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation). DBE firms are encouraged to submit. To be considered for these services, please provide five (4) copies, plus one (1) unbound copy of a Statement of Qualification (SOQ) no later than 5:00 p.m. on or before November 6, 2023. All responses must be submitted in a sealed envelope plainly marked "Statement of Qualifications - Airport Engineering and Planning Services." The Statement of Qualifications should not exceed 30 pages. The submittals will be opened November 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Submittals should be addressed to Madison County Commissioners, P.O. Box 278. Virginia City, Montana 59755-0278. Phone 406-843-4277. Questions or comments contact Shawna Lutgen, Madison County Grant Writer/Airport Secretary (406) 843-

Published Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING The Madison County Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on Monday, October 30, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the Thomas Hickman Library in Virginia City. The Board will consider the following agenda item and make a recommendation to the Sheridan Town Council, who will take final action. The Madison County Planning Board and Town of Sheridan have completed an amended draft of the Sheridan Growth Policy, adopted in 2021, and are seeking resident input on the proposed amendments, prior to final review and adoption. The Sheridan Growth Policy is a long-range plan, or "master plan", meant to help guide land use decisions and focus the community's vision for the next five years. A growth policy is not a regulatory document and cannot be used to solely make decisions on proposed land use projects or development but it is the necessary foundation for all other land use regulations. Copies of the draft document are available for public review at the Madison County Planning Office, Sheridan Town Hall, and Sheridan Library. Verbal or written comments may be given at the public hearing. Written comments are encouraged to be submitted and should be received by 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2023, and may be sent to the Madison County Planning Denartment at PO Box 278, Virginia City, Montana, 59755 or mschriock@ madisoncountymt.gov.

Published Oct.19 and 26, 2023

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAXES

1st half 2023 property taxes are due and payable before 5:00 p.m. on November 30, 2023 and the second half 2023 mobile home taxes are also due by November 30, 2023. Unless paid prior to that time the amount then due will be delinquent and will draw interest at the rate of 5/6 of 1% per month from and after such delinquency until paid and 2% will be added to the delinquent taxes as penalty. If date on which taxes are due falls on a Holiday or a Saturday, taxes may be paid without penalty and interest on or before 5:00 p.m. of the next business day in accordance with 1-1-307. If you have a delinguency, the current taxes (2023) have to be paid in full before your delinquency can be paid. Payment of taxes may be made at the Madison County Administration Building in Virginia City, MT, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on legal holidays or at any time before the due date. Taxes may be mailed to Madison County Treasurer, P.O. Box 247, Virginia City MT, 59755, postmarked no later than November 30, 2023 for 1st half 2023 real estate taxes and for the 2023 2nd half mobile home taxes. PLEASE NOTE: IF TAXES ARE PAID AFTER DUE DATES PENALTIES AND INTEREST WILL BE CHARGED AND YOUR CHECK WILL BE SENT BACK TO COLLECT THEM. PLEASE CALL FOR THE CORRECT AMOUNT OWED AFTER THE DUE DATE! WE NOW HAVE A NIGHT DROP AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE ADMIN BUILDING WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED UNTIL 5:00 PM ON THE DUE DATE. Telephone inquiries may be made to 406-843-4212 or e-mail sburke@ madisoncountymt.gov Web site: www. madisoncountymt.gov To pay by Credit Card or e-check call 1-800-272-9829 Jurisdiction Code 3614 or use officialpayments.com jurisdiction code 3614, fees apply. Night drop located at the front entrance of the Administration Building

Published Oct. 19 and 26, 2023

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY. LAKE CONDOMINIUMS OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. Plaintiff v. THE FIRESIDE REGISTRY, LLC, and DOES 1-25, Defendants. CAUSE NO. DV-29-2020-112. THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to The Fireside Registry, LLC, address unknown. This action is brought to enforce assessments and foreclose a lien on land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: An undivided 1/50th Time Share Interest in and to Condominium Unit No. 1551 of Lake Condominium, known as Week Number 33. Said condominium is located on Lots 1, 2, and 3A of the Fourth Amended Plat of Custer Minor subdivision, in Madison County, Montana Together with the undivided interest in the common elements appurtenant to said unit as set out and established in the Declaration of Condominium Under the Montana Unit Ownership Act Pertaining to

Lake Condominiums, recorded September 7, 1984 in Book 302, Page 496, records of Madison County, Montana, and as subsequently amended and supplemented by various instruments of record. Said condominium is to be used for residential purposes only. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-titled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service: and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court this 16th day of October, 2023. /s/ BROOKE SCHANDELMEIER, DEPUTY CLERK. Date: October 16, 2023 OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC By: /s/ Margot B. Ogburn, Attorney for Plaintiff OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC Published Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9, 2023

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

COLIRT MADISON COLINTY

LAKE CONDOMINIUMS OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC, Plaintiff v. O'TOWERS WHOLESALE, LLC, and DOES 1-25, Defendants. CAUSE NO. DV-29-2020-103. THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to O'Towers Wholesale, LLC, address unknown. This action is brought to enforce assessments and foreclose a lien on land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: An undivided 1/50th Time Share Interest in and to Condominium Unit No. 1538 of Lake Condominium, known as Week Number 44; and an undivided 1/50th Time Share Interest in and to Condominium Unit No. 1508 of Lake Condominium, known as Week Number 45. Said condominium is located on Lots 1, 2, and 3A of the Fourth Amended Plat of Custer Minor subdivision. in Madison County, Montana. Together with the undivided interest in the common elements appurtenant to said unit as set out and established in the Declaration of Condominium Under the Montana Unit Ownership Act Pertaining to Lake Condominiums, recorded September 7, 1984 in Book 302, Page 496, records of Madison County, Montana, and as subsequently amended and supplemented by various instruments of record. Said condominium is to be used for residential purposes only. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-titled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint, WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court this 16th day of October, 2023. /s/ BROOKE SCHANDELMEIER. DEPUTY CLERK. Date: October 16, 2023 OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC By: /s/ Margot B. Ogburn, Attorney for Plaintiff OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC

Publihsed Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9, 2023

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

COURT, MADISON COUNTY.

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

LAKE CONDOMINIUMS OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff, vs. BRITTANEE WHITE SLACK, and the UNKNOWN OWNERS, UNKNOWN HEIRS, and UNKNOWN DEVISEES OF BRITTANEE WHITE SLACK, and DOES 1-25, Defendants CAUSE NO. DV-29-2020-117 THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to BRITTANEE WHITE SLACK and her unknown owners, heirs and devisee. address unknown. This action is brought to enforce assessments and foreclose a lien on land situated in Madison County. Montana, and described as follows: An undivided 1/50th Timeshare Interest in and to Condominium Unit 1546 of Lake Condominiums constructed on Lots 1, 2, and 3A Custer Minor Subdivision, a platted subdivision of Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof, as amended, on file in the office of the Madison County Clerk and Recorder, known hereafter as Timeshare Week Number 20, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded on September 7, 1984, in Book 302, 497; as amended and supplemented from time to time by amendments and supplements recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder for Madison County, State of Montana. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-titled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court this 16th day of October, 2023. /s/ BROOKE SCHANDELMEIER, DEPUTY CLERK. Date: October 16, 2023 OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC By: /s/ Margot B. Ogburn, Attorney for Plaintiff OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC Published Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9, 2023

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION LAKE CONDOMINIUMS OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff, vs. IDA TOWNSEND, and the UNKNOWN OWNERS, UNKNOWN HEIRS, and UNKNOWN DEVISEES OF IDA TOWNSEND, and DOES 1-25. Defendants Cause No. DV-29-2020-113 THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to IDA TOWNSEND and her unknown owners, heirs and devisee, address unknown. This action is brought to enforce assessments and foreclose a lien on land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: An undivided 1/50th Timeshare Interest in and to Condominium Unit 1546 of Lake Condominiums constructed on Lots 1, 2, and 3A Custer

Minor Subdivision, a platted subdivision of Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof, as amended, on file in the office of the Madison County Clerk and Recorder, known hereafter as Timeshare Week Number 40, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded on September 7, 1984, in Book 302, 497; as amended and supplemented from time to time by amendments and supplements recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder for Madison County, State of Montana. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-titled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court this 16th day of October, 2023. /s/ BROOKE SCHANDELMEIER, DEPUTY CLERK. Date: October 16, 2023 OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC By: /s/ Margot B. Ogburn, Attorney for Plaintiff OGBURN LAW FIRM PLIC

Published Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9, 2023

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY. LAKE CONDOMINIUMS OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC, Plaintiff v. JORDAN DUKE, and the UNKNOWN OWNERS, UNKNOWN HEIRS, and UNKNOWN DEVISEES OF JORDAN DUKE, and other unknown owners, persons or entities claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the Complaint adverse to the Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent, and DOES 1-25, Defendants. CAUSE NO. DV-29-2021-55. THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to JORDAN DUKE and his unknown owners. heirs and devisee, address unknown. This action is brought to enforce assessments and foreclose a lien on land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: An undivided 1/50th Timeshare Interest in and to Condominium Unit 1558 of Lake Condominiums constructed on Lots 1, 2, and 3A Custer Minor Subdivision, a platted subdivision of Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof, as amended, on file in the office of the Madison County Clerk and Recorder, known hereafter as Timeshare Week Number 19, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded on September 7, 1984, in Book 302, 497; as amended and supplemented from time to time by amendments and supplements recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder for Madison County, State of Montana. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-titled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court this 12th day of October, 2023, /s/ BROOKE SCHANDELMEIER, DEPUTY CLERK. Date: October 12, 2023 By: /s/ Margot B. Ogburn, Attorney for Plaintiff OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC Published Oct.19, 26 and Nov.2, 2023

SUMMONS OF PUBLICATION MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY. LAKE CONDOMINIUMS OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC, Plaintiff v. EDRIS EASTER, and the UNKNOWN OWNERS. UNKNOWN HEIRS, and UNKNOWN DEVISEES OF EDRIS EASTER, and other unknown owners, persons or entities claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the Complaint adverse to the Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent, and DOES 1-25. Defendants, CAUSE NO, DV-29-2022-0000031-BC. THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to EDRIS EASTER and his unknown owners, heirs and devisee, address unknown. This action is brought to enforce assessments and foreclose a lien on land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: An undivided 1/50th Timeshare Interest in and to Condominium Unit 1565 of Lake Condominiums constructed on Lots 1, 2, and 3A Custer Minor Subdivision, a platted subdivision of Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof, as amended, on file in the office of the Madison County Clerk and Recorder, known hereafter as Timeshare Week Number 20, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded on September 7, 1984, in Book 302, 497; as amended and supplemented from time to time by amendments and supplements recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder for Madison County, State of Montana. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-titled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court this 12th day of October, 2023. /s/ BROOKE SCHANDELMEIER, DEPUTY CLERK. Date: October 12, 2023 By: /s/ Margot B. Ogburn, Attorney for Plaintiff OGBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC

Published Oct.19,26 and Nov. 2, 2023

FIND FELLOWSHIP WITH US



Contact your place of worship for current guidelines.

Γhe Church of Word

and Sacrament

Visitors Welcome

THE BAHA'I FAITH

You live to do good and to bring happiness to others. Your greatest

longing is to comfort those who mourn,

to strengthen the weak, and to be the

cause of hope to the despairing soul. Day and night your thoughts are turned

to the Kingdom, and your hearts are full of the Love of God. Thus, you know

neither opposition, dislike, nor hatred,

for every living creature is dear to you

and the good of each is sought.

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.

www.ChristianScience.com

Rocky Mountain

Baptist Church

Pastor Nate Holt

970-210-5307

Sunday School 9:45am

Morning Service 11am

Afternoon Service 1:30pm

Wednesday Night Prayer Group 6pm

6 Blocks South of City Complex

Located in the heart of

Madison Valley for the Hearts of Madison Valley

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Pastor Ken Stensrud

• Sunday Service - 9:00 am

• Bible Study - 10:15 am

• Wise Walk Wednesdays

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Corner of Madison and Armitage St.

Ennis, Montana 406-682-4910

ENNIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Worship Service 10:30 AM

In Person or Online

@Facebook.com/EnnisAG

Wednesday Ministries:

Kids Club (K-5) 3:30-5:35 Sept - May 7:00 PM Youth Group

and Adult Bible Study

e God, Love People, Be Transfe

12:10 p.m. Mutual (Youth Group) 4983 US Hwy 287 N. • Ennis, Montana Weds. 7:00p.m. 3560 | MT State Hwy 287 Sheridan 842-5860

Bishop Jeff E. Vial 684-5255

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





Ruby Valley Baptist Church

Chris LaRue, Pastor 842-5602



Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Eve 7 p.m. One block behind IGA, Sheridan



114 N. Main, Sheridan 406-842-5845 **SUNDAY SERVICE** at 10:30 a.m.

VALLEY KIDS Wednesday's 3:45 to 6:00 pm Ages Pre-K to 5th grade

Pastor Terry Sgrignoli

Our mission is to Love Jesus, Love People & Reach the Valley

Know God Stand Firm Take Action

Madison Valley Baptist 5050 Hwy 287 N

Ennis MT 59729

406-682-4244

madison valley baptist.com

Dave Howe Pastor

Peter Rosenberger

Music Ministry

Worship Service 11 AM

Ruby Valley United Methodist Parish Invites You To Worship With Us

Pastor Karin Lovgren

Office: 406-404-6152

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.



RUBY VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH

10:00 Sunday Service 10:00 Wednesday Women's Bible Study 406-842-7762

97 Duncan District Rd. Sheridan, MT



www.bahai.org | 406-451-3923 Bahá'ís of Madison County 402 Madison Ave - Ennis, MT (406) 682-4197

Madison County Episcopal Churches

In full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Join Us for Sunday Worship!

Trinity

Virginia City

11:00 a.m.

www.rvec.org Prayer requests: 682-4199 843-5296 842-7713

Sunday 9:00 a.m. **10** *a.M.* adult forum

call 406-682-7755 to make a plan

St. Paul's **Christ Church** Sheridan

10:00 a.m. Bible Study **9:00** a.m.

GET RESULTS. advertise in The Madisonian.



NEW SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00am

AT NEW LOCATION: BARN CHURCH in Laurin

14 Stagecoach NW LN Laurin (2 miles north Alder) Christ-Centered • Bible Based Teaching Open Question Forum

(406) 842-5915

12:30 - EXERCISE @1:00

315 W Main Street TAKE OUT AVAILABLE PICK-UP 11:45 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M. M-F

MEALS DELIVERY AVAILABLE M-F

ENNIS SENIOR CENTER

CALL: AHEAD AT LEAST 24 HOURS 406-682-4422 or

Meal Reservation on Home Page www.EnnisSeniorCenter.Org

Thursday, October 26 – Goulash, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert - MAHJONG @ 1:00 Friday, October 27 - Greek Chicken Wrap, Chips, Fruit, Dessert - PINOCHLE @

Monday, October 30 – Teriyaki Chicken, Rice, Veggies, Dessert - MAHJONG @ 1:00 - EXERCISE @1:00

Tuesday, October 31 – Sausage Tortellini Soup, Biscuit, Salad, Dessert

Wednesday, November 1- Breakfast Burrito, Potatoes, Fruit, Dessert - EXERCISE

Thursday, November 2 - BBQ Meatball Mac n Cheese, Broccoli Salad, Dessert -MAHJONG @ 1:00

Friday, November 3 – Fried Chicken Legs, Veggies, Mashers & Gravy, Dessert PINOCHLE @ 12:30 - EXERCISE @ 1:00

SENIOR CENTER, SHERIDAN

The Sheridan Senior Center offers meals for seniors 60 years and older. Seniors may choose to eat at the Senior Center, family style, or have their meals delivered within the city limits (Meals on Wheels). Cost of meals is \$5.00. Orders should be called in by 10 A.M. Contact Shirley Sand at 406-842-5966. The Senior Center is located at 210 East Crofoot Street (the former Ruby Valley Medical

Clinic). ***menu subject to change without notice***

Wednesday, Oct. 25 - green salad, pork roast with gravy, potatoes, squash casserole, ice cream

Thursday, Oct. 26 - pickled beets, chicken strips- sauce, tater tots, green beans, peaches & cookie

Friday, Oct. 27 - fruit salad, country fried steaks, mashed potatoes & gravy, mixed vegetables, orange cream cake

Monday, Oct. 30 - green salad, oven BBQ chicken, fruit compote, peas & carrots, lemon pudding

Tuesday, Oct. 31 - coleslaw, Salisbury steak / gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli Normandy, pumpkin dessert

TWIN BRIDGES SENIOR CENTER

The Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center provides meals for seniors every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon at the Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center. Take Out lunch as well as Home Delivery is ready at 11:30 In house meals begin at 12:00 noon. Activities for the month include Bingo played once a month and cards every Wednesday 1:00 P.M. All meals served with hot home baked bread and beverages.

menu subject to change without notice

Wednesday, Oct 25 - Pork ribs, apples & kraut, veggie, salad, pumpkin bars Friday, Oct 27 - Potato soup, chicken patty on bun, brownie

Monday, Oct 30 - Sausage gravy & Biscuits, fruit, Cranberry Nut Cheesecake TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 - GHOSTS, &, GOBLINS, HALLOWEEN PARTY 5:30 P.M. Dinner Provided, Costume Contest, Fun &, Games

HOLLOW TOP SENIOR CITIZENS

Pony, Harrison and Norris.

The Hollowtop Senior Center is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays serving meals at 12 noon.

Call: 406-685-3323 for reservations or more information.

Wednesday, Oct. 25 - Goulash

Friday, Oct. 27 - Easy chicken dinner

Monday, Oct. 30 - tuna casserole



King Crossword – **Answers**

Solution time: 25 mins.

ENNIS FAMILY and FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP

For those who have a loved one struggling with any type of addiction Tuesdays ~ 5 p.m.

00 Prairie Way, Ennis (599-3659)

ALCOHOLICS **ANONYMOUS**

Meeting Every Thurs. at 8 p.m., Church of the Valley, Twin Bridges
ALANON MEETING Sheridan Al-Anon Family
Group Meeting
Monday night at 7 pm in Christ
Episcopal Church Parish Hall All are welcome

"Keep it Simple." A.A. MEETING

Wednesdays ~ 8 p.m.

Vennis Over The Hill Unity Group Faced with a drinking problem

Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous can help. SUN. - 10 a.m., Library in Virginia City MON. - Open, 7:30 p.m. Presbyterian Church-Ennis TUES. Open - 9 a.m. Presbyterian Church -Ennis WED. - 7:30 p.m., Call numbers below for on line Zoom meeting directions FRI. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Presbyterian Church-Ennis Social distancing and masks optional 406-596-5000 Ennis 406-925-0371 Virginia City

DO YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM? CONTACT A.A. - WE'RE ALCO-HOLICS HELPING OTHER ALCO-HOLICS STAY SOBER. CALL 1-833-800-8553 TO TALK TO AN A.A. MEMBER

GET THE MEETING GUIDE APP OR GO TO AA-MONTANA.ORG FR VIRTUAL AND FACE-TO-FACE

MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS



ALANON

Twin Bridges Church of the Valley Thursdays, 8 pm

Bethany Hall, Sheridan (behind Methodist Church)

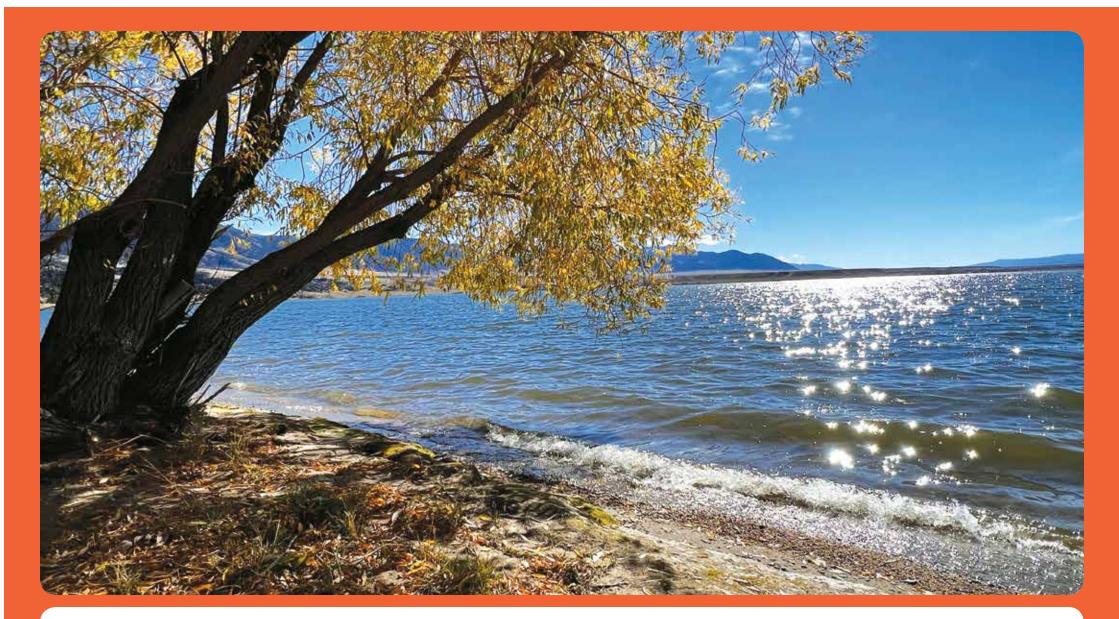
· Our obituaries are FREE up to 450 words. (25¢ for each word after 450)

· We offer 20% off non-profit advertising

· Lost and Found classifieds are FREE!

406-682-7755





REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAYS

1 p.m. Seniors -Strong Body Strong Mind exercise program at the Ennis Senior Center

2-3 p.m. Strong People Exercise Program at the Sheridan Senior Center

TUESDAYS

6:30-7:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga at the Alder Community Center @ the Alder Community Center

9:30 a.m. Madison County Board of Commissioners Meeting

Meeting link: https://globalpage-prod. webex.com/join; Meeting number (access code): 182 863 8009; Password: VCMadison; or join by phone +1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 182 863 8009# Numeric Password: 826 234 76# Press *6 to mute or unmute your phone.

10:30 a.m. Thompson Hickman Madison County Library Story and Craft Time

Held at the Thompson Hickman Library in Virginia City.

6 p.m. Rotary Club of the Ruby Valley meeting

The Club meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Blue Anchor Café in Twin Bridges

WEDNESDAYS

9 a.m. TOPS, Ennis

Weekly weigh-ins are from 8:30 to 9 a.m., meetings start at 9 a.m. Located at the Ennis Senior Center.

10 a.m. - Noon Ruby Valley Veterans with VA issues/ questions

Second Wednesday of the Month @ American Legion Post 89 Main Street Sheridan, VA Service Officer at Post Bldg.

10:30 a.m. Story Time at Twin Bridges Public Library

Join us to read, sing, and do crafts every Wednesday at 10:30. Open to children 2-5 years old.

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. All Veterans interested in medical assistance

First Wednesday of the month @ American Legion Post 121 1st street, Ennis

11 a.m. Books and Babies At Madison Valley Public Library Books, songs and play for children 0-3 and

Books, songs and play for children 0-3 and their caregivers @ Madison Valley Public Library

1 p.m. Seniors -Strong Body Strong Mind exercise program at the Ennis Senior Center

2-3 p.m. Strong People Exercise Program at the Sheridan Senior Center

5:30 p.m. First Wednesday of the month: Ennis Booster Club meeting

Ennis Booster Club invites the community to join in at Sportsmans Lodge.

7 p.m. Second and fourth Wednesdays: Ennis Lions Club meeting at the Ennis Fire Hall The public is welcome and encouraged to

THURSDAYS

6:30-7:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga at the Alder Community Center @ the Alder Community Center

10 a.m. Caregiver support

For family caregivers in Madison County. The nondenominational support group meeting will be held at the Madison Valley Baptist Church.

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Open House with Commissioner Bill Todd Big Sky Resort Area District, 11 Lone Peak Dr #204, Big Sky

1 p.m. Madison Valley Manor Auxiliary is meeting at Madison Valley Manor

Held the second Thursday of each month

5:30 p.m. Madison County DUI Task Force Meeting

Will be held at Sheridan's Search and Rescue Building. 402 Main Street, Sheridan.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Held the third Thursday of each month

6 p.m. Twin Bridges Book Club Meets every third Thursday of the month at the Blue Anchor.

Dinner at 6 with meeting at 7 p.m.
Please email dmmontana@3rivers.net for information

FRIDAYS

11 a.m. Madison Valley Public Library Story Time

Held in person at the library community

1 p.m. Seniors -Strong Body Strong Mind exercise program at the Ennis Senior Center

2-3 p.m. Strong People Exercise Program at the Sheridan Senior Center

2-3:30 p.m. Chess Club

All ages @ Madison Valley Public Library

6 p.m. Game Night at Virginia City Elks Lodge

Call Tanya at 406-660-1559 with questions.

SATURDAYS

6 p.m. Ennis Senior Center Pinochle Golden leaves and golden sunlight on Ennis Lake.
PHOTO BY CORI KOENIG

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

12-5:30 p.m. Vitalant Blood Drive at Madison Valley Rural Fire Dept.

Check in with Vitalant.com or call Joyce at 435.659.0724 to register. Walk-ins possible, call Joyce.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

6-8 p.m. Harvest Party

Chili Feed, Games and more at Grace Community Fellowship in Laurin. Free to community.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 11 a.m. Mulex 2023

Mule Cross is back in Ennis at the Lions Club Park again! Details in ad on page A12.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

Trick or Treat Street

Harrison Booster Club and Student Council hosts this fun evening.

7 p.m. Madison County Republican Central Committee public meeting

To nominate and elect officers and precinct persons @ Madison Valley Public Library.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

6 p.m. Ennis Lions Halloween Carnival @ Ennis Elementary Gym

7 p.m. Ennis Lions Bingo @ Ennis School Lunchroom

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

6-7 p.m. "Social Media - Protecting Your Child"

Madison County Schools is partnering with ParentGuidance.org to deliver presentations developed by licensed therapists. This series will be virtual, interactive, and is designed to help parents and caregivers support students. https://cookcenter.info/Nov1Madison

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

4:-5:30 p.m. "A Mother's Journey: The Life of Lucy Meriwether Lewis Marks

The Madison Valley History Association presents the Humanities Montana Program

@ then Ennis Sr. Center. Historic interpreter Mary Jane Bradbury unveils the story of this remarkable woman. The presentation is free and open to the public.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

7 p.m. Mother of Meriwether Lewis comes to the Elling House

via the Imagination of historic interpreter, Mary Jane Bradbury at 404 E. Idaho Street, Virginia City

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 Election Day!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

9-10 a.m. Veterans Day Tea for Ruby Valley Veterans

@ Sheridan Elementary lunchroom

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 VETERANS DAY





MINERAL RICH MADISON COUNTY SEES INCREASE IN REQUESTED REPORTS

By FAITH MOLDAN

Whether it's to protect a beautiful property from other individuals or companies or to understand what is under their feet for possible sale, more and more locals are wanting to know who owns mineral rights under the land they live on or own. Minerals in Madison County vary from oil and gas, to gold and other hard rock mining, to other minerals like talc. Their existence has proved profitable for the county in the past and present by bringing in jobs and money to the local economy. Gold is very profitable at the moment and residents are able to get a good value on what they find in Madison County. Mark Thompson at Golden Sunlight Mine said the mine has more people trying to sell ore than the mine can take. The mine has developed an elaborate system to prioritize the suppliers in a system based on the mine's values – safety, environment, community and production, in that order. "It's unique to any other part of the state," Amanda Harris, vice president and manager of First American Title in Ennis, said. "We've seen a shift in the last year or two."