

The Madisonian.

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

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BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY



Photo by Sara Racine

Varney Bridge is a local landmark in critical need of repair and replacement. The new bridge that will replace it in a few years will be in the same design style and size.

Group closer to bridge replacement, construction

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

Mention of the Blaine Springs and Varney Bridges over the Madison River will draw memories of fishing the river near the bridges for many, and also concerns of safety when traversing the two historic local landmarks.

Local, state and federal funding has made it possible to seriously pursue rebuilding and replacing the dated bridges in a unique community and government partnership that began about six years ago. Since then, a little more than \$1 million has been secured for the project. Nearly \$700,000 of the estimated

Turn to BRIDGES on pg. 2



Photo by Sara Racine

The 120-year old Blaine Springs Bridge will be replaced first in order to create better access for construction crews to work on the Varney Bridge and due to a lesser cost.

Compliance checks wake up call for local vendors

Faith Moldan
FOR THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

The Madison County Sheriff's Office recently completed countywide compliance checks of 19 businesses that serve and sell alcohol and liquor. Eight of the 19 sold to underage individuals.

The checks, which happen once a year, were completed in about two days, followed by documentation and calls or visits to the businesses to review their performance.

"We try to do them all at once and not single anyone out," Madison County Undersheriff Roger Thompson said. "The purpose is to reduce underage drinking. We realize this is not the only way underage persons obtain alcohol, but it gives us some ability to monitor what is going on."

The checks are done with underage operatives willing to help the Sheriff's Office. They enter the establishment and attempt to buy alcohol with their real Montana ID, according to Thompson. Letters about the checks are sent out prior to the actual check. The Sheriff's Office also distributes information about available alcohol server trainings. All licensed establishments are required to have each employee authorized to sell or serve alcoholic beverages to

successfully complete training to ensure compliance with state law. Many establishments also have the 'We ID' date checker tool, which helps the server easily identify if the person trying to buy alcohol is of legal age or not. The checker states that a person must be born on or before a certain date in order to be served, so no math is needed.

A meeting with the business owner and Sheriff's Office follows a business' first offense. No administrative action is taken and no citation issued. If out of compliance, the business is fined \$50 for a first offense, \$200 for a second offense, and \$350 for a third offense in a three-year period. Three of the eight who sold to minors were repeats.

"More or less, it's a wake up call. If it continues, the information is forwarded to the Department of Revenue and a citation is issued," Thompson said.

Thompson went on to say that the Sheriff's Office respects that these businesses are there for a reason and that the office does not want to mess with their business, but that they have a responsibility to those they are serving.

"Many deaths of youth and others are needless and can be avoided if there is one more adult who takes underage alcohol consumption seriously," Thompson said.

Madison County eligible for assistance for crop loss due to wind and hail

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

Any producer in Madison County that suffered crop loss due to the wind and hail on Aug. 1 can receive assistance thanks to a disaster designation in neighboring Gallatin County.

The Madison County Board of Commissioners sent a letter of Disaster Designation related to the August storm to the gov-

ernor's office and received word from the Disaster and Emergency Services Division (DES) that the county did not need to receive separate designation since it abuts Gallatin County, which has already received the designation.

"At the request of several of our producers, our letter reflected the severe conditions in April and May leading toward the drought that caused many producers to reduce herd numbers as well as crop loss from the Aug. 1 storm,"

Commissioner Dave Schulz said. "This has been a very difficult and stressful year for many in Madison County."

The wind and hail storm affected agricultural producers in the Twin Bridges, Sheridan and Harrison areas. These producers are eligible for emergency loans as well as other pending disaster programs. The programs are pending until the Farm Bill is passed and they become available.

"Producers need to keep very good records of losses until such time as those programs become available," Bonita Kober, Jefferson/Madison/Silver Bow Farm Service County Executive Director, said.

According to Steve Knecht, Chief of Operations at DES, an ag secretarial disaster designation is done through USDA Farm Services and not through FEMA as it

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Arrest made in copper thefts

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

An investigation of suspicious activity in the Axolotl Lake area this past Wednesday evening led to the arrest of a 51-year-old male Bozeman resident in a developing copper theft case.

"Copper is expensive in terms of scrapping and is a problem nationwide," Madison County Un-

dersheriff Roger Thompson said. "People can recycle it and get cash for the scrap cost."

Thompson said that recycling centers are very much aware of the problem and record the names of people who bring in large amounts of copper, but that awareness only goes so far. Copper thieves may also ship stolen copper out of state to avoid drawing attention locally.

The suspect allegedly stole some copper from a local business

in Alder sometime between Monday and Wednesday. A couple of days later a phone call to the Madison County Sheriff's Office helped reveal a place where some of the copper cable had been stashed. More copper cable was recovered over the weekend as the follow up continued.

"Copper thieves can sometimes be very brazen and take advantage of construction sites and copper used for power and phone

in remote locations," Thompson said.

Theft of copper from this specific business may have been going on for months preceding the reported theft on Wednesday. It was only then that people at the business noticed that a large amount of copper was missing.

The suspect turned out to be a registered sex offender in Gallatin County but was working and liv-

Turn to ARREST on pg. 2

Madison County population increase projected to continue

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

Large numbers of tourists visit Madison County every year, but more and more people are making their homes here too.

According to the Montana County Population Projections put out by the Census and Economic Information Center at the Montana Department of Revenue, the county's population has grown from 6,894 residents in 2003 to 8,020 in 2013. The expected population in 2023 is 8,755.

While overall numbers are on the rise, the majority of the population is an older one. Ten years ago the 55-59-year-old population was less than 600, and is now close to 700. This aging population of baby

boomers could put a strain on the county's two nursing homes and hospitals. Madison Valley Manor in Ennis is currently working on finalizing a remodel of its facility and the Ruby Valley Hospital will break ground on a new building soon.

"These estimates will help cities and counties across the state engage in long-term planning for the size and type of public facilities and infrastructure necessary to serve the population growth," Kelly Lynch, Montana Department of Commerce Community Development Division Administrator, said of the population projections.

Population projections for all Montana counties, 1990-2060 can be found at http://ceic.mt.gov/Population/PopProjections_AllCountiesPage.aspx.

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BRIDGES from pg. 1

\$1.35 million cost came from a Treasure State Endowment Program grant and Madison County contributed \$343,931. Private donors have pitched in about \$56,000. The Montana Department of Transportation will provide the remainder needed.

Madison County Commissioner Jim Hart said locals' recognition of the importance of the bridges and their generous donations are appreciated.

"It took the Department of Transportation's commission all of about five minutes to approve this," MDT Deputy Director Pat Wise said. She attributed the fast action to the unique group and partnership leading the charge.

Varney Bridge dates back to 1895. The bridge, which has a generous three-ton weight limit, ranks high on the list of bridges

in need of repair in the state. The Blaine Springs Bridge is two years older than Varney, and will be replaced first in order to make access for construction on Varney easier.

"Varney is a hard one to tackle since it is about twice the size of Blaine Springs and will cost about \$4 million," Jeremiah Theys of Great West Engineering said.

The group leading the charge is committed to keeping the bridges' character with the replacement bridges. The size will be kept the same too with minor changes in order to create proper right of way and slightly wider traffic lanes.

Blaine Springs provides some challenges for the construction with some steep grade and an S-curve. Improvements will need to be made to the approach.

"We started with asking if we could possibly just rehab the bridges, but that was not viable,"

Theys said. The bridges may be kept and used as a facade for aesthetic purposes, Theys said, but that would add about \$50,000-\$100,000 to the cost.

If not used for a facade, the bridges will be taken off site and put up for adoption. Theys said the historic structures would not be torn apart.

The start of work on Blaine Springs will begin in 2015 at the earliest. A limited window for construction could delay the project. In the meantime, Theys and others hope the bridges hold out under the constant strain of traffic that includes commercial vehicles as well as trailers and farm and ranch equipment. If one of the bridges were to be severely damaged or, at worst, collapse, there is an emergency pot of money, but Theys said it would take a lot more than what is available. Currently, the center pier of the Varney

Bridge does not actually support the bridge. There is about a two-foot gap between the pier and the bridge base.

The area around the bridges will not be shut down during construction. A work bridge will be constructed to get equipment on site and people can access Varney from the south while work is done on Blaine Springs.

Design and construction are being administered by the Montana Department of Transportation. Great West is acting as a design consultant. Together, they will hold a number of public meetings before construction begins. Public comment will also be accepted.

"We want to make sure that folks are comfortable and there is a lot of public involvement," Theys said.

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is the best source of information for these types of events.

For emergency loans in Madison or Beaverhead Counties, producers should contact the Farm Loan Manager for the FSA at the service center in Dillon at 683-3830. For other disas-

ter programs in Madison County, producers should call the FSA office in Whitehall to report losses as soon as possible at 287-3262. Even though the programs are not currently available, Kober said they could take the information about damages and assist the producers in knowing what kind of

records to keep.

"Our hearts go out to those Montana farmers and ranchers affected by recent natural disasters," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "President Obama and I are committed to ensuring that agriculture remains a bright spot in our nation's economy

by sustaining the successes of America's farmers, ranchers and rural communities through these difficult times. We're also telling Montana producers that USDA stands with you and your communities when severe weather and natural disasters threaten to disrupt your livelihood."

ARREST from pg. 1

ing in Madison County where he had failed to register. He also lived part time in Bozeman.

"Copper thefts are an ongoing problem in Montana. It is always satisfying to be able to recover the property and get it back to

the owner. We have a lot of good people that travel through this county for work and recreation. We should always be aware of the possibility that few of them do not have Madison County's residents' best interests at heart," Thompson said.

The suspect was booked in the Madison County jail for investigation of Theft and Fail to Register as a Sexual Offender. He appeared in Madison County Justice Court on Tuesday morning and is being charged in Madison County on both charges.

Thompson reminds people to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity immediately. He said that even if it turns out to be nothing illegal, it is better to be safe than sorry and allows for law enforcement to respond quicker and better.

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Photo courtesy of Pam Fletcher

Eureka Fire simmers down

Submitted by Pat McKelvey

The Northern Rockies Type 2 team transferred command of the lightning-caused Eureka Fire to the Madison Ranger District, which will now manage the fire with a smaller Type 4 organization consisting of a 12-person crew with incident commander Jeff Barnes. As of Sept. 1, the estimated cost of the fire that was reported on Aug. 12 was \$4.8 million. It is currently estimated that the fire burned 6,468 acres and is 93% contained.

Operations late last week were concentrated on patrolling the northern flank where the hand line had been constructed. The remainder of the fire's perimeter was patrolled and equipment continued to be returned to camp for return to the fire cache.

Thunderstorms in the area kept cause for concern elevated

last week. The storms brought varied amounts of rain, but were also accompanied by lightning and wind. What fire activity remained was creeping and smoldering with unburned fuel and there was the possibility of occasional single-tree torching. The likelihood of fire spotting and ignition remains low.

Tom Heintz's Northern Rockies IMT extended a big thank you to all of the cooperators for their support in the suppression efforts on the Eureka Fire. The community attendance at the public meetings, the genuine interest in how plans were developed and working, and the daily constructive feedback was indication that his crew and the public were working together to stabilize the fire. The necessity of having the local law enforcement and fire authorities involved in daily planning was important as

the incident progressed, particularly in the initial stages when escalation of the incident was a possibility. Local authorities extended themselves in joining with Heintz's crew, while continuing their daily response and service to this community.

"The community openly showed support for firefighters. Many of the engines and crews were from other distant parts of this country. They recognized the showings of support, and it was a great boost to morale. As they travel home, they are reminded of the fact that there were no serious accidents on this incident," Heintz said.

Roads that were closed to public access due to the incident have been reopened and officials stress the importance of following regular posted travel management guidelines. Additionally, areas that were open for fire

management may not be open for public use so it is important for folks to follow signage. It is also important to be aware of potential hazards like falling snags, mudslides in the case of a weather event, and the fact that there are black bears and grizzly bears in the area.

New-fire starts, human-caused and lightning are still a concern in the area of the Eureka Fire and throughout the county. Fire officials ask that everyone be careful with campfires and other activities.

For up-to-date information, maps, and photos, visit www.inciweb.org and select Eureka from the incident drop-down menu. With transfer of command, Inciweb may not be updated frequently. For information, contact the Madison Ranger District 682-4253.

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Bob & Deena Rodewald
Sheridan

MORE NEWS

Silver Star steer wrestler on top of Montana standings

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

In addition to being a father of three, Twin Bridges teacher and business owner Shawn Downing also has steer wrestler to add to his busy schedule.

Downing, age 31, was out all of last year with a torn pectoral. After surgery to repair the tear, he is making up for what he missed due to injury. He has competed in Great Falls, Kalispell, Livingston, Missoula, Red Lodge, Chinook, Wolf Point, Plains, Libby, Belt and a few other locations this summer already, coming out on top at most of the rodeos to put him at number one in the Montana Pro Rodeo Circuit.

"It's not like other sports," Downing said of rodeo competition. "You just do your best and everyone cheers for each other and helps each other. It's

very cooperative."

Following in the footsteps of his parents, Downing has been steer wrestling for more than 15 years now. His father Steve was also a steer wrestler and his mother Jiree competed in rodeo as well. Downing hones his skills at practice one or two times a week. He is able to take a couple of months off in the winter after the rodeo finals in January, but other than that he said it's year round.

Some of Downing's travel and other costs are covered by the money he wins. At each rodeo he pays an entrance fee and the top four places – or more – walk away with some cash. Downing said it helps cover the cost of horse feed, tires, entrance fees and more. And when it comes to his horse, he is not about to skimp on its care.

"My horse is one of Kenny Holland's from Dillon," Downing said. "It's helped quite a bit

and is one of the best in the circuit."

Downing practices in Dillon and Dan Mulkey of Dillon is his hazer – the person who helps keep the steer going straight.

"There are a lot of good guys around there," Downing said of the area and group he works with.

Returning from the Sanders County Fair in Plains last weekend, Downing had his sights set on Dillon Jaycee Rodeo and another rodeo in Blackfoot, Idaho before competing at the NILE PRCA Rodeo in Billings next month. The Montana PRCA Circuit Finals are in Great Falls Jan. 10-12.

Downing stays busy enough travelling and working that he doesn't have time to tell his students about what he does in the rodeo and he said his children are young enough that they don't really know what he does.



Downing is pictured here wrestling a steer in Wyoming. Photo by Tribune Eagle

TYING ONE ON



Photos by Richard Lessner

The festival included a number of activities, including this one for crafty youngsters.

Annual fly fishing festival draws novice and expert fishermen alike

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

All things fly fishing were celebrated Friday and Saturday in Ennis at the 11th Annual Ennis on the Madison Fly Fishing Festival.

Held in Peter T's Park on Main Street, the festival included fishing competitions, seminars, equipment displays, book sign-

ings and literary events, guest speakers, entertainment and dining. Celebrity speakers included Craig Mathews, Mike Lawson, Bob Jacklin, Tim Tollett, Ralph Cutter, and more. A raffle for a fully equipped 16-foot, 2013 ClackaCraft drift boat and trailer was held courtesy of Clacka-Craft. The winner of the drift boat was Jim Kramer of Ennis.

The mission of the Ennis on the Madison Fly Fishing

Festival is to create a venue for fly fishermen to meet and share their wide variety of interests, skills, and concerns related to the sport of fly fishing and to support the Madison River Foundation (MRF). MRF provides a local voice for the preservation and use of the Madison River Ecosystem.

More event info, and foundation information, is available at madisonriverfoundation.org.



(Left) A number of dining options were available for festival attendees including a nice spread of desserts and the BBQ.



(Right) All things fly fishing were celebrated, even the simple beauty of reels displayed for viewing and purchase.



Winner of the drift boat Jim Kramer (left) and foundation president Dave Bricker (right).

Local resident aims to bring bike trails to Madison County

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

When cyclists take to the road in Madison County, they do so sure they will see beautiful scenery, historical features, possibly run across some wildlife, and have to be extra careful to stay out of motorists' ways on the narrow, winding roads.

Darlene Tussing, formerly with the City of Billings, hopes to make cycling a better experience for cyclists and motorists alike if her application for the Transportation Alternative Program Grant is accepted. Her vision includes a bike trail from Virginia City, and possibly Nevada City, to the top of the Vir-

ginia City Hill near the Axolotl Lake access road, and also a trail connecting Twin Bridges and Ennis someday. The hill has a large right of way that would be easy to use in creating a trail. Whether or not the terrain is easily changed to allow for a trail will determine the final cost, according to Tussing.

"Three miles could cost about \$1.05 million," she said. "It's one piece of the big vision."

Tussing said she was spurred on to pursue the grant and bike trails when she saw the abandoned railway corridor in the Ruby Valley. An attempt was made several years ago to do something with the area, but it was met with opposition and nothing came from it.

"I want to try and put some energy into it for the good of the community," she said. "There are ways to accommodate everyone's interests and needs. We can keep livestock off the trails when they are being used and livestock can roam the rest of the time."

To get the full picture of what it's like for a cyclist coming through Virginia City, Tussing rode with a group and found that most people were pretty decent motorists, but there were some that were not. Tussing said people like that are not helping draw people in. She wants to make sure cyclists are not in the lane of traffic so that everyone is safe.

The TAP grant and program, which are part of the

Federal Highway Bill, are nothing new to Tussing. She dealt with them when she was the Alternate Modes Coordinator for the City of Billings, and will work with Madison County Grant Writer Melinda Legg on this application. The grant is based on population, so Tussing will try to show how many locals and tourists would use the trails.

Funding for the grant has decreased by about 30 percent, as a few other grants and programs were combined. Tussing said it proves to be a very competitive grant due to Montana's rural setting and population combined with the number of other applications submitted from all over.

"We are more likely to re-

ceive funding for paving the trail between Virginia City and Nevada City," Tussing said of the odds of what amount she thought the county would be awarded if any at all. "It just depends on who applies."

Montana's major cities have already begun work on bike trail systems and walking paths, and many other states have trails and paths in communities with various human populations.

Difficulties persist even if the grant is awarded. The Montana Department of Transportation has concerns about rights of way in some of the proposed areas and some landowners are not willing to give up any land for the trails. Safety for cyclists and motorists is a reoccurring

issue. "People are going to cycle if it's safe or not," Legg said. "If it is safe, more cyclists will come through the area."

Tussing said the TAP grant may not be enough to cover the entire project and other funding sources will need to be found.

"I've heard enough positive feedback that I'm going to keep going," she said.

The Madison County Board of Commissioners accepted the responsibility of supporting Tussing's efforts at its Aug. 13 meeting in the form of a letter. The grant is due tomorrow, Sept. 6. If awarded, MDT would administer the grant.

Response to the article on big horn sheep relocation, important questions for Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Dear Editor,

In response to the article about relocating the big horn sheep, I would like to add a few details that were excluded. The sheep that would be relocated from the southern Madison Mountain Range near Quake Lake to Indian Creek

are from an over populated herd (this was not mentioned in the article at all). This was told to me in a meeting with Fish, Wildlife and Parks by their biologist on July 8 when they proposed the project to the C B Ranch. The sheep numbers have been mismanaged to the point where they are beyond

a sustainable population. The relocation project is an attempt at repairing Fish, Wildlife and Park's mismanagement. The C B Ranch was informed that FWP has two options. The first option is to attempt to capture 40-50 sheep and then transport them in a horse trailer to Indian Creek. Then, provided

they have received permission, FWP would cross two separate private properties where they would not be releasing the big horn sheep into the Lee Metcalf Wilderness but on the front lawn of the Wonder Ranch. The second option is to destroy an appropriate number to reduce the herd to a reason-

able size. In future articles regarding this project, I hope that FWP will address why the big horn sheep became extinct in the 1960s in the Indian Creek area. Also, I would hope they would address the over population in the herd near Quake Lake and what precautions they will take to prevent this

from recurring. Is this relocation a solution to their problem in the south Madison range or is this relocation the beginning of entirely new problem?

Kate Roberts
C B Ranch

Just say no to corporate tax subsidies, talk to your commissioners

Dear Editor,

How many ways are there to redistribute your wealth? I am not sure, but the latest method discussed at the regular Madison County Commissioners' Meeting last Wednesday was a tax abatement for Garnett USA. There were the usual players: a Helena attorney; an investment banker; Chief Operations Man-

ager; and, oh yes, the out-of-state company spokesperson. The carrot is \$10 million of new investment to expand facilities in Alder, Mont. And, according to the CEO, it will create as many as 60 new jobs. Yes, the temptation is great and my initial senses tell me that it is too great for our commissioners to resist, but let's hope not. After all, this is real economic

growth I was told. And the law provides for it under MCA 15-something-something. The problem I have with this is simple. It doesn't matter whether our Legislature gives public officials a tool to stimulate economic growth in their community, or not. It simply is not right to use that same tool to destroy or place at a disadvantage one business over another.

The Montana Legislature passes many statutes that have unintended consequences and the only safeguard once passed is local authority, moral fortitude, and the common sense to politely say "no". It is not because economic growth is not important, it is because taking from one to subsidize another is not economic growth - it is stealing, and it violates the princi-

ples of which we hold dear. The individual right to own property; to risk and invest; prosper or lose. I, for one, do not consent to collectively invest in this corporation. One must ask, "Is the margin for profit so slim in this industry that its success relies upon stealing from their neighbors through the abuse of misguided authority?" Or, is this simply a matter of taking

because you apparently can? An old farmer once lamented regarding subsidies - "If they're stupid enough to give it away, I'm smart enough to take it." Don't be stupid, call your County Commissioners and tell them the same - just say no to corporate tax subsidies.

Bob Wagner
Harrison

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Owners/Publishers:

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Advertising & Circulation Manager:
Susanne Hill

Production: Erin Leonard

Circulation Manager/Sales Assistant:
Sara Racine

Reporter: Faith Moldan

Contributors:

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OBITUARIES

Barbara Lucille Bauer Boyd 1925-2013



Barbara Lucille Bauer Boyd, 88, of Wilsall died in Bozeman on Aug. 26, 2013. She was born to Ellis S. and Miriam Cartwright Bauer on March 23, 1925, in Santa Fe, N.M. Barbara spent her formative years in the Santa Fe area living with her parents and her paternal grandmother. She graduated from the Brownmoor School for Girls, a private preparatory school near Santa Fe in 1943. In 1944, she married Franklin (Bob) Boyd, an erstwhile Texan. They began their life together in New Mexico. During the course of 44 years of marriage,

they raised eight children. The family lived in rural areas in order to be able to raise their children with farm animals and pets. In 1957, the family moved to Ennis where Barbara and Bob lived on a ranch he managed. Barbara cooked for ranch hands while her husband ran the ranch operations. In 1960, the family moved to Bozeman for a few months then moved to the Clyde Park area, living there for several years, eventually settling in Wilsall. Barbara was a pioneer in many respects, preferring to birth seven of her eight children at home. Being an only child, it was her desire to have lots of children so that they would have siblings with whom to share their lives.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, her daughter Miriam Moomaw, her husband Bob, her grandson Sean Boyd, infant grandson Ezekiel Hinton, and her great grandson Steven Jorgenson. She is survived by her sons,

Ellis Boyd and wife Rhonda of Alder, Bob Boyd and wife Debbie of Clyde Park, George Boyd and wife Muriel of Ennis and her daughters, Ann Largent (Steve) of Glenrio, N.M., Sharon O'Donnell of Omaha, Neb., Kathleen Olivas of Albuquerque, N.M., and Adrienne (Tom) Hinton of Wilsall. She is survived by grandchildren, Anna Moomaw, Florida; Paul Moomaw IV, Washington; Molly Boyd, Oklahoma; Mark Boyd and Raquel Boyd, Montana; Rick Boyd, Kansas; Lisa Boyd Elliott (Ken), North Carolina; J.B. Boyd (Dawn), Montana; Renee Largent Beck (Andrew), Texas; Monica Largent, Michigan; Natalie Largent Vernon (Colt), Texas; Ryan O'Donnell, Montana; Patrick O'Donnell, Wisconsin; James Olivas, New Mexico; Bridger Boyd (Jennifer), Montana; Nathan Boyd (Lauren) Montana; Tucker Boyd; Kelci Boyd and Ravyn Boyd, Montana and Samuel Hinton, Montana. In addition,

she is survived by more than 20 great grandchildren and several great great grandchildren.

Barbara was an accomplished horsewoman in her youth, competing in horse-shows across the Southwest. She loved animals and enjoyed reading, shopping and keeping up with all the activities and lives of her large extended family. She was a good cook, taking care to teach her children about healthful nutrition. She and Bob valued education and encouraged their children to pursue post high school learning opportunities.

In her declining years, Barbara came to know the Lord as her personal savior, a fact that she was proud to share.

The memorial service for Barbara Boyd will be Oct. 31, 2013 at Shields Valley Bible Church, in Clyde Park, Mont. Memorials may be made to your local FFA or FFA Alumni Chapter.

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MEMORIAL

Memorial services for James D. Reyner will be held at 3 p.m. On Saturday, Sept. 7 at the Silver Star Cemetery. A reception supper follows at the Jim Reyner Ranch at 849 Bayers Lane in Silver Star. In case of bad weather, services will be held at the ranch, as well.

Thank You

Ruby River Ranch

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Sincerely, Morgan Martin

Thank You

Tom & Kelly Leo

for supporting me and buying my 4-H hog!

Sincerely, Sage Buus

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Beaverhead Ranch

for buying my pig "Miss Fanny". I really appreciate you supporting the Madison County 4-H sale this year and previous years.

Morgan Martin

Thank You

Bob Sitz

for supporting me and buying my 4-H hog!

Sincerely, Lane Buus

Routine care guidelines for breast cancer awareness month

Stephanie McDowell
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
BRIDGERCARE

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The thought of having breast cancer is frightening to everyone and especially devastating to women. However, ignoring the possibility that you may develop breast cancer or avoiding the processes to detect cancer can be dangerous. Fewer women are dying of breast cancer, largely due to advances in screening and treatment. Poorer women, however, are seeing a slower decline in breast cancer fatalities, in part because of barriers and less access to these medical advances and preventative care.

Breast cancer affects us all, whether we've had a friend, sister or mother diagnosed. Awareness that we need to take breast-cancer prevention seriously is becoming increasingly important.

Although there are some women who are at higher risk, the fact is that all women are at risk for breast cancer. That is why it is so important to follow this three-step plan for preventive care. Although breast cancer cannot be prevented, early detection of problems provides the greatest possibility of successful treatment.

Routine care is the best way to keep you and your breasts healthy. Although detecting breast cancer at its earliest stages is the main goal of routine breast care, other benign conditions, such as fibrocystic breasts, are often discovered through routine care.

Step 1. Breast Self-Examination (BSE)

A woman should begin practicing breast self-examination by the age of 19 and continue the practice throughout her life - even during pregnancy and after menopause. BSE should be done regularly at the same time every month. Regular BSE teaches you to know how your breasts normally feel so that you can more readily detect any change. Changes may include: development of a lump; a discharge other than breast milk; swelling of the breast; skin irritation or dimpling; nipple abnormalities (i.e., pain, redness, scaliness, turning inward).

If you notice any of these changes, see your healthcare provider or call Bridgercare as soon as possible for evaluation.

ation.

Step 2. Clinical Examination

A breast examination by a medical provider trained to evaluate breast problems, like Bridgercare's medical team, should be part of a woman's physical examination. Although recommendations vary, Bridgercare advises: Between the ages of 19 and 39, women should have a clinical breast examination by a health professional every year; after age 40, women should have a breast exam by a health professional every year, including a check of the underarm.

A physical breast examination by a physician or nurse is very similar to the procedures used for breast self-examination. Women who routinely practice BSE will be prepared to ask questions and have their concerns addressed during this time.

Step 3. Mammography

Mammography is a low-dose x-ray of the breasts to find changes that may occur. It is the most common preventative imaging technique. Mammography can detect cancer or other problems before a lump becomes large enough to be felt, as well as assist in the diagnosis of other breast problems. However, a biopsy is required to confirm the presence of cancer.

Because when to begin and how often to have mammograms is controversial, talk with your medical provider about a mammography schedule that is appropriate for you based on your overall health and medical history, risk factors, and personal opinion or preference.

According to the National Cancer Institute, women in their 40s and older should begin having a screening mammogram on a regular basis, every one to two years. Bridgercare's medical team recommends starting at age 40, women should have a screening mammogram every year. (A diagnostic mammogram may be required when a questionable area is found during a screening mammogram.)

Both the National Cancer Institute and Bridgercare suggest that women who may be at increased risk for breast cancer based on family or medical history should talk with their medical provider about whether to begin having mammograms at an earlier age.

THE RACE



Submitted by Wes Heavrin
Sandhill crane and a starling taking flight on a sunny summer morning.

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ANOTHER PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Late summer fishing for cutthroat trout at lower Sureshot Lake near Harrison in the Tobacco Root Mountains.

Submitted by Margaret Casolara



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Mountain View Vet Service
for buying my market lamb and for supporting 4-H. I am very grateful!

Sincerely, Brittini Barnosky



Thank You

Ruby Valley National Bank
for buying my market steer and for supporting 4-H. I greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely, Colton Barnosky



Thank You

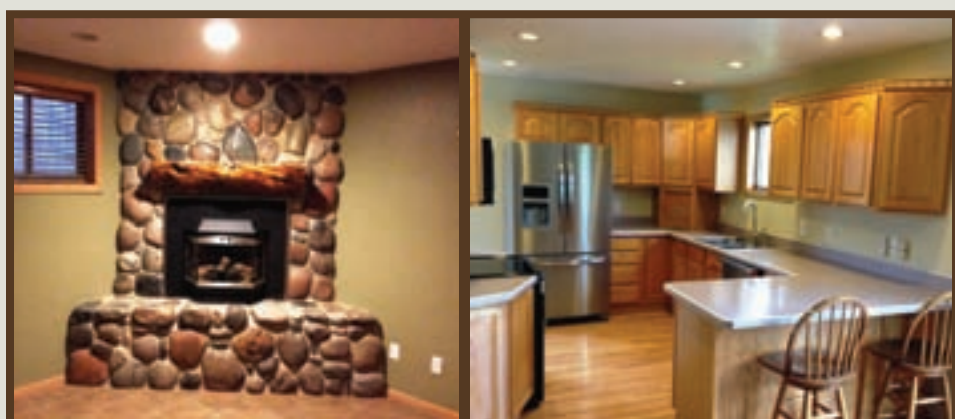
Wilbur-Ellis
Thank You Wilbur-Ellis for buying my market lamb and for supporting 4-H. I am so thankful!

Sincerely, Tierra Barnosky

Rikki Dilschneider

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Dillon BLM plans ribbon-cutting ceremony for land exchange

David Abrams
BLM

DILLON – The Bureau of Land Management's Dillon Field Office will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the recent acquisition of three parcels of land on Sept. 10 at 1 p.m.

The BLM, along with Jim and Dave Hagenbarth, invite the public to attend the land exchange celebration. The BLM partnered with the Hagenbarths to complete the exchange whereby the United States acquired three private parcels totaling nearly 100 acres. The parcels were part of the former Mantle Ranch and are located along the Big Hole River near the old Sodak Mill Site. The acquisition created a consolidated block of public land along the Big Hole River, achieving important resource management objectives, which included protecting wetlands and wildlife habitat, providing recreational opportunities, and securing public access.

In exchange, the BLM conveyed nearly 244 acres of upland range along Highway 91 North that adjoins the Hagenbarths' base ranch operation to

include an isolated 40-acre tract situated on the Big Hole River, which had limited public access and was difficult to manage due to its small size and the fact that deeded lands surrounded it.

Cornelia Hudson, BLM Dillon Field Manager, said the BLM values the cooperative spirit that led to the completion of this project and the benefits it will provide for public recreation along the Big Hole River.

"We are truly grateful for the efforts of everyone involved to help make this acquisition a reality," she added.

To reach the ceremony site from Dillon, take Highway 91 North approximately 13 miles to Sodak Mill Road on the right. Travel south for a quarter of a mile to where the road forks and turn left. Drive northeast for approximately 1.5 miles to the entrance into the parcels. The turn-off to the ceremony site from Highway 91 will be marked with balloons.

For more information on the land exchange or the celebration event, call Angela Brown, BLM Realty Specialist at 683-8045.

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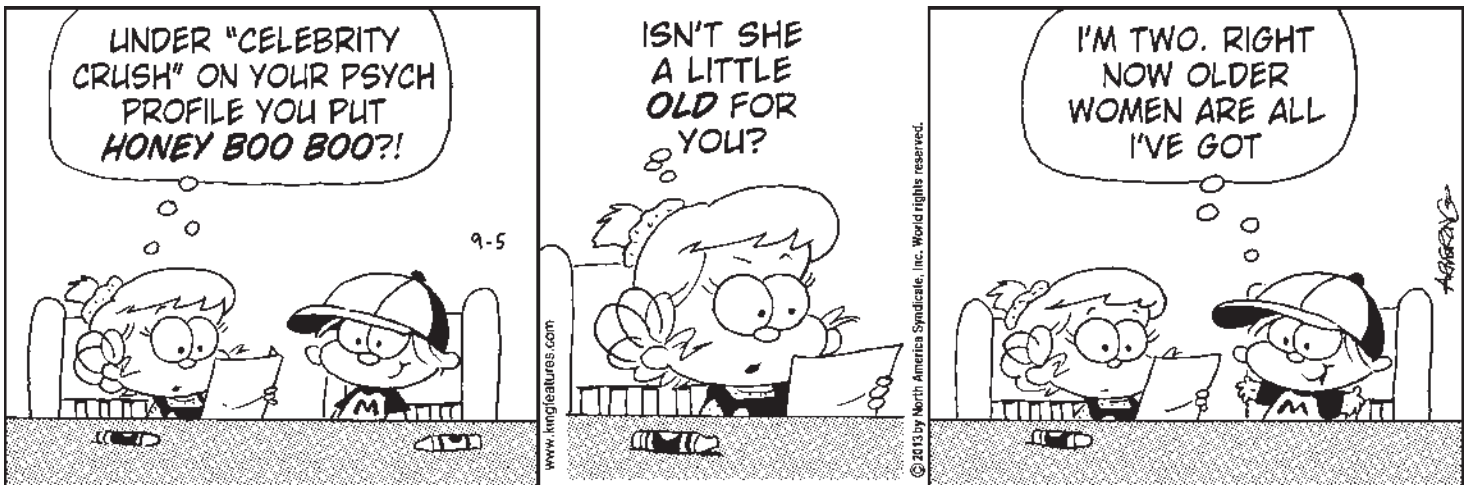
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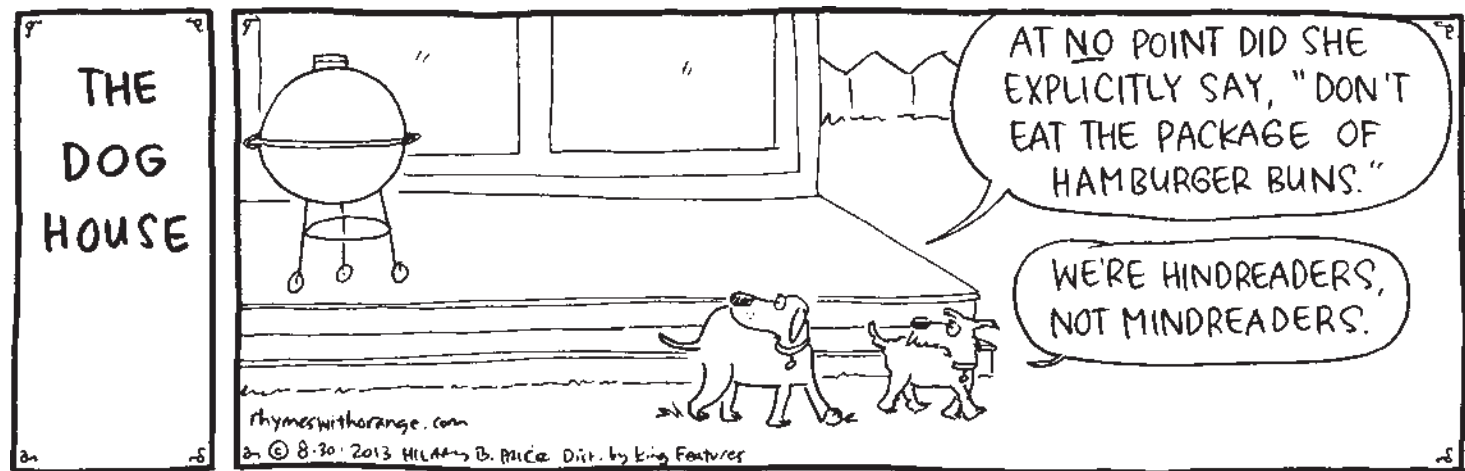
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CRYPTOQUIP

BRZEELB EXQJ ZFXSK Z
XQBY-ILGKSXSE CYGEXQ ZQH
PLE GZCLH MZRR MGXN
JGZBY: "EZLQK NLEFYPZILQ."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E = S

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By Janet Tharpe

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See step-by-step photos of Tamie's recipe plus thousands more from home cooks nationwide at www.justapinch.com/turkeyburger

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Tamie Joeckel
Katy, TX
(pop. 14,102)

TexaCali Turkey Tailgate Fiesta Burger - Janet

What You Need

- 2 lb ground turkey
- 6 slices turkey bacon, browned and drained
- 1 large poblano, Anaheim or red bell pepper
- 1 medium white or yellow onion, diced
- 2 tbsp olive oil, light
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 2 tsp ground chili powder
- 1 pinch salt and pepper to taste
- 1 pkg romaine lettuce leaves
- 2 large tomatoes, sliced
- 2 large avocados
- 3/4 c mayonnaise
- 1/3 c fresh cilantro
- 1 dash(es) hot sauce
- 8 slice pepper jack or cheddar cheese (opt.)
- 1 pkg large burger buns
- 2 tbsp spicy mustard

Directions

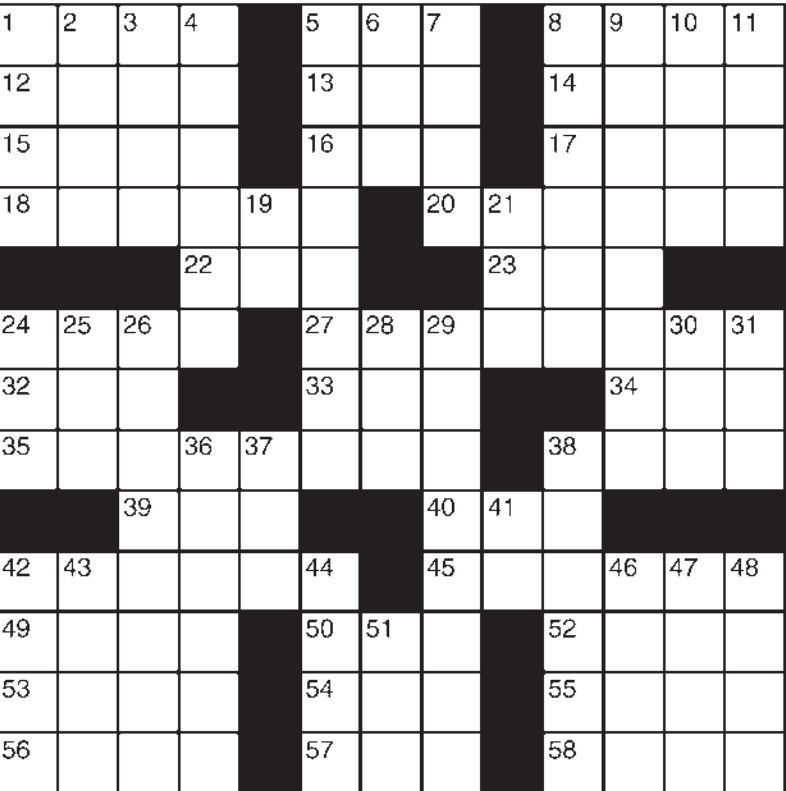
- Heat your grill! Finely dice pepper and onion.
- Brown the bacon and set aside to drain.
- In a large mixing bowl, add ground turkey, pepper and onion. Take the bacon and crumble it into the mixture. Add the spicy mustard, cumin, chili powder, olive oil, salt and pepper. Mix lightly. Make patties out of the mixture for grilling.
- For the cilantro aioli, in a food processor add the mayo, the fresh cilantro (no stems) and a dash of hot sauce (to taste). Mix and set aside in a small bowl in the cooler or fridge.
- Grill the patties and set aside under a foil tent.
- Immediately before you assemble the burgers, slice the avocados.
- To assemble the burgers, I heat the buns on the still hot grill and place in a basket.
- Set out all the fixings - buns, patties, lettuce, tomato, avocado, cheese, aioli and get set for a fiesta in your mouth!

Submitted by: Tamie Joeckel, Katy, TX (pop. 14,102)

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Raced
 - 5 America's uncle
 - 8 Long story
 - 12 Command to
 - 13 Rover
 - 13 Lemieux milieu
 - 14 Carbon compound
 - 15 "Dream on!"
 - 16 Keanu, in "The Matrix"
 - 17 Bibliography abbr.
 - 18 Seat of power
 - 20 With caution
 - 22 Tier
 - 23 Journey segment
 - 24 Stroller
 - 27 Poison remedy
 - 32 Press for payment
 - 33 Solemn promise
 - 34 Trawler need
 - 35 Not-so-noble protagonist
 - 38 "Sure"
 - 39 Call-day link
 - 40 Air safety org.
 - 42 Find not guilty
 - 45 Strengthen by tempering
 - 49 Proper subject?
 - 50 "Wipeout" network
 - 52 Hardy cabbage
 - 53 Genealogy chart
 - 54 Middling grade
 - 55 Therefore
 - 56 Back talk
 - 57 Peculiar
 - 58 Verve
- DOWN**
- 1 "Shoo!"
 - 2 Luxurious
 - 3 Eastern potentate
 - 4 Misshape
 - 5 Oscilloscope picture
 - 6 Expert
 - 7 Catcall?
 - 8 Get steamed
 - 9 Daughter of Oedipus
 - 10 Target
 - 11 Partner
 - 19 "Unh-unh"
 - 21 Boxing legend
 - 24 Palm Pilot, e.g.
 - 25 Scoot
 - 26 They're nothing new
 - 28 Neither mate
 - 29 Duplicitous
 - 30 Chamomile, for
 - 31 one
 - 36 Biblical verb suffix
 - 37 "Bali —"
 - 38 Reb's foe
 - 41 Indefinite article
 - 42 Picnic invaders
 - 43 TV chef Cat
 - 44 Mexican entree
 - 46 Count counterpart
 - 47 Plankton component
 - 48 Russell or Redbone
 - 51 Foundation

All puzzle answers on B5

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Montana Red Cross and the Town of Sheridan join forces for the *Get Ready, Sheridan* emergency preparedness event on Saturday

Submitted by Kevin Murszewski
AMERICAN RED CROSS

As Montana Red Cross responds to wildfires around the state, the organization continues to reach out to local communities with its statewide Get Ready, Montana emergency preparedness campaign. On Saturday, Sept. 7, the Red Cross will join forces with Sheridan officials and other partners to offer emergency preparedness training to the people of Sheridan.

While Montana Red Cross is known for its commitment to disaster response, the nonprofit is also focused on individual, family and community preparedness as an integral part of its mission. Montana Red Cross Preparedness Director, Kevin Murszewski explains, "One of the many lessons resulting from decades of disaster response and recovery is that communities that are prepared for disaster—

both on an individual/family level, and on a community/organizational level—fare better during disasters and also recover more quickly. We are excited about this opportunity to help Sheridan get ready for whatever may come their way."

The Get Ready, Sheridan event will take place on Saturday from 1-3 p.m. at the Sheridan LDS Church at 3560 Hwy 287 in Sheridan. Presenters will be Kevin Murszewski, representatives from Madison County DES, Madison County Public Health, and others. The entire community is invited to attend free-of-charge.

The Get Ready, Montana statewide campaign, which is funded in part by a grant from the Governor's Office of Community Service, brings free preparedness workshops to any Montana community upon request. "All anyone has to do is fill out our online request form

(redcross.org/montana) and we will do the rest," explains Murszewski. Go to <http://www.redcross.org/mt/billings/programs-services/preparedness>, or call 1-800-ARC-MONT and ask to speak with Murszewski.

"While we ask Montanans to take steps to prepare for disaster on an individual level, Montana Red Cross also needs volunteers in each community to train as disaster responders and military family supporters," adds Murszewski.

To sign up to volunteer with Montana Red Cross, go to redcross.org/montana or call 1-800-272-6668. To make a financial donation to help people affected by disasters here in Montana, the United States, and around the world, people can visit redcross.org/montana, call 1-800-ARC-MONT or mail a check to American Red Cross of Montana, 1300 28th Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405.



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LOCAL ARTISTS




Photo submitted by Annie Jorgensen

Enjoy a chat with Cathy Toot, a local Madison Valley western and wildlife artist. Cathy captures the realism of western life and its animals with "Attitude"! She also creates natural beauty with gourds using items from nature.


As a youth, Carleton McCambridge was inspired by illustrators such as N.C. Wyeth, and the allure of western landscapes and Native cultures. "Whether my subject is animal, still life, person or place, my intent is for a sense of harmony and peace."

A creation by Barbara Pierce is unique and "wearable" art. Her ability to create sterling silver Chain Maille necklaces, bracelets and earrings is unsurpassed. Barbara is a perfectionist in her talent of jewelry making, using turquoise, red coral, Montana agate and sterling silver to name just a few.

These artists will be the Dancing Buffalo in Virginia City on Sept. 6.



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Is your home's heating system ready for cool weather?

Statepoint Media

(StatePoint) – In cool weather, wise homeowners will take steps to ensure their homes are well prepared. There are a number of ways you can keep your home comfortable and your energy bills in check all season.

If your heating equipment working optimally or are you wasting energy and paying more than you should?

It is estimated that nearly half of all heating and cooling equipment in U.S. homes never performs to its advertised capacity and efficiency due to incorrect installation, according to U.S. government statistics. And if you have an older system that was built before current efficiency standards, you could be spending more than needed on heating your home.

If you need to replace your system, be sure to have it properly installed by an HVACR professional, certified by North American Technician Excellence (NATE), the nation's largest independent, nonprofit certification body for HVACR technicians. NATE-certified technicians are skilled professionals who have proven their knowledge in the HVACR industry by passing specialized certification tests.

Beyond having an efficient heating system properly installed, there are several other steps you can take to make your home cool-weather friendly:

- Clean heating filters. Check them every couple of weeks and change them at least twice in the season, or as directed by the manufacturer.
- Check and maintain in-

Insulation. Improperly insulated walls, floors, attics, basements and crawlspaces drain away heat and can also lead to moisture imbalance. Adding weather stripping and caulk around windows and doors can also improve a home's insulation.

- Turn down the thermostat or install a programmable thermostat to regulate temperature.

- Clean the furnace area. Don't keep chemicals or cleaning products near a heater, and don't store anything next to it that could impede ventilation.

- Keep vents and returns free of obstructions. Don't lay carpet over vents, place furniture over or in front of them, or obstruct the flow of air.

- Dry air feels cooler than moist air, so install a humidifier. A simple humidifier may make the home feel five degrees warmer than a home with dry air.

- Look into geothermal heating systems. By using the earth's natural heat, these systems are among the most efficient and energy-conserving heating and cooling technologies currently available.

- Have your system serviced regularly for optimal performance. To avoid poor service and scams, be sure to hire an HVACR professional certified by NATE. To find a qualified local contractor who employs certified technicians, look for the NATE logo or go to HVACRAdvice.com.

By making sure your heating system is operating efficiently and by adopting a few energy-friendly habits, you can maintain a warm, comfortable home while keeping heating costs down.

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MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

Thursday	<p>Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.</p>
Friday	<p>Sunshine. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.</p>
Saturday	<p>Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.</p>
Sunday	<p>Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.</p>
Monday	<p>More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.</p>

Quote of the Week:

“Why do people say ‘no offense’ right before they’re about to offend you?”

Anonymous

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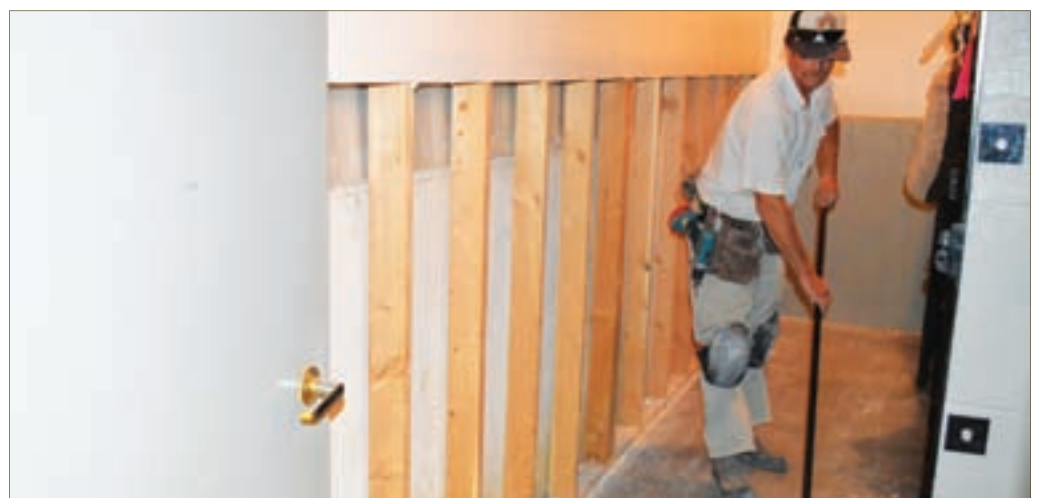
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Photos by (left) Gail Banks (right) Faith Moldan
Silver Linings Boutique is open while repairs are being made.



Photos by (left) Debra McNeil (right) Faith Moldan
The museum was one building that saw extensive damage and will continue to need work.



Photos by (left) Steve DiGiovanna (right) Faith Moldan
Mountainview Veterinary Clinic continues work on the building's exterior as well as the kennel room.

Calm after the storm

Faith Moldan

THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

There are a few sure signs in Twin Bridges that a major weather event took place early last month, leaving the town to clean up and make repairs even now more than a month later.

Jessica Hutchinson's business, Silver Linings Boutique, in downtown Twin Bridges now greets customers with a plywood lumber archway and canopy to keep bricks from falling on their heads. The boutique took a direct hit on Aug. 1 from a large tree that used to stand near the storefront. A tree behind the store fell too in the 90-plus mile per hour winds, and damaged Hutchinson's car. Thankfully, Hutchinson, her two children, and a customer still inside the building were not

harm.

"There's a lot of work going on," Hutchinson, who opened the boutique on July 6, of this year said. "I had to close for the rest of that week and all of the next before we reopened on Aug. 13."

Mountainview Veterinary Service, located just outside of Twin Bridges, took a direct hit as well. The wind sheared off about one-third of the clinic's roof. The opening allowed large amounts of rain and hail to soak and ruin the drywall. The office was closed for less than two days after the storm, simply waiting for power to be restored.

A horse in the equine portion of the office was spared any injury by pure coincidence. Just before the storm barreled down on Twin Bridges, the horse was moved from the stall to the stocks to be sedated and worked on. If it had remained in the stall,

it would have been covered in sheetrock and other debris.

"It hasn't affected much," Dr. Doug Reedy said. "It's different working around all the repairs and we are still dealing with the insurance and getting contractors ready to do construction."

Like others, Hutchinson said she is still waiting to hear from her insurance company regarding her claim. The boutique will possibly get new windows and a new door among other necessary repairs.

"It's been kind of rough," Hutchinson said of the storm's aftermath.

Joy Day of Novich Insurance in Twin Bridges said she encourages everyone needing repairs to their homes and businesses to try and work with local contractors even if that means waiting a bit longer

as they work through this busy time.

Day said the insurance office is staying plenty busy too. She said that most people are covered for wind and hail damage, but not everyone has enough or the right coverage to take care of all the different damage.

"The claims could take anywhere from 4-6 months to a year," Day said. "It's a lot of hurry up and wait."

A similar storm, with a little less wind and a lot more hail rolled through Sheridan in 2008, Day said. It is a lot of the same this go around with claims and cleanup. She added that residents of Twin Bridges are lucky to live in an agricultural community in which tractors and other heavy machinery are readily available for cleanup.

While Hutchinson waits for her insurance claim to go through

and repairs to be finished, her husband is staying busy with numerous roofing projects in town. About two-thirds of the houses and properties in the city limits received at least minimal damage from debris being blown around and hitting homes or vehicles, the hail, and the severe wind damaging almost anything in its way. Debris had to be removed from the streets before people could get down the road to help neighbors and family. Cleanup was quick, with an almost immediate response despite the obstacles Mother Nature put in everyone's path. That included Lloyd Carlson and other Twin Bridges Fire Department members putting others' needs before their own.

Even though Hutchinson's store was open for business, customers were forced to use the back entrance until Aug. 20. She

said the front being closed and the building's dilapidated look took away a lot of potential foot traffic from the Madison County Fair. She estimates that she lost about \$1,000 in sales during the days she was closed and the front entrance was not accessible.

The Twin Bridges Historical Association Museum, just down the road from the boutique, has been out of commission since the storm hit.

Merchandise in Hutchinson's boutique did not spoil or go to waste like a few other businesses in town. Without power, businesses like The Shack, the Wagon Wheel, and Main Street Market donated food to feed volunteers before it went bad.

"It could have been much worse," Reedy said. "It's just an inconvenience and headache."

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Back to school check-ups: What to ask the pediatrician

From StatePoint Media

Between buying new school supplies and meeting your children's teachers, back to school season is a busy time. But parents should not forget to prep for the

school year by considering health and wellness.

Experts say the first step is to schedule a visit to the doctor.

"The start of a new school year is an excellent reminder to take kids to the

pedsiatrician for their annual checkup," says Dr. Thomas K. McNerny, president of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

To prepare for a healthy, safe and happy school year, the AAP is offering these tips

for parents:

- **Doctor's visit:** Make the most of your visit to the pediatrician by making a list of issues to discuss.

- **Immunizations:** Whether you're the parent of a young child, a teen or a young

adult heading to college, ask your pediatrician what immunizations your child is due to receive. Vaccines save lives and keep kids and adults healthy.

- **Nutrition:** Talk with your child's pediatrician and school about healthful food choices. You can ask the school to stock the cafeteria and vending machines with nutritious food, such as fresh fruit, low-fat dairy products, water and 100 percent fruit juice. If you don't like the options the school offers, pack lunch and snacks at home.

- **Limit soda consumption.** Each 12-ounce soft drink contains approximately 10 teaspoons of sugar and 150 calories. Drinking just one can of soda a day increases a child's risk of obesity by 60 percent.

- **Exercise:** Make sure your kids are getting plenty of exercise. Turn off the television and make time for sports teams, gymnastics classes and bike rides. Aim for at least an hour a day.

- **Backpacks:** Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back or a rolling backpack. Backpacks should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of your child's body weight.

- **Getting there:** Make sure your child has the

necessary gear for getting to school. Whether your child is biking or walking, teach him or her about traffic safety. For bikers, ensure helmets fit properly. Those who take the bus should be instructed to stay seated and listen to the bus driver. If the bus is equipped with seat belts, children should wear them.

- **Sleep:** Children and adolescents need plenty of sleep to be alert. A regular bedtime can help your child get on a healthy sleep schedule.

- **Bullies:** A bully can pose a true threat to a child's physical and mental well-being. Your pediatrician is well equipped to answer questions about mental health, too. Teach kids how to respond confidently to bullies and encourage them to tell an adult when there's a problem. Remember, bullying can occur online too. So keep tabs of your children's social media use.

- **College health:** For kids heading to college, ask your pediatrician about coordinating health care with the school.

More back to school health tips can be found at www.HealthyChildren.org.

With a focus on safety and health, you can help make this school year successful for your kids.



Help your kids be healthier this school year

From StatePoint Media

Childhood obesity rates have skyrocketed over the past 30 years. Right now, one-third of American kids are overweight or obese.

"Unfortunately, healthy eating for kids isn't always stressed consistently," says Debbie Blacher, founder of Wholesome Tummies, a children's food franchise devoted to bringing nutritious meals to schools. "Many kids lack access to nutritious food and good information about healthful eating and behaviors."

Since most kids consume half their daily calories at school, healthy eating habits must be addressed both at home and in the classroom, she stresses.

Blacher, a mom herself and an expert on crafting healthful school lunches, is offering these lunch packing tips for parents:

- **Make a bento box:** Instead of packing the traditional entrée and sides,

make lunch out of small snacks in a multi-compartment box. Hardboiled eggs, raisins, an apple or other fresh fruit, crackers, tuna fish, pasta salad, veggies, dips and more.

- **Travel the world:** Go with an international theme each day, such as Mexican, Asian or Italian. Include an educational note about the meal's origin.

- **Include a surprise:** Kids love surprises, such as favorite photos, stickers or a reminder about an upcoming event. A lunch box surprise can make your child's day extra special.

Nutrition is only half the equation. As screen time competes for kids' attention, active time is decreasing. Exercise is crucial to preventing obesity, improving motor skills and providing a social outlet.

Unfortunately, not all kids are receptive.

"One of the biggest challenges is getting shy kids to participate," says

Jyl Camhi, co-founder of Great Play, a children's gym franchise that uses interactive technology and a progressive curriculum based on motor-skill development.

Camhi is offering tips to coax a child forward in a group fitness scenario:

- **Allow spectating:** The first time in a new environment can be emotionally draining. Stay for an entire class and return the next time.

- **Never force participation:** Be a source of comfort for your child while he or she sits on the sidelines. Your child will feed off your energy.

- **Look for peer leaders:** Outgoing children are often thrilled to help another child feel more comfortable.

- **Sometimes leaving helps:** Oftentimes kids behave better when they don't have a parental crutch to lean on.

- **Pay attention to leaders' personalities:** Whether it's classes, sports or school, the

leader can make or break the experience. Does the coach make kids comfortable? Look for signs and find a coach that works well with your child.

There are some trends not worth following -- and an unhealthy lifestyle is one of them. With the right tools and tricks, you can be a positive influence on your kids' health.





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Common Core Education event coming to Ennis

From Bob Wagner

The Madison County Republican Central Committee is encouraging all interested parties to attend a co-sponsored event concerning Common Core Education. Is

it just plain rotten to the core? Or is there good in common core? Nationally known speaker, Debra Lamm, will be speaking on this matter Sept. 16, at the Ennis Fire Hall at 6:30 p.m. There will be a short business meeting for

members, new and old, after this presentation. The Madison County Republican Central Committee neither supports nor opposes the content presented.

Fire restrictions effective as of Aug. 30 at Region 3 properties

From Andrea Jones
MONTANA FISH,
WILDLIFE & PARKS

Due to the high level of fire danger, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks' properties in southwest Montana went to Stage 1 fire restrictions on Aug. 30. The restrictions apply specifically to FWP fishing access sites and wildlife management areas in Gallatin and Park Counties.

The following acts are prohibited until further notice:

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire.
2. Smoking, except

within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

Exemptions:

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act.
2. Persons using a device fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off.
3. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by

written posted notice.

4. Any federal, state, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

5. All land within a city boundary is exempted.

6. Fires will be allowed in established steel fire grates at Missouri Headwaters State Park.

Individuals may be fined up to \$5,000 or imprisoned up to six months for violating the noted fire restrictions.

For updates on restrictions and closures around the state, go to fwp.mt.gov.



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Charlie Smart



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This,
OUR VALLEY:



The Spirit of Cooperation

“I planted, (another person) watered; but God gave the increase ... We are God’s co-workers.” 1 Corinthians 3

We have stumps in our yard. Not a few; not a couple; but a bunch of stumps. Most of them (in the lawn) are low enough I’ve been able to mow over them, for I do keep my mower height up a few notches, and yet they are and have been regular toe stubbers for the year or so we have lived in our home.

We checked with people who remove stumps for a living, but the price per stump to remove them seemed outrageous, which is quite likely why the previous owners never got rid of them to begin with. In time they should disintegrate, but I am not sure I want to wait until then. I suspect they are more likely to petrify and become rocks, joining the zillion other stones that occupy our soil.



By Rev. Keith Axberg

Having seen stump grinders at work, and having an idea of how they do their business of grinding, I could see no reason I couldn’t handle the task myself – necessity being the mother of invention and all. I went to the store and bought a decent (but inexpensive) plug-in electric chainsaw, and for the past week or so have just ground away at those stubborn little toe-jammers one by one until the yard is now mostly clear.

So far, I have only found one stump that has resisted my efforts, but it is up in a flowerbed and out of the way, so it really isn’t a problem. It’s just an eyesore I want removed, but it will come down in time – of that I am sure.

I find my spiritual life is something like our yard. There are things that stump me and against which I stub my toes. Many things I leave to God to take care of, for those things really do rest in his hands.

Like the natural decay of wood, there are character defects that will wear away over time and disappear, and that is a good thing. I think it is part of God’s plan to help us learn where the stumps of life are so we can find ways around them – even in the dark.

But there are other things that are a problem for us in the “now” – like impatience, anxiety or depression, which we

can grind away at in the present moment. It isn’t easy. Good things never are, and yet we are told that all things come to good for those who love God and who are called according to God’s purpose, and I believe it.

There are things only God can do, but for the most part, God expects and requires our active participation. There’s an old joke: If you want to win the lottery, and pray for God to help you win (an approach I DO NOT advocate), you ought to at least meet God half way and buy a lottery ticket.

Sometimes we want God to change our lives one way or another, but we are unwilling to do our part to make it happen. We want friends, but we won’t join new groups. We want sobriety, but won’t stop our drinking or using. We want more business, but won’t advertise.

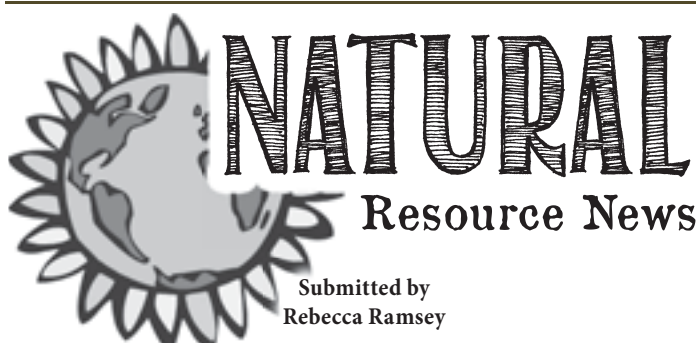
We pray for patience, but get angry when God sends trials our way – but how else will God help us build our “patient” muscles if we don’t face circumstances that will exercise them? How will God change our world if we won’t help him change us?

Watch what you pray for; God often answers prayers in ways we don’t expect, and in ways we will not appreciate, but that is just how God operates.

Knowing that God is God and we are not, it is easy to simply expect God “do it all”, but the fact is that God put us here; we are instruments of his grace. To act as if it is otherwise would be to become derelict in our duty – and that’s no way to live.

If there are things that would improve your health and well-being (and that of your community), then ask God for the tools you need to plant, water or grind away on life’s stumpers. It will make for a tree-mendous difference for everyone here in this, our valley.

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



Being bear aware

Recently, lots of black bears have been spotted around the area. They’ve been viewed ambling across country roads toward an apple tree (or up in the tree itself), wandering around Virginia City, and happily eating chokecherries until surprised by a human who was picking chokecherries on the other side of that very bush! So now is the time to really be “bear aware” both at home and on the trails as these furry neighbors are stocking up on food before they hibernate.

The American black bear (Ursus Americanus) is a medium-sized bear native to North America. It is the continent’s smallest and most widely distributed bear species. These are the neighbors who have been making their presence known this week. Black bears are omnivores, with their varying diets greatly depending on season and location. Around Madison County, black bears are feasting on the newly-ripe apples that grace many yards and old ranch homesteads in our communities; the abundant chokecherries in lawns, irrigation ditches, fence lines and creeks; rosehips which are plentiful along streams and trails; grubs, ants and other bugs in

rotten tree stumps or other wood; and other residential attractants such as dog and cat food, bird seed and trash.

With the possibility of finding bears in your backyard this time of year, consider these tips on staying safe:

- Remove or reduce attractants around your home. Keep pet food indoors (helpful with skunks too); don’t overfill your bird feeders and hang them high; keep your barbecue grill clean; take trash to your local sanitation site regularly and store it indoors or in a bear-proof container; do not put fish, meat or other really fragrant items in your compost pile; and remember to keep it turned frequently to reduce odor.
- Put electric fence around your compost pile, bee hives, chicken coops or other areas that may have attractants – this seems to be a really effective deterrent.
- When hiking on a trail or walking through a neighborhood with lots of fruit trees/other attractants, be sure to make your presence known. Sing, talk loudly, wear a bell, put a bell on your dogs, and walk with a friend. Black bears are most often more afraid of us



than we need to be of them – unless they are startled or feel threatened. Keeping your head up and being loud will help prevent that from happening.

• Don’t forget your bear spray and make sure you know how to use it. Check the expiration date.

• If you see a bear, report it to your local FWP Biologist.

Visit <http://fwp.mt.gov/recreation/safety/wildlife/bears/> for more information about being bear aware and what to do in a bear encounter.

After the recent storms in the area and surrounding areas, you certainly hear a lot of stories about how things went with the many different insurance companies. I had two friends who were shocked to find out they would owe so much for a deductible on their claims; one over \$4,000 and the other over \$2,000. Sadly, they had not added replacement cost to their policies. In my feeble opinion, there are a few things anyone needs to do when buying insurance for their homes. Make sure that the value of the property and the valuables will replace those items. Add replacement cost to your policy. If anything needs to be replaced, it is replaced at what it costs today, no depreciation on the age of house or item. (It does not cost that much to add replacement coverage, either.) Add water and sewer back up coverage to your policy, especially if you live in the country. Water and sewer water damage happens. Only takes one broken pipe or drain when you aren’t home to cost a whole lot of money! Make sure what your deductibles are and that they are workable for you, if something happens. We all pay out the nose for insurance; you might as well make sure that it is going to take care of you if something does happen.



AROUND THE WOOD STOVE

by Gail Banks

I might add that if you are not happy with how your insurance paid and really do think you are correct, you can contact the Montana Insurance Commission in Helena and they may help you for free. They look at your policy and the facts of what happened and will tell you if you are right or wrong. If the insurance company should pay or should have paid more, the commission will contact them and tell them to pay up. I have used them twice and, thankfully, was right on both and got a check. Seems to me the commission does not believe in grey areas, it is covered or it isn’t covered.

Good grief, have you been having a heck of a time with cell phone coverage lately? I called my cell phone customer service and asked them what was wrong this time, and was told, “If you want better service, you

have to be patient with the upgrade.” I asked her just how long that was going to take, and she answers, “I am not sure, we are working on that.”

With Labor Day here, there is certainly a lot of talk about the minimum wage. People are actively striking many of the fast food chains for \$15 an hour minimum wage. I agree that would be a great raise but we have to remember that the employer has to be able to bring in enough profits to pay that wage also. I wonder what a cheeseburger at McDonalds would cost us if the wages raised to \$15 an hour for all those workers?

The Twin Bridges Booster Club finished putting up their new road signs on each highway coming into town. They look really nice, many volunteers should be proud.

So what have we learned this week? Aspire is to inspire before you expire. Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses. Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting. The irony of life is that, by the time you’re old enough to know your way around, you’re not going anywhere. God made man before woman so as to give him time to think of an answer for her first question. Every morning is the dawn of a

new error. September is here, may still be extremely hot during the days, but we all know that soon, when we look up into the area mountains, there will be snow capping them.

I end this week with a quote from Jay Leno that I really enjoyed: “With all the hurricanes, tornados, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, severe thunderstorms and wind storms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?”

Business Briefs

Sara Racine
THE MADISONIAN
s.hill@madisoniannews.com

Save our buildings

On Friday, Sept. 6, Virginia City hosts a night of fundraising at the Bale of Hay Saloon. S.O.B. is a benefit for the Virginia City Rural Fire Department. The night will start off with a VC Chamber mixer at 4 p.m. where the silent auction will begin. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. followed by a live auction at 7:30 p.m. Call 842-5454 for tickets or more information.

Brewery Follies extended season

The Brewery Follies in Virginia City is proud to announce the 2013 Encore Season. Shows

are Wednesdays through Sundays at 8 p.m. On Saturdays and Sundays, a matinee will be added at 4 p.m. This extended season schedule will go through Sept. 21. Reservations are still strongly advised. Call 843-5218 or 800-829-2969, ext. 3, to get seats to one of the last shows of the season.

A Night at the Museum

The Yellowstone Historic Center Museum invites you to yet another Hysterical for History event in West Yellowstone. On Sept. 7, take a tour of the museum (not normally open to the public) with local author and historian, Jan Dunbar. Tickets are \$5 per person

or free for museum members. Don’t miss this special night of stories, tours and refreshments. 7 – 9 p.m. 646-1100 or visit yellowstonehistoriccenter.org.

Lick-a-Dee Lube


The guys over at Lick-a-Dee Lube want you to know the remodel is complete and they are fully open for service. The expansion and remodel included another self-wash bay and a pet wash facility, among other things. Lick-a-Dee Lube is also now offering full-service detailing for your car or truck. They have options to fit your needs and budget. They are located on Hwy 287 in Ennis.

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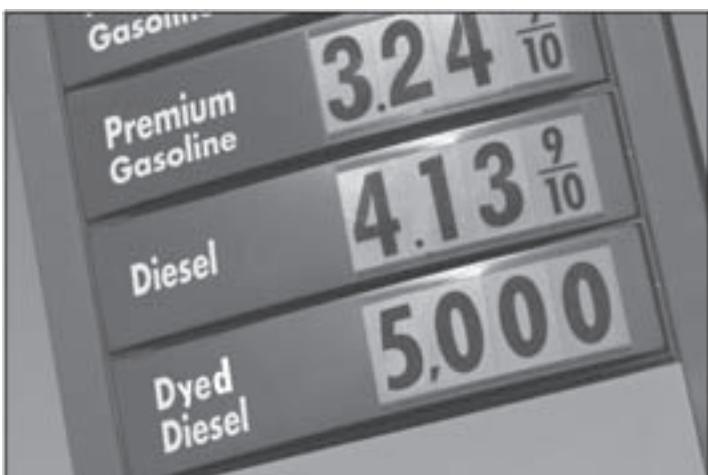
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SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

SHERIDAN

Monday, Sept 9
Breakfast: Bagel or cereal
Lunch: Taco salad

Tuesday, Sept 10
Breakfast: Cold cereal
Lunch: Biscuits and gravy

Wednesday, Sept 11
Breakfast: Pancakes
Lunch: Ham/Cheese stromboli

Thursday, Sept 12
Breakfast: Hof or cold cereal
Lunch: Ham & potatoes

TWIN BRIDGES

Monday, Sept 9
Breakfast: French toast, ham
Lunch: Walking tacos

Tuesday, Sept 10
Breakfast: Cereal
Lunch: Corn dogs, mac n cheese

Wednesday, Sept 11
Breakfast: Egg "mcmuffins"
Lunch: Philly cheese steak

Thursday, Sept 12
Breakfast: Cereal
Lunch: Turkey and bacon wrap

ENNIS

Monday, Sept 9
Breakfast: Hot pockets
Lunch: Chicken ala King

Tuesday, Sept 10
Breakfast: Waffles, sausage
Lunch: Beef stroganoff

Wednesday, Sept 11
Breakfast: Cinnamon rolls
Lunch: Raviolis

Thursday, Sept 12
Breakfast: Ham & cheese omelette
Lunch: Baked chicken

HARRISON

Monday, Sept 9
Breakfast: French toast
Lunch: Chicken alfredo

Tuesday, Sept 10
Breakfast: Bagels, cream cheese
Lunch: Taco Bar Tuesday!

Wednesday, Sept 11
Breakfast: Tri-taters & scrambled eggs
Lunch: Baked potato bar

Thursday, Sept 12
Breakfast: Pancakes, sausage
Lunch: Chicken strips, fries

more than two-thirds of the Madison County population is reading **our** newspaper.

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Find Fellowship With Us

Rocky Mountain Baptist Church
Vern Grotzke, Pastor
682-4949

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Mid-Week Service,
Wednesday 6 p.m.

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Dayspring Church
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Harrison, Montana

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Sunday School & Church Services ~ 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Joe Miller
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Madison County Catholic Community

Liturgical Schedule

St. Patrick, Ennis
Sunday ~ 8:30 a.m.

St. Mary, Laurin
Sunday ~ 10:30 a.m.

Deacon Andy Dorrington,
Pastoral Administrator ~ 842-5588

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

The Church of Word and Sacrament

Visitors Welcome

Pastor Ken Stensrud

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

Corner of Madison and Armitage St. Ennis, Montana 406-682-4900


Madison Valley Presbyterian Church

WORSHIP

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

Everyone Welcome

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



Dr. Ray Teston
Pastor

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

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CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Ennis Branch

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

Family History Center
682-4911, 682-7415, 682-3614
Pres. Thompson 682-7415
133 MT Hwy 287

Christian Science Society

Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m.
1st & 3rd Wednesdays
Testimony Meetings 1 p.m.

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Pastor Lonnie Horn

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Tuesday Night 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Adult Bible Study and Prayer

Wednesday (Kids/Youth) 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Kid's Club (3 yrs-4th grade)
Pre-Teen Youth Group (5th-6th grade)
Youth Group (7th-12th grade)

Ruby Valley Food Pantry
Saturdays: 10:00 a.m.-Noon

New Hope Pregnancy Support Center
Call Kathleen at 596-1080

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THE BAHAI FAITH

Therefore strive that your actions day by day may be beautiful prayers. Turn towards God, and seek always to do that which is right and noble. Enrich the poor, raise the fallen, comfort the sorrowful, bring healing to the sick, reassure the fearful, rescue the oppressed, bring hope to the hopeless, shelter the destitute!

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www.baha'i.org

ENNIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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Pastor Charles Tucker

SUNDAY SERVICE
Schedule Bible Study
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Children's Church 10:45

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589-4107

Ruby Valley United Methodist Parish
Invites You To Worship With Us

Pastor Ben Nardi
Office: (406)842-5934
Home: (406)842-7732

Church of the Valley
Twin Bridges
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.

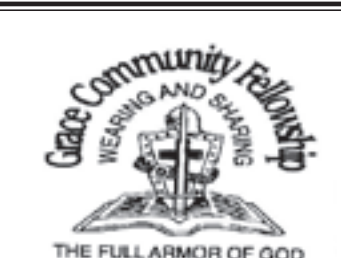
Bethel UMC
Sheridan
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
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Sunday Evenings

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www.rvec.org		
Prayer requests: 682-4788 843-5296 842-7713		



SUNDAY SERVICE
10 a.m.

Cowboy Church
Nevada City-In Tent

Tel. 406-842-5915

Ennis Meals on Wheels

Thursday, Sept 5 - Meatloaf, baked potatoes, mixed vegetables, fruit salad, bread, chocolate cake

Friday, Sept 6 - BUFFET

Tuesday, Sept 10 - Roast beef casserole, tomatoes, garden green beans with onion and bacon, bread, peaches

Wednesday, Sept 11 - Range fed meatballs, baked potatoes, creamed corn, cole slaw, bread, jell-o with topping

*Ennis Town Hall. Tuesday - Friday at NOON.
We ask a \$4 minimum donation for meals.
On Fridays you can take what is left over home (bring your own containers). All meals are subject to change without notice.
Please call 682-4550 for questions or to request delivery.*

AREA SENIOR MEALS

SENIOR MEALS, VIRGINIA CITY
Senior meals now being served in Virginia City for citizens 60 and over every Tuesday and Thursday at the VC Cafe for a nominal fee of \$3. Lunches served 11:30-12 p.m.

MEALS FOR SENIORS, TWIN BRIDGES
The TBS&CC provides Meals for Seniors every Tuesday and Friday at 11:30 a.m. at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Twin Bridges for seniors 60 years and up. (Spouse and caregivers are invited.) Sign-in is requested and donation can be provided.

RUBY VALLEY FOOD PANTRY, SHERIDAN
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MON. - Open, 7 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking

WED. - Closed, 7:30 p.m., Trinity Church

FRI. - Open, 8 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking

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



Annual worship at McAllister Church

From Lucy Ennis

Madison Valley Presbyterian Church will hold its annual worship service at McAllister Church Sept. 8 at 11 a.m. Once a year the congregation and friends join for an old time worship in this small country church. Old favorite hymns will be sung and the choir will have special gospel music to aid worship.

The McAllister Church is the white frame church about a mile west of the Meadow Creek intersection on US Highway 287.

The church was built in the late 19th century as a Methodist meeting house. During the 1950s, the Methodist and Presbyterians made an agreement to divide the state and each denomination would have alternate valleys.

Madison Valley became Presbyterian and McAllister church became a Presbyterian Church. Everyone is welcome to worship with us, just as all are welcome at any of our services. After the service, a free lunch will be served from the kitchen behind the sanctuary. The lunch will benefit the endowment fund of the Madison Valley Presbyterian Church.



Top: Jerry Aaker and friends in Tanzania.
Bottom: Jerry Aaker

Photos courtesy of William Talbott

Sheridan Public Library to host reception for award-winning local author

From William Talbott
SHERIDAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of the Sheridan Library will host a reception for Jerry Aaker this Thursday, Sept. 5, at 4:30 p.m. at the library. Aaker's latest book, *Spirituality of Service: Reflections on a Life-Long Journey of Faith and Work Among the World's Poor*, published by Pfeifer-Hamilton Publishers, recently won a Silver Medal in the Inspirational category of the 2013 Independent Book Publishers Association's Benjamin Franklin Awards. The reception will feature readings by the author and a discussion on writing and publishing in today's market.

For more than 40 years, Aaker and his wife, Judy,

accompanied people living in poverty. Through his work with Lutheran World Relief, Heifer International, Agros International and Church World Service, Aaker helped establish and manage sustainable development programs on five continents, from South America to Asia. Now retired, the Aakers live in Montana. They have three adult children. Aaker is also author of *Partners with the Poor: An Emerging Approach to Relief and Development* and editor of *Livestock for a Small Earth: The Role of Animals in a Just and Sustainable World*, both of which are available at the Sheridan Library. He has previously given programs on Heifer International, Africa, China and Central America.

Spirituality of Service shares the author's lifetime of personal reflections and stories, often rising at sunrise in poor villages across the globe, meditating on Scripture and wondering, "What am I doing here?" This book is filled with deep wisdom, personal observations, honest questions and touching stories of generosity among people of great poverty but even greater spirit. Aaker invites you to walk with him and let his reflections stimulate your own as you wonder and wander on your own life-long quest for a glimpse of spiritual truth and how you can put it into action.

The reception is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the library at 842-5770.

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Sincerely, Clancy Phillips

A special thank you

to Cam Cooper (Talon Ranch) for purchasing my market hog. Your continued support of Madison County Trailblazers 4-H and the community is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Paige Phillips



Thank You

Hollowtop Ranch, Porter Bennett & Carolyn Quan for buying my market hog

Sincerely,
Riley Green

And thank you to all the Ennis business' who continue to support Madison-Jefferson County 4-H!



Thank You

Chief Croy Construction for buying my market hog

Sincerely,
Taylor Green

And thank you to all the Ennis business' who continue to support Madison-Jefferson County 4-H!

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4-6:00 PM VC Chamber Mixer EVERYONE WELCOME!
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4:00 PM SILENT AUCTION opens

7:00 PM DINNER served PULLED PORK, POTATO SALAD, GREEN SALAD
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Photo courtesy Roseann Troyer
2013 TRMCC fair projects are displayed on a mantle.

TRMCC reflects on August

Submitted by Roseann Troyer

We ambled into awesome August by creating several one-of-a-kind art projects and pictures for the Madison County Fair on Aug 2. The monthly resident council meeting was held on Aug. 6. Discussions were centered on doing more fair projects and what to serve at happy hour this month.

On Aug. 8, a "new-to-us" church group came and held a very nice service with a lot of good singing. It was the folks from the Dayspring Mission and their return visit will be on Sept. 19.

Our ambitious residents spent several more sessions working on their fair projects in our activity room. All of the hard work was worth it in the end. We earned 25 blue ribbons and three special awards – a Best of Show TRMCC for Millie Olson, Best Holiday Craft TRMCC by Norton Gribbon, and Best of Fine Arts TRMCC by Agnes Anderson.

Ruby Reservoir was our destination on the Aug. 16. We were quite amazed at how low the water level was. Instead of the usual ice cream for our treat, we stopped at Chicks Restaurant and had fries, poppers, onion rings and cold beverages to go. It was a tasty change.

On Aug. 22 the MIZPAH Chapter NO 13 OES hosted the monthly birthday party. Arma Leonard, Dorothy Bradley and Carol Addams served moist chocolate cake from the Sheridan Bakery and creamy ice cream purchased at Walters IGA.

Two residents have August birthdays: Phil Nelson, Aug. 20, 1911, is 102, and George Davis, Aug. 26, 1936, is 77. Shirley Harrington, George's sister, came over to share his special day and she brought his little dog "Snickers".

August ends on a happy note because our monthly happy hour was on Aug. 30. From there, we step into September. "Fall is Coming".

JOIN US FOR

Hysterical for History

SERIES OF PROGRAMS & EVENTS AT

YELLOWSTONE HISTORIC CENTER MUSEUM

September 7th, 2013 | 7:00 - 9:00 PM

A Night at the Museum

Don't miss this special night with stories, tours, and refreshments. Cost is \$5.00 per person (free to Museum members). Join the fun and come in period dress from early park history through the 50s! Tour areas of the museum not normally open to the public: the old baggage room, waiting room, and even the attic over main part of the depot. Join local author and historian Jan Dunbar for two story sessions from her book "It's all True or it Ought to Be: West Yellowstone Remembered" and other stories from West Yellowstone's past. Appetizers and beverages will be served (included in admission).

October 5th, 2013 | noon - 6:00 PM

Free admission to the Museum

All exhibits will be open and movies will be showing including: "Yellowstone Aflame", "Odyssey: The Montana Centennial Train" and "Yellowstone Earthquake" (1959 Hebgen Lake disaster). This is also your last chance to see the Thoroughfare Exhibit about Yellowstone's southeast region, the most remote location in the lower 48 states. A "brat" dinner will be served (\$5.00 per person) including a bratwurst sandwich, chips, drink and dessert.

406.646.1100 | yellowstonehistoriccenter.org
100 Yellowstone Ave • West Yellowstone • MT 59758

West Yellowstone
TBID

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Ennis, Montana

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In Support of Madison and Jefferson County 4-H and FFA participants, **THE MADISONIAN** will be offering a **20% discount on Fair Thank You Advertisements.**

Come on in or give us a call at 406-682-7755!



Northern Pacific depot in Alder gets a facelift

Submitted by Kathleen Mumme

Chris Mumme and his father Ken stand in front of the old Northern Pacific depot in Alder, which they recently painted and spruced up, under the direction of owners Delbert and Dorla Hartford. The majestic old building was built in 1902 and served Alder and the Ruby Valley as a freight and passenger stop until the 1980s.

Del was the agent here from the 1950s for Northern Pacific (later Burlington Northern) until he and the building retired. He later saved the beautiful old structure by purchasing it and moving it to its present location at his home in Alder. If this old building could talk, it could certainly tell us some fine tales.

It's time to start thinking about the

Winter Edition 2013/2014

The LOOP

outside • community • culture

madison county seasonal guide

Winter Edition 2013/2014
Call now to reserve a spot!
682-7755

I have the same dirt on my boots as yours.

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<p>BIGHOLE SANCTUARY, TWIN BRIDGES \$1,500,000 • #189437 • 406.684.5686 2 bd 1 ba 1,008+/-sf, 110+/- riparian acres 3/4 mile of Big Hole River, cabin & guest accommodations</p>	<p>CENTENNIAL DR, PONY \$540,000 • #189481 • 406.682.5002 2 bd 2 ba 2,400+/-sf, 1.64+/- acres Numerous lots, variety of outbuilds</p>	<p>PINE BUTTE RANCH, ENNIS \$477,500 • #169572 • 406.682.5002 3 bd, 3 ba, 2,077+/-sf, 20+/- acres w/pond Formal entry & dining rm, 2 propane fireplaces</p>	<p>DOUBLE M RANCH, ENNIS \$320,000 • #189132 • 406.682.5002 40+/- acres, abundant wildlife, expansive views Tucked against the Mtns, year round access</p>	<p>BADGER RD, ENNIS \$299,000 • #182576 • 406.682.5002 1,232+/-sf 2 bd, 2 ba, 5+/-acres Overlooking the valley, a must-see</p>
<p>RESTAURANT, TWIN BRIDGES \$250,000 • #188684 • 406.684.5686 Thriving 3,600+/-sf community mainstay 3 lots, parking for the big rigs</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED WATER ST, SHERIDAN \$140,000 • #187712 • 406.842.5650 3 bd, 1 ba 2,238+/-sf, 1950's charming home Coved ceilings, arched doorways, lg back yard</p>	<p>SPHINX MOUNTAIN, ENNIS \$135,000 • #188568 • 406.682.5002 21.80+/- panoramic acres, great access Seasonal irrigation ditch, creek effect</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED E HARRISON ST, VIRGINIA CITY \$79,000 • #188733 • 842.5650 3 bd, 3 ba, 3,000± sf, on three lots Unfinished home sold "as is", large deck</p>	<p>SUNNY SLOPE, WHITEHALL Starting at: \$24,500 • 406.684.5686 Two 1+/-acres lots, great location Nice views of Mtn Ranges</p>

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OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

SECTION C Thursday, September 5, 2013

GO TO outpostevents.net FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4

Books and Babies, Ennis
10:30 a.m.
Madison Valley Public Library

First Day of School, Alder, Ennis & Harrison
Grades 1 – 12 for Ennis

Community Speaker, Twin Bridges
RVH Board member, Ken Walsh & RVH administrator, John Semingson speak. 12 pm.
Wagon Wheel Restaurant.
Frank 596-1076.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5

Community Theatre Meeting, Twin Bridges
Ruby Valley Community Theatre, second meeting, 216 South Sixth Avenue, 7 p.m.

Woman's Club Fall Round Up, Ennis
Madison Valley Woman's Club potluck, 12 p.m., Madison Valley Baptist Church

Sheridan Farmers' Market
Main Street
4 – 6 p.m.

Business After Hours, Ennis
An Ennis Chamber event.
Host: Tackle Shop. 5 p.m.

Shakespeare in the Park, Big Sky
"The Recruiting Officer", Big Sky Town Center Park, 6 p.m. Free admission.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Branham Lake.
Submitted by Gail Banks

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6

Writer's Group Meeting, Ennis
Madison County Writer's Group, 10:30 a.m., Fireside Room, First Madison Valley Bank.
Jan 682-4177.

S.O.B., Virginia City
Save Our Buildings, VC Rural Fire Dept. fundraiser. Mixer, auctions, dinner. 4 p.m. Adults \$25, Kids \$5. 843-5454

Gun Show, Twin Bridges
Montana's Biggest Little Gun Show, 1 p.m. Madison County Fairgrounds, Sept. 6 – 8 \$3 per day. Dave 842-5161

Ennis Farmers' Market
Valley Bank Parking Lot
5 – 7 p.m.

Live Music, Norris
Coyote Gypsies (Eclectic Klezmer Band) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs.

Movie Night, Ennis
Madison Theatre presents "Red 2", rated PG-13, 682-4023. Show at 7 p.m.

Astronomy Club Meeting, Sheridan
Big Sky Astronomy Club, Cottontail Observatory, 280 Wet Georgia Road, 7:30 p.m. 842-7722

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7

Spay/Neuter Clinic, Cardwell
Paws & Claws Spay/Neuter Group organized this low-cost clinic for dogs and cats, Cardwell School, 8 a.m. Appointments required. Call Lana 565-2043 or Summer 565-0601.

Gun Show, Twin Bridges
Montana's Biggest Little Gun Show, 9 a.m. Madison County Fairgrounds, \$3 fee. Dave 842-5161

Zabel Memorial Encore Showing, Ennis

Larry Zabel Film, 11 a.m., Madison Valley Public Library

Music in the Mountains, Big Sky
Dead Winter Carpenters (Americana) 6 p.m. Big Sky Town Center Park

A Night at the Museum, West Yellowstone
Yellowstone Historic Center Museum, 7 p.m. 646-1100

Live Music, Norris
Gregory Rawlins (Rock) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs.

Cowboy Poetry, Virginia City
An Evening with Harry Yeomans, The Elling House,

7 p.m. 843-5507

Movie Night, Ennis
Madison Theatre presents "Red 2", rated PG-13, 682-4023. Show at 7 p.m.

Astronomy Public Viewing, Twin Bridges
Cottontail Observatory, 280 Wet Georgia Road, 8:30 p.m. 843-7722

Live Music, Ennis Dave Walker
(Blues), Gravel Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8

Outpostevents.net
CONTINUED ON
PAGE C4



WILLIE'S DISTILLERY UPCOMING
EVENTS:

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\$5 PER PLATE

SHERIDAN SCHOOLS ADULT EDUCATION

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Cool Behavior classes for your beloved canine.

SEPT. 10, 11, 12 AND SEPT. 17, 18, 19
6:30 PM TO 7:30 PM
SHERIDAN PARK
(next to library, weather permitting)



- Choke chain and 6' leash required.
- Dogs need to be fully vaccinated and at least 4 months old.

For further information call the Instructor, Dorie at 842-5489 (leave message)



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Information may have changed since the printing of this publication. Please visit our website for current pricing and availability.

the Madison County MARKETPLACE, cont.

View classifieds online at www.madisoniannews.com/classifieds.

HOME FOR SALE: 1200 sq./ft. with 2-car attached garage and 30x40' shop. 3bed/2bath on 1.04 acres in Troutdale II 406-564-8552
32-tfc-b

Ennis House FSBO
Summer home or residential log home. 1400 sq./ft. 3-5 bed, 1 bath, full basement partially finished, metal roof, 2, lots, mature trees, own well, wood heat. \$150,000 406-595-4224
44-2-p

FREE

Cow dogs free to the right home. Eighteen month old Blue Healer/Catahoula litter mates need room to run and play. Both have been neutered and are healthy, energetic and current on all immunizations. Raised on a ranch in New Mexico, they have not adjusted well to life in town. The female is very smart while the male is very affectionate. Neither have been aggressive around children or other dogs. Will consider placing them together or individually. Call Claire Leonard at 575-519-8806.
39-tfc-p

Free Toilet. Free Duvet. You pick up!! 682-7361
45-tfc-f

HELP WANTED

Wanted: Concrete laborers, form setters, finishers. Wage DOE 682-7253
42-tfc-b

HELP WANTED: Housekeepers. Start immediately through October. Apply in person at Fan Mountain Inn.
44-2-b

Sheridan School District No. 5 has an opening for a paraprofessional for the 2013-2014 School Year. Information and employment applications can be obtained on the Sheridan Schools Website www.sheridan.k12.mt.us. If you are interested in applying for this position, you may also contact Linda E. Walter, District Clerk, Sheridan Schools, PO Box 586, Sheridan, MT 59749, or call (406) 842-5302.
43-3-b

The Madison Valley Manor dietary department is hiring all kitchen positions. The position is part time with some benefits including retirement and paid vacation. Cooking and baking experience is helpful. Please contact Candy at 682-7271, mvdietary@3rivers.net or stop by MVM to fill out an application. EOE
41-tfc-b

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Needed for West Yellowstone, MT Hospitality company. Rewarding, stable work environment. rroberson@yellowstonevacations.com
37-tfc-b

Help wanted: Madison square DIBS is looking for a caring and fun child care employee for 15 hours per week. Call 496-579-5442.
43-tfc-b

Jack Creek Preserve Foundation

Seeking an Executive Director <http://www.jackcreekpreserve.org/>

The Jack Creek Preserve Foundation, located in Ennis, MT, is seeking a talented, energetic, innovative and enthusiastic Executive Director to spearhead the programs, operations and fund raising efforts.

Duties and Responsibilities include: Leadership, Financial Management, Education, Outreach & PR, Fundraising & Marketing (50% expected focus), Operations & Program Administration

Required Skills and Experience
3-5 years' experience as the Executive Director or Assistant Director for a non-profit organization.

- 3-5 years of fund raising experience
- 3+ years of management or supervisory experience.

Proven ability to create budgets and financial statements.
Strong oral and written communication skills
Proven ability to develop and maintain effective working relationships with volunteers, sponsors, donors, Board of Directors, outside organizations and the general public (references required).

Compensation
Salary: Commensurate with experience.
Bonus: Based on job performance up to 15% of base salary.

Full-time preferred, part-time optional
If you meet the Required Skills and Experience please send your cover letter and resume to susan.metzger@oppsource.com.
45-1-p

HELP WANTED IMMEDIATELY - Laborer. Will supply housing. Good driving record needed. Wages DOE. Call (406) 798-7754 or fax application to (406) 798-3488
39-8-b

Yellowstone Custom Country Homes is seeking experienced carpenters. 842-5068
33-tfc-b

HELP WANTED: PT Cook/Prep and PT Dishwasher. Apply in person to fill out an application at Longbranch Saloon
44-2-b

HELP WANTED: The Virginia City Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking an Executive Director. Looking for a self-motivated, organized, affable person. Average 20 hrs. per week, salary \$10,000- \$12,000 per year. Please submit resume to PO Box 218, VC, 59755 or email info@virginiacity.com by September 15. Email for more information.
45-2-b

HELP WANTED VC CAFE cooks and wait staff. Wage D.O.E. 1-406-843-5311
40-tfc-b

Sheridan School District No. 5 has an opening for a Full-Time or Part-Time Custodian for the 2013-2014 School Year. Information and employment applications can be obtained on the Sheridan Schools Website www.sheridan.k12.mt.us. If you are interested in applying for this position, you may also contact Linda E. Walter, District Clerk, Sheridan Schools, PO Box 586, Sheridan, MT 59749, or call (406) 842-5302.
43-3-b

RN or LPN for primary care clinic in Sheridan MT. Full-time position with benefits. Preferred 1 year clinical experience, good clinical judgment, communication skills, computer skills, be able to work with a variety of patient populations. Wage DOE. Open until filled. Send resume to email address below.
Amy Olson, RN, COO
aolson@buttehc.com
Phone: 406-496-6003
44-tfc-b

Madison Valley Manor is hiring experienced Certified Nursing Assistants. Part-time or Full-time with benefits. Wage may vary based on experience. Stop by to pick up an application or contact Christine Canterbury at 682-7271. EOE
44-5-b

Sheridan School District No. 5 has an opening for an Assistant Cook for the 2013-2014 School Year. Information and employment applications can be obtained on the Sheridan Schools Website www.sheridan.k12.mt.us. If you are interested in applying for this position, you may also contact Linda E. Walter, District Clerk, Sheridan Schools, PO Box 586, Sheridan, MT 59749, or call (406) 842-5302.
43-3-b

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Deputy County Attorney
Department: County Attorney
Number of Positions: 1 Full-time Permanent
Date Open: 8/23/2013
Date Closed: 9/13/2013
Salary: \$49,500 + DOE, plus excellent benefits.
Phone No. 406-843-4233

APPLICATION: Forms can be obtained by contacting Patty Davis 406-843-4233, P. O. Box 73, Virginia City, MT 59755
All completed applications must be submitted to: Patty Davis BY 5:00 P.M. on the closing date. Include with your completed application, 3 recent legal writing samples.

You may submit your application by fax to 406-843-5240 but the signed original must be delivered to Patty Davis within 5 business days.

If you have questions about this opening, call: 406-843-4233. Madison County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
44-2-b

Open Consignment Horse Sale
September 13, 6 p.m.
Headwaters Livestock Auction
Three Forks, MT 59752
44-2-b

SERVICES

The Cattleman Gallery offers full service custom picture framing. Mats and glass cut to size. 40+ years experience. 413 W. Main / Hwy 287, Ennis. 682-5775
45-tfc-b

PAYING CASH for running or not cars, trucks, buses, tractors & more. Also accepting donated vehicles. FREE removal of all metal products. 406-548-1622.
37-tfc-b

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All phases of bookkeeping
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Payroll
Account Reconciliation
And Much More!
Call 842-5822 for an appointment.
401 S. Main Street, Sheridan.
46-tfc

DEEMO'S MEATS

Don't stress your livestock by taking them to slaughter. Let slaughter come to your ranch.
Call 682-7306 or 600-0320 and ask for Scott.
16-tfc-b

Expert Tree Care

406-683-5592
406-865-0000
60' Lift Truck
Flag Pole Maintenance

YARD SALE

Garage Sale
Every Thursday-Friday-Saturday
10-4
Gamma's
119 Chowning, Ennis
498-0676
(39-tfc-b)

MONTANA'S BIGGEST LITTLE GUN SHOW MADISON COUNTY FAIR-GROUNDS

TWIN BRIDGES, MONTANA
SEPTEMBER 6th, 7th and 8th
Friday: 1pm to 6pm
Saturday: 9am to 6pm
Sunday: 9am to 3pm
Admission: \$3.00 a day
For more info contact Dave White 406-842-5161
44-2-b

GARAGE SALE: MULTI-FAMILY GARGAE SALE

Saturday, Sept. 7
9am - 2pm
206 S. Madison, Twin Bridges
Old Town Canoe, boat trailer, antiques, dressers, teaching materials, tools, misc.
45-1-p

MOVING & YARD SALE

2 Families
Sheridan Trailer Ct.
Wisconsin Creek Rd.
Sept 7 & 8
9am - 3pm
842-7168
44-2-b

Garage Sale
Friday, Sept 6 5pm - 8pm
Saturday, Sept 7 9am - 12pm
100 N First St., Ennis
45-1-b

MISCELLANEOUS

Willie's Distillery would like to thank our friends and neighbors for bringing us this year's choke-cherry crop! We met our max capacity and are no longer taking them. Watch for our ad next year, and come try this year's Choke-cherry Liqueur - available now!

JOELLE'S

Antiques, collectibles, art & more!!!!
Come see our wide assortment of great items.
Uniquely located just west of town in the T & E Storage Center Office between D & D Auto Sales & the Bowling Alley.
202 Madison Ave
Ennis, MT
406-580-0109 or 406-596-0338
45-tfc-b

LOST & FOUND

FOUND: Mountain Bike on Bald Eagle Drive. Call to identify. 581-9944 (leave message)



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-MADISON RIVER FOUNDATION SEEKS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-
The Madison River Foundation, based in Ennis, Montana is seeking a full time Executive Director. The Foundation works to preserve, protect and enhance the Madison River Ecosystem to benefit its wildlife and the people who enjoy it through professional expertise and advocacy for worthy public policies that ensure the well being of this valuable resource. Applicants must be self-starters with proven ability, expertise and passion for conservation of the Madison Ecosystem. Experience in watershed and fisheries management is desirable. In addition to administrative management of the Foundation the successful applicant must lead fundraising efforts including grant writing. The applicant will possess skills in leadership, communication, strategic thinking and planning. The successful applicant will have demonstrated ability to coordinate projects with government agencies, Foundation members and the public. The Executive Director will report to a board of directors and must be able to work with the board to ensure activities are consistent with the Foundation's Mission. The position has competitive nonprofit salary with negotiable benefits. No phone calls please, principals only. Serious applicants will address the skills listed above in a cover letter and resume that lists references. Email the cover letter and resume in PDF format to mrf.execdir@gmail.com by October 1, 2013. For more information about the Madison River Foundation visit our website at <http://www.madisonriverfoundation.org/>

Live Music, Norris
Bozo Mojo
(Acoustic) 7 p.m.
Norris Hot Springs.

Gun Show, Twin Bridges
Montana's
Biggest Little Gun
Show, 9 a.m.
Madison County
Fairgrounds,
\$3 fee. Dave
842-5161

**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 10**

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
SARA RACINE!**

**County
Commissioners
Meeting,
Virginia City**
9:30 a.m.
Broadway Annex.
Public welcome.

**County Arts
Meeting, Ennis**
The Ennis Arts
Association will
meet at the
home of Carol
McMullin at 10:30
a.m. "Show &
Tell" followed by
pot luck lunch.
Carol 682-4456

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 11**

**Books and
Babies, Ennis**
10:30 a.m.

Madison Valley
Public Library

**Hunters' Safety
Course, Sheridan**
First class. Must
be 11 yrs. old by
Sept. 11, 2013.
7 p.m. Sheridan
Elementary
Lunchroom.
Registration will
be held tonight
but to pre-
register go to
the Montana
Fish Wildlife and
Parks website.
Jim 842-5984

**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 12**

**Reading Group
Meeting, Ennis**
Shirley Love will
lead discussion of
The Unexpected
Patriot by
Shannen
Rossmiller. 1 p.m.
Madison Valley
Public Library.
682-7244

**Auxiliary
Meeting, Ennis**
Madison Valley
Manor, 1 p.m.
Sunroom.

**FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 13**

Live Music, Norris
V, the Gypsy
Cowbelle
(Country) 7 p.m.
Norris Hot Springs.

Live Music,

Virginia City
The Omni Quartet
(Classical) 7
p.m. The Elling
House, 842-5454

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 14**

**Wine Tasting,
Sheridan**
7th Annual
Mingling for
Main Street, 6 -
9 p.m. Call for
tickets 842-5790

**Canning
Workshop
Jackson's
Garden, Sheridan**
9 am at the
Gardens,
\$10 for a book
or free if you
already have
a book
For more
information, call
Claire Leonard
at 575-519-8806;
no registration
necessary

**Live Music,
Virginia City**
The Cantrells
(Bluegrass) 7
p.m. The Elling
House, 842-5454

Live Music, Norris
Jeff Carroll
(Americana)
7 p.m. Norris
Hot Springs.

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 15**

Ice Cream

Social, Sheridan
Host: Sheridan
Public Library
in City Park,
4 p.m. \$4

**Live Music, Norris
Mathias**
(Acoustic) 7 p.m.
Norris Hot Springs.
**MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 16**

Job Summit, Butte
Montana
Tech Sept. 16
and 17. Visit
Montana Job
Summit website
for details.

**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 17**

**County
Commissioners
Meeting,
Virginia City**
9:30 a.m.
Broadway Annex.
Public welcome.

**FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 20**

Live Music, Norris
Marissa Kaye
(Country) 7 p.m.
Norris Hot Springs.
**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 21**

Live Music, Norris
Kent Johnson
(Singer/

Songwriter)
7 p.m. Norris
Hot Springs.

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 22**

Live Music, Norris
Queen Mab
(Celtic Folk)
7 p.m. Norris
Hot Springs.

**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 24**

**County
Commissioners
Meeting,
Virginia City**
9:30 a.m.
Broadway Annex.
Public welcome.

**FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 27**

Live Music, Norris
Coty Hogue
(Americana)
7 p.m. Norris
Hot Springs.

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 28**

**Outdoor Barrel
Oven Workshop,
Laurin**
Max and Eva
Edelson show
natural building
methods for a
wood-fired oven.
9 a.m. Sept. 28 &
29. Poor Orphan
Creamery: 13

Laurin Loop.
\$200 (both
days, includes
lunch) 842-7100

Live Music, Norris
Betty and the Boy
(Acoustic) 7 p.m.
Norris Hot Springs.



**MADISON COUNTY
GOLF ASSOCIATION**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ANNUAL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

6PM

AT THE MADISON MEADOWS
GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE
(reg meeting at 5 pm)



Summer Hours
at
THE OLD HOTEL

DINNER:
TUESDAY - SATURDAY
5PM-9PM
BRUNCH:
SATURDAY 8AM-1PM
SUNDAY 9AM-2PM

Weekly Dinner Menu
Available on Website

Reservations
are Recommended.

101 E. 5th Avenue • Twin Bridges, MT
www.theoldhotel.com
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406-682-4529

100 Prairie Way #2 - Ennis, Mt 59729

**GRAVEL
BAR**

**THE DAVE
WALKER
BAND**

BLUES ROCK

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 7
9:00 PM**

682.5553

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2013 HUNTING SPECIAL

The Madisionian.

Thursday, September 5, 2013

ACCESS: ASK EARLY, DON'T WAIT

Tom Palmer
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

Montana's millions of acres of private land offer some good hunting opportunities—the only catch is gaining the landowner's permission to hunt.

Montana law requires that hunters obtain landowner permission to hunt on all private land. Whether pursuing upland game birds, coyotes, gophers or any other wildlife, hunters must have permission from the landowner before hunting on private property.

Here are a few things

to keep in mind that will greatly improve results when attempting to secure hunting access to private land.

- Show courtesy to the landowner and make hunting arrangements by calling or visiting at times convenient to the landowner.
- Plan ahead and secure permission well in advance of the actual hunting date.
- Provide complete information about yourself and your hunting companions, including vehicle descriptions and license numbers.
- Explain what type of hunting you wish to do

and be sure to ask any questions that can help clarify the conditions of access.

- Follow the landowner's instructions, and bring with you only the companions for whom you obtained landowner permission.
 - Be sure to thank the landowner after your hunt.
- Don't wait until it is too late. Hunters who haven't already asked permission from private landowners to hunt need to do so as soon as possible. Landowners may grant permission in person, over the phone, in writing or by posting signs

that explain what type of hunting is allowed and under what conditions hunting may occur on land owned or controlled by the landowner.

More than 30,000 hunters and landowners have taken a look at an information program aimed at helping promote responsible hunter behavior and good hunter-landowner relations.

"The Hunter-Landowner Stewardship Project is designed to help hunters and landowners build relationships based upon mutual respect and understanding of each other's perspectives," said

Alan Charles, Coordinator of Landowner/Sportsman Relations for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

The voluntary and free course is available via FWP's website at fwp.mt.gov. Those who complete the course earn a lifetime certification from the Hunter-Landowner Stewardship Project and may request a free cap and bumper sticker bearing the program's logo.

Charles said the program emerged from recommendations from the Private Land/Public Wildlife Council and from recommendations made by the Montana

Hunter Behavior Advisory Council.

Some landowners are already using the program as a tool to promote responsible hunter behavior, either by posting signs provided by FWP to indicate the ranch supports the project or requesting hunters to produce a certificate of completion as a condition of access. Many hunters who have completed the course have indicated that information provided through the program has helped them be more aware of the many issues associated with private land and public access.

HUNTERS' MOST COMMON HUNTING VIOLATIONS

Tom Palmer
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

Every hunting season some individuals unwittingly or knowingly violate the state's game laws.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks officials urge hunters to review Montana's hunting rules and regulations to ensure they act within the law and that they recognize when others violate the hunting regulations and related laws.

Any violation afield can be reported to 1-800-TIP-

MONT, 1-800-847-6668 or online at fwp.mt.gov.

Here are some of the most common game violations:

- Failure to obtain permission from landowners before hunting on private property
- Wasting part of a game animal suitable for food
- Failure to properly validate a license/tag or to securely fasten the tag in a visible manner to a game animal immediately after it is taken and before it is moved or transported from

the kill site

- Taking game from the wrong hunting district
- Using someone else's tag on a game animal you killed, or tagging a game animal that someone else killed
- Shooting game animals on or from any public highway or public right-of-way
- Taking game without a license or the proper permit
- Failure to validate a big game tag
- Not leaving evidence of the sex or species of the

game animal attached.

FWP encourages hunters to protect the future of their sport by hunting responsibly and reporting hunting.

State law requires hunters to stop at all game check stations while traveling to and from hunting areas. Failure to stop at a checking station when personnel are on duty is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine.

Biological and law enforcement game check stations may be set up together in the same place

or in separate locations.

This fall, thousands of hunters will provide useful information during these annual game checks, contributing to the management of game animal populations and future hunting opportunities. Montana's deer, elk and antelope regulation book—the hunter's bible—is available online and at all FWP license providers.

All of the general regulations are located at the front of the book, including the list of closed

areas or those where limited big game hunting methods are allowed.

Other useful background information—how to obtain licenses, prerequisites, establishing residency, hunter education requirements, application and drawing deadlines, bonus point system details and more can be found at the back.

Montana's annual big game hunting regulations are available on the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov and from most FWP offices and license providers.



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HUNTERS MUST EXPECT TO SEE BEARS

Tom Palmer
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

With Montana's upland game bird season open Sept. 1—and the bow hunting season set to open Sept. 7—remember that slow moving, quiet and camouflaged hunters will soon be sharing the landscape with the state's even stealthier bears that may be stalking similar prey.

It may not be an encounter one hopes for, but it is one all hunters must expect.

Grizzly bears are found throughout western Montana, not just the Rocky Mountain Front, Bob Marshall Wilderness complex and the Yellowstone ecosystem.

Black bears also range widely across the state.

Upland game bird hunters and archers hunting in bear country should: Carry bear spray and know how to use it; hunt with a partner and let someone else know your plans; get harvested big game out of the woods quickly; upon returning to a site where harvested game is left unattended, study the site at a distance for any movement or changes and signal your approach by making plenty of noise; and never attempt to frighten or haze a bear from a carcass; contact FWP if a bear has consumed a carcass or covered it with debris rendering it unsalvageable.

The Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee recommends the use of bear spray by hunters and urges hunters to learn other bear-aware safety measures.

Hunters prowling through bear country need to: Carry bear spray and know how to use it; hunt with a partner, leave detailed plans with someone and check-in periodically; pay attention to fresh bear sign—look for bear tracks, scat and concentrations of natural foods; and use caution when hunting areas that have evidence of bear activity or areas with scavenging birds such as magpies, ravens or crows.

Most grizzly bears will

leave an area if they sense human presence. Hunters who observe a grizzly bear or suspect a bear is nearby should leave the area. If you do encounter a grizzly, stay calm, don't run, and assess the situation by trying to determine if the bear is actually aware of you. Is it, for instance, threatening or fleeing? Always keep the bear in sight as you back away, and leave the area.

Here are some guidelines for using bear spray:

When to use bear spray

- Bear spray should be used as a deterrent only in an aggressive or attacking confrontation with a bear.

How to use bear spray

- Each person should carry a can of bear spray.
- If a bear is moving toward you from a distance of 30-60 feet, direct the spray downward toward the front of the bear with a slight side to side motion so that the bear spray billows up and creates a wide cloud that acts as a barrier between you and the bear.

- If the bear is within 30 feet, spray continuously at the front of the bear until it breaks off its charge.

- Spray additional bursts if the bear continues toward you. Sometimes just the noise of the spray and the appearance of the spray cloud is enough to deter a bear from continuing its charge.
- Spray additional

bursts if the bear makes additional charges.

- A full canister of bear spray is essential for bear encounters.

- The expiration date on the spray should be checked annually.

Selecting a bear spray

- Purchase products that are clearly labeled "for deterring attacks by bears" and that are registered with the Environmental Protection Agency.

No deterrent is 100 percent effective, but compared to all others, including firearms, bear spray has demonstrated success in a variety of situations in fending off threatening and attacking bears and preventing injury to the person and animal involved.

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