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

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Laurin, Alder areas to experience morning power outage on Dec. 17

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NorthWestern Energy has scheduled a four-hour power outage for the entire Laurin and Alder areas beginning at 2 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

The four-hour estimate includes some wiggle time, according to NorthWestern energy. If the

work needed surpasses that time limit, the company will do its best to notify customers of a lengthened outage.

The outage will allow company line crews to make repairs safely at a local substation south of Sheridan. The crews will replace equipment needed to improve the reliability of service to Laurin and Alder-area customers and to avoid longer outages in the future, ac-

ording to a NorthWestern Energy statement released last week.

"Crews will be working on a transformer," Butch Larcombe of NorthWestern Energy said. "It was identified as a needed repair. We do the work when we know there is a problem so there are no unplanned outages in the future. We have a pretty good sense of the work involved and we'll do our best."

The impacted area will be

south of Ramshorn Creek Road to the Upper Ruby Road, including the towns of Laurin and Alder. Approximately 525 customers will be affected by the outage, which was scheduled to minimize the impact of the loss of electric service. Larcombe said they scheduled this outage for the early morning hours so it would affect the least amount of people possible. He added that there is no ideal time for an out-

age, but they have found that this time is the best so businesses and people's daily lives are not severely impacted.

"People may need to plan ahead if they have special needs," Larcombe said. "We try to give people enough time to make other arrangements."

Larcombe said it is possible that if the frigid temperatures continue NorthWestern Energy crews

may reschedule the outage. He added that the company appreciates customers' understanding and patience, especially when the work and outages occur during the cold winter months.

NorthWestern Energy apologizes for any inconvenience this planned outage may cause. For any questions or concerns, contact their customer contact center at (888) 467-2669.

ON THE LOOSE



Photo courtesy of Carol Delisi

BLM wild horse escapes Spanish Q Ranch, returned Tuesday

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After elk ran through a fence keeping the Spanish Q Ranch's wild horses contained near Ennis, one horse remained on the loose for two weeks. A

resident discovered the horse on Dec. 9 in a subdivision near Laurin.

Lili Thomas, the National Wild Horse and Burro Program Manager with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), said that with 34,000 wild horses across the country they have

not had a problem like this one, but that does not mean it cannot happen, especially with hunting activity in the area and the possibility of gates being left open. Greg and Karen Rice acquired the horses for their Spanish Q Ranch through The National Wild Horse and Burro Program.

While the BLM pays \$1.36 per horse, per day, the Rices are responsible for the construction of fences, providing feed during the winter and caring for the horses.

The other horses that escaped through the broken fence

Turn to HORSE on pg. 2

Power outage creates issues in Ruby Valley

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A nearly five-hour unanticipated power outage during the early morning hours of Dec. 6 left about 930 NorthWestern Energy customers in the dark and cold.

According to Butch Larcombe of NorthWestern Energy, a breaker in the Sheridan substation went out at 2:21 a.m. and power was restored at 7:10 a.m. He said crews continued work on the breaker throughout the day and shut off power for 30 minutes at 5 p.m. that evening to finish repairs.

"Sometimes these things happen," Larcombe said. "We work to restore the power, find the cause, fix it and try to prevent it from happening again."

Because of the evening repairs, the Ruby Valley Chamber sent out a notice to members about the short outage and what they could do to prevent computer issues and other problems at their homes and businesses.

At least one business—Silver Lining Boutique in Twin Bridges—closed early due to the day's events.

"We are closing early today due to weather and condition of the shop due to the power outage early this morning," the store's

Facebook page read.

In response to the outage, Christopher Mumme and Steve DiGiovanna with Madison County Emergency Management went out to help people who had medical needs—especially people with medical needs that require an electrically powered device. Mumme said they visited the nursing home and hospital to establish a location people in need could go to receive help.

"We left word for people to call in to 911 and dispatch knew where to send them," Mumme said.

The Sheridan and Twin Bridges public works departments were also assisting during the outage and after. According to Twin Bridges' town manager Cathy Cross one resident there reported broken water pipes that were a result of lack of heat in their residence.

Twin Bridges School cancelled classes for the day on Friday due to the power outage and cold temperatures. The school did send out buses on the morning routes in order to assure students and families knew there was no school and were not outside in the below zero temperatures waiting for the bus. Sheridan Schools did not have classes that day because of a regularly scheduled day off.

Fisheries manager discusses current issues with commissioners

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Travis Horton, Region 3 fisheries manager for the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) addressed all county commissioners from areas within Region 3 at an annual overview meeting on Dec. 9 in Whitehall.

Commissioners from Madison, Jefferson, Gallatin, Beaver-

head, Broadwater, Park, Lewis and Clark, Silver Bow and Deer Lodge counties were in attendance, along with multiple FWP officials.

Horton focused his presentation to the commissioners around the potential listing of arctic grayling on the Endangered Species List under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

"Montana is one of the only states where the fish still sur-

vives," Horton said. "The fish has historically occupied the Missouri River Basin, but the distribution of [graylings] is down to only 4 percent of its historic range."

The FWP's official position states that because of the probable impact on land and water management, species management and recreation, the FWP does not want arctic grayling listed under the ESA.

According to Horton, the grayling has been on the candidate list for potential listing as an endangered species for around 20 years, since the fish's population first started dropping during the 1980s due to extended periods of drought in Montana. By September 2014, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service will make a final decision to either list the fish or completely remove it from the candidate list.

Horton is hopeful that the Montana fisheries division of the FWP has made enough progress in conserving the species that it will stay off the endangered species list.

"We reintroduced the grayling into the Ruby River system in the late 1990s," Horton explained. "In just the last five years we have noticed they are not reproducing naturally... that is a success story."

Horton's fears about the endangered species list are straightforward.

"I do not think there is any mechanism for the federal government to come in and tell Montana how to manage water, but if the grayling is controlled under the ESA there will be lawsuits based on the ESA and water flows."

Turn to FISHERIES on pg. 2

Montana state park system to celebrate 75th year

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The inception of Montana's state park system happened in 1939 with the formation of Lewis and Clark State Park in Jefferson County—making 2014 the 75th anniversary of the state park system in the state.

Montana is home to 54 state parks, the most of any western state, according to Jerry Walker,

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) Region 3 Park Manager. After North Dakota, however, Montana's state parks have the smallest operating budget.

According to Walker, Montana state parks receive money from 18 separate funding sources, but the most important way the parks gain revenue happens when Montana residents register their vehicles.

"When registering a vehicle, residents can choose to give

\$6—most of which goes to the parks," Walker said.

For the first half of 2013, the choice to pay an additional \$6 for the parks maintained a 77 percent compliance rate, so more than three-fourths of Montana residents who registered a vehicle agreed to pay the completely optional fee.

"People in rural areas are more likely to opt out," Walker said, "while people from counties with urban areas are more

likely to pay."

That discrepancy is highlighted when examining numbers from Madison County and the more urban, neighboring Gallatin County. In Madison County, only 53 percent of people registering a vehicle choose to pay the additional \$6, whereas in Gallatin County, 91 percent of people opt to pay the fee.

Though no one knows the exact reason people in rural areas are more likely to turn down

paying the fee, Madison County Commissioner Dave Schulz believes in Madison County it may partially have to do with the lack of "significant parks" in the county, though Beaverhead Rock State Park is located in the southwest corner of the region.


"That is just my personal opinion, but many people from Madison County—because of retirement status or work schedules—do not get out and partake in the state parks," Schulz said.

The other substantial portion of park revenue comes directly from camping and entry fees.

"We keep state park camping permits more expensive than private campsites," Walker said. "We are sensitive to the private camp's need to have competitive pricing, so that is something we consider."

Though the parks depart-

Turn to 75TH on pg. 2

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FISHERIES from pg. 1

Pat Flowers, Region 3 supervisor with the FWP expanded on Horton's concerns. According to Flowers, Montana landowners have developed good working relationships with FWP officials—creating their own conservation efforts.

"I fear that if [the grayling]

gets listed, it will put strain on the current positive relationship between landowners and agencies like the FWP," he said.

Before Horton concluded the fisheries portion of the presentation, he briefly brought up the issue of exempt wells, stating that the most controversial thing fisheries deal with are water

rights issues.

"I am concerned with exempt wells," Horton said.

Horton's concern stems mostly from the reality that subdivisions are putting in exempt wells to feed landscaping projects like ponds and waterfalls. According to Horton, once ground water is brought to the

surface, it evaporates at a rate of three to five feet per year.

"By punching in all these wells in subdivisions, we are losing water," he said. "Clearly, we will never keep water from going into someone's house and serving a true need, but we need to consider if we want to risk our water for a pond."

75TH from pg. 1

ment is still in the process of compiling data for 2013, Walker said Montana reached well past

two million visitors throughout the year—current estimates place that number closer to 2.2 million. That traffic includes both out-of-state and Montana

visitors for a 5 percent jump in numbers from 2012.

Those numbers bring in approximately \$289 million per year to the state of Montana and

create 16,000 jobs in the areas surrounding the parks, according to Walker.

HORSE from pg. 1

were all recovered soon after the incident. According to Pat Fosse, assistant field manager in the Dillon BLM office, when the Rices realized one was still missing, they continued to look for it for approximately two weeks. Their first attempt at recovering the horse failed when attempts were made to load the horse into a horse trailer. The horse panicked and fled.

On Dec. 9, Carol Delisi, a resident of the Sundowner Subdivision up Mill Gulch, said she saw the horse in her neighborhood after a neighbor called and asked her if one of her horses had escaped. Delisi realized it was not her horse—though she wasn't sure who it belonged to—and she secured the horse so it was not on the subdivision road where it could continue

wandering further.

"It would not let me get close, but it was interested in my horses so I was able to get it in one of the fenced areas," Delisi said.

In an attempt to get the horse back to its owner, Delisi called other neighbors and heard that the horse was possibly one of the government-owned wild horses from the Spanish Q Ranch. She called the ranch and verified it was one of their horses. Delisi said the horse's brand is visible along its mane.

Delisi said she was initially concerned about the wild horse's proximity to her horses because of the possibility of diseases spreading. She said she was unsure if the wild horses underwent the same vaccinations as domestic horses.

Thomas said domestic horse owners in the area have no need for concern. All the wild horses

receive vaccinations prior to being placed. She said the wild horses probably receive more shots than most domestic horses.

"They really should not be getting out," Thomas said. She said once the horse escaped, it eventually found people who fed it and took it in like a stray cat or dog. "From what I gathered, it became acclimated and liked the people."

Fosse said a trailer is the best method to return the horse to the Spanish Q Ranch due to recent weather and the large distance it roamed. She said the horse seemed gentle so they tried the trailer but were unsuccessful. Also, Fosse said the horse should not have an aversion to being trailered since that is how the horses were shipped to the ranch, but did say the horse is still a wild animal and has natural wild tendencies.

The horses that now inhabit the Spanish Q Ranch originated from short-term holding areas and various herd management areas in western states like California and Utah. From Feb. 27—March 1, BLM shipped 710 geldings to the Spanish Q Ranch and additional geldings were to have been shipped to the ranch until its capacity was reached.

According to Delisi, Colin Rice of Spanish Q Ranch returned to retrieve the horse from Delisi's property on the afternoon of Tuesday, Dec. 10 and the horse was immediately on its way back to the Spanish Q Ranch.

Calls made on Tuesday to Karen and Greg Rice of Spanish Q Ranch were not returned by press time.

Ennis graduate honored by ACLU

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Bozeman attorney and Ennis High School alumnus Jim Goetz was recognized Saturday by the Montana American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), an affiliate he helped establish, with the Jeannette Rankin Civil Liberties Award.

Goetz, who moved to Ennis when he was 4 years old, was recognized by the ACLU for promoting concepts of justice and equality as an advocate and achieving justice on a broad array of issues. The ACLU said Goetz was selected for the state award because he is one of the state's preeminent constitutional litigators. He served on the ACLU's board of directors as a legal adviser and has volunteered his practice's resources on the ACLU of Montana's domestic partnership case.

"Jim has contributed countless hours of pro bono work himself and through his law firm on the ACLU of Montana's case Donaldson and Guggenheim v. State of Montana," ACLU's Amy Cannata said. The case was filed in 2010 and continues today in an effort to secure same-sex couples legal protections in Montana through domestic partnerships or a similar system. "It is visionaries like Jim—with a strong commitment to civil liberties, fairness and equality—who make the ACLU's work possible."

Law school happened by default, Goetz said. He was a member of his college debate team while earning a history degree.

Goetz said he enjoyed the undergrad law-related courses he took and decided to pursue those studies further.

Goetz said Ennis was a great place to grow up and he enjoys Bozeman's proximity to the community and the Madison River. He attended Montana State Uni-

Goetz's father was the school superintendent his junior year.

Goetz has been able to work in a variety of areas—general litigation, appellate law, civil rights and environmental—with a state and regional law practice. Goetz said he currently does a lot of work in commercial

He is the chair of the Montana Supreme Court's Advisory Commission on Rules of Civil and Appellate procedure.

The Jeannette Rankin Civil Liberties Award was first given out in 1991. It is named after the first woman to serve in the U.S. Congress and the ACLU's first



Photo by Amy Cannata

Rankin Award winner Bozeman Attorney Jim Goetz, ACLU of Montana Executive Director Scott Crichton and Rankin Award winner retired Montana Supreme Court Justice Jim Nelson.

versity for his undergraduate degree and went on to law school at Yale University.

A 1961 Ennis High School graduate, Goetz was valedictorian and class president. He was also captain of the football team.

litigation and also does pro bono work from time to time. He was admitted to the bar in 1969 and has argued nearly 100 cases in the Montana Supreme Court, including various influential cases under the Montana Constitution.

vice president, who also happened to hail from Montana.

"It's a nice honor," Goetz said. "The ACLU stands up for the rights of civil liberties for everyone. It is an important organization."

Emergency management and sheriff's office consider new dispatch software

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Steve DiGiovanna, Madison County Deputy Director of Emergency Management and Sheriff Dave Schenk spoke to the Board of Madison County Commissioners at the Dec. 10 meeting about their plans to update the county's law enforcement software.

The county dispatch office currently uses a computer aided dispatch (CAD) program called Swift Justice (Swift) to keep records and assist with dispatching. According to Schenk, when the county purchased Swift's services in 2005, it was a useful program. Now, however, Swift is dated and causes problems in the dispatch office.

"Now it is just an old dinosaur," Schenk explained. "It is just an old, old system so when we do have problems, there is not anyone to service it... it is antiquated."

Schenk and DiGiovanna were in the process of researching modern CAD programs when they were approached by a Salt

Lake City tech company that produces and manages integrated public safety software. The company, whose name has name has not yet been released to the public, expressed interest in expanding into the Montana market and, according to DiGiovanna, they believe Madison County is the perfect place to develop useful law enforcement technology that would benefit all of the state.

"Right now this is a brand new system," DiGiovanna said. "They work on a cloud-based system, so all the records are kept through the Internet, and that is what they want to sell Montana on."

According to DiGiovanna and Schenk, the interested company believes Madison County is a model for the whole state and wants to work with the county to develop a new record-management CAD system that integrates jail records.

"We would be the guinea pig," DiGiovanna said. "They are developing a CAD and jail records management system just for us."

The county is currently paying somewhere between \$5,000

and \$7,000 annually for the outdated Swift CAD system. According to DiGiovanna, a modern CAD system can cost anywhere from \$80,000 to \$180,000—the company is offering the county a rate of approximately \$16,000 per year for their services.

"Not only will we get a huge discount on the price of their system for being a pilot program, but we will have input—we can tell them what works for us and what does not," DiGiovanna said.

Schenk has already budgeted for this change and approached the commissioners so they could be apprised of the sheriff's office's plans. Schenk and DiGiovanna are currently waiting for a formal contract from the company that they will pass to the county attorney for review before agreeing to anything.

Schenk brought one additional concern to the commissioners for advice. In changing from Swift to a cloud-based system, the county will run into a data conversion issue.

"What data we already have in Swift—data since 2005—must be converted over to the new sys-

tem," Schenk said. "This entails manual data transfer, which will probably take at least six months from when we sign the contract if it checks out."

Updating the CAD system is a time sensitive issue for a few reasons, according to DiGiovanna.

"The longer we keep using Swift, the more stuff we are going to have to transfer down the road when we eventually change," he said. "There is no way to get that information except for manually extracting from one system to another."

DiGiovanna said the offer from the company will not be available to the county for an extended time period. They are offering the discount as part of a pilot program, but will move on and approach other counties if Madison does not show interest.

"I am quite enthused with the direction we are going," Schenk said.

The commissioners did not formally make a motion on the plans, but concurred with the direction DiGiovanna and Schenk are heading with a potential agreement.

MORE NEWS

Planning board annual report shows signs of growth

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The Madison County Planning Board's Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Annual Report shows a continued steady number of subdivision proposals, conservation easements and other items for review or comment from the board with the largest portion of them coming from the Big Sky area and the Madison Valley.

"Big Sky slowed with the rest of the areas, but there is still more activity there than other areas. It has consistently been that way," Madison County Planning Director Charity Fechter said. "There has been minimal growth compared to the past because of the economy."

Fechter said her office sees this economic affect not only in the number of new applications coming in, but also in the number of previously approved developers coming in for extensions as the real estate and construction markets start to bounce back.

The report's activities, which were done from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013, include 12 pre-application subdivision proposal reviews. Of those, two were for major subdivisions, six were minor subdivisions and only four have submitted preliminary plat applications. The approved preliminary plats include five single-family lots and 36 duplex/triplex/condo lots in the Big Sky area. There were five commercial lots approved in the Ruby Valley. Those lots will house rental cabins.

Frank Colwell, managing broker at the Prudential Montana office in Twin Bridges, said he believes development activity in the Ruby Valley is less than the Madison Valley or Big Sky areas because developers and subdividers are still licking their wounds from pre-2008 and 2009 developments that have dimin-

ished in value and transactions.

"New subdivision of land in the Ruby Valley is basically nil with limited activity. My recent review of subdivided parcels over five acres in size concludes only three such sales since January 2011," Colwell said. "There are currently nine active listings and 23 expired listings of five acre tracts in the same area."

Fechter said she believes the demand is just different in the Ruby Valley. She said that often it is smaller pieces of land being developed and more minor subdivisions—1-5 lots—if any in the Ruby Valley. Adding to that, was the Town of Sheridan's inability to allow additional hookups to its sewer and water systems. Now that the town has built new and fixed that issue, Fechter said everyone will have to wait and see if things change.

Two final plats were approved by the Board of Madison County Commissioners. One was in the Big Sky area and one in the Madison Valley. The commissioners also granted an extension for one preliminary plat and one preliminary plat approval was converted to overall development review approval. This means the development will be done over a 10-year period. Fechter said this is often done in the Big Sky area for larger developers such as Moonlight Basin. It is in the same area that the majority of the building envelope changes took place. Fechter said developers and land owners who are building sometimes re-evaluate their building plans and change them to better accommodate for a view, proximity to a neighbor or services or a number of other needs.

Pre-application review and approval outnumber preliminary and final due to the long three-year time period developers have before they need to come in for final review. They have one year after their pre-application to apply for preliminary

plat.

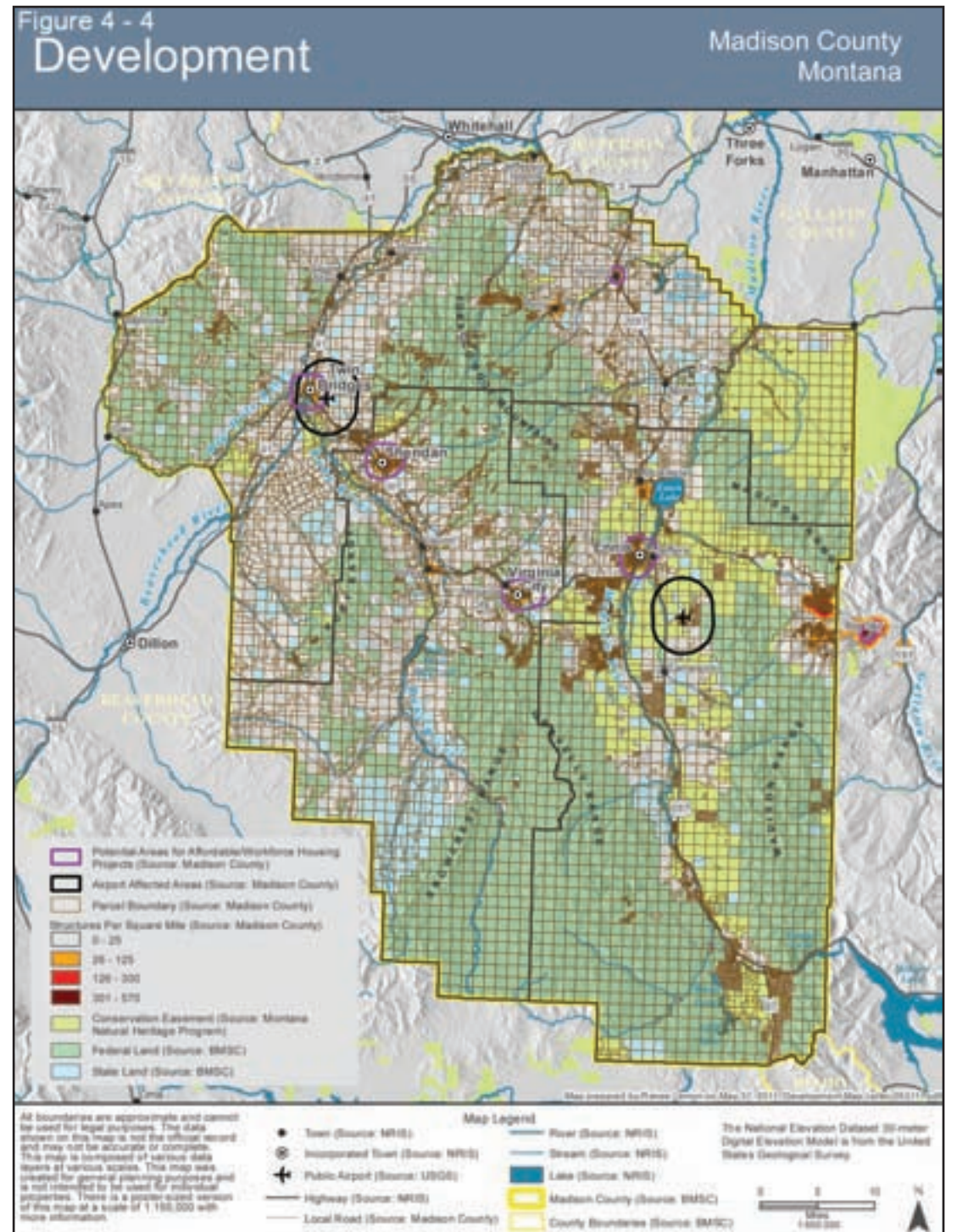
"People are thinking about subdivisions," Fechter said of what the larger number of pre-apps means. "It's a good sign of growth."

When it comes to planning and subdivision review services, the Madison County Planning Board assisted with two reviews of subdivisions in Ennis. The county board assists in the preliminary plat and the Town of Ennis does the final plat.

The planning board also deals with land owners who wish to conserve and not develop in the near future or ever. It commented on four conservation easements. Approximately 4,182 acres were conserved, half of which was acreage in the Ruby Valley. A large number of acres have previously been conserved in the Madison Valley, while opportunity for conservation exists more in the lesser conserved Ruby Valley. Many of the easements conserve the land as open space or for agriculture and wildlife use such as elk habitat or a wildlife corridor. Fechter and planning technician Leona Stredwick said the most recent conservation easements have been smaller and used to connect other easements to each other.

Fechter and Stredwick noted that even the number of conservation easements has dropped. They contribute that decrease to cyclical nature of conservation easements and also the economy. With lower salaries and incomes, people can be less likely to make charitable contributions of an easement or have less funding resources.

It is not just the economy that is affecting development, Fechter and Colwell said. Fechter said she has seen changes in what people want in terms of amount of land, location and size of home. She said that some people are looking for more of a community feel and less main-



tenance, whereas before many people wanted an out of the way home with great views and few neighbors.

"With an aging population, we are seeing changes in what they want and can physically do or afford," Fechter said.

Colwell said that he believes buyers are aware that similar tracts with constructed improvements may be purchased with less investment than buying bare land and constructing.

"As the supply of rural tracts with improvements di-

minishes, we expect more building on bare land tracts," Colwell said. "I don't believe that these conditions are necessarily considered as negative—slow, stable growth is healthier than the previously experienced escalated levels."

New Madison County sanitarian set to begin Dec. 16

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Joyce Crouse will start as Madison County's new sanitarian on Dec. 16. She is the third person to hold this title in little more than a year.

Longtime sanitarian Ralph Hamler retired last fall and was replaced for short while with a full-time sanitarian. The position was left vacant again during the summer, so the Board of Madison County Commissioners began another search for a person qualified to take over the position's extensive responsibilities.

In Madison County, the sanitarian is responsible for septic system permits, health inspections at restaurants, the solid waste management program and the junk vehicle program. According to the commissioners, other counties have as many as four people doing what one person does in Madison County.

During the interim, the sanitarian office had two part-time employees who did the inspections and another one who was contracted to assist.

Crouse, who moved to the area from Massachusetts, was selected from a pool of eight applicants—four of which were se-

lected for interviews. The commissioners said they liked her previous experience in a similar sized rural area.

"We need someone who can wear more hats here in Madison County," commissioner Jim Hart said of the sanitarian position.

Crouse's move preceded her application and interview. She said she had a desire for many years to move west and live in Montana, although when she packed up her belongings she did not have a particular location in mind. After rough travels west, Crouse happened upon Madison County and fell in love with the area after seeing the Madison

Valley from atop Norris Hill. As luck would have it, she saw the sanitarian position advertised a short while later and applied for the job.

The county recently took over management of its recycling program from a contractor. Crouse will also be responsible for overseeing this program, with which she said she was quite impressed. The commissioners will retain some outside help to aid in the septic inspections, according to Hart. He said Crouse's work would be concentrated on food and accommodation inspections since they need to be completed on an annual basis. These inspec-

tions include checking refrigerator and freezer temperatures, pest control, food handling, sanitation practices, water temperatures, lighting and smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, among other things.

Besides working six years in the sanitarian field, Crouse also has experience in public health and she expects to be more in tune with how that ties in to the sanitarian's office. She was a researcher for 10 years, working with infectious diseases and vaccines.

Crouse is in the midst of completing her National Environmental Health certification.

This must be done within two months of being hired.

"We are ecstatic to find someone with her experience, education and background," Hart said. "She is very community minded."

Crouse said she has been trying to catch up on what is going on in Madison County by attending meetings, meeting people and reading about the area from local news sources.

"I hope my presence can enhance anything in the community in the long run and not change it," she said. "I want to embrace the whole experience of living in Montana."

Sheridan Town Council passes resolution for sewer rates

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The Sheridan Town Council passed resolution 2013-5 at its Dec. 9 meeting. The resolution states the town's intent to modify sewer rates and calls for a public hearing.

"It is exactly what it says it is," Sheridan Mayor Dean Der-

ryberry said. "It is an intent to modify the sewer rate structure. We have to have the resolution by law."

Proposed rate changes will be mailed out to users and the town will advertise a public hearing for those users to speak to the council, whether they are in favor of the changes or not. Once the council members have heard from the public, they will

approve the changes as is, make changes to the proposed rate changes or not approve them at all.

Derryberry said that for the majority of users, the proposed rate changes will be a wash. The rates will be based on the amount of water they use in order to make it fair for all users, big and small.

"That's the whole gist behind it," Derryberry said. "The

average water user will not see a big difference."

The base rate would be lower and users could be charged \$2 per every additional 1,000 gallons they use.

The council will make a decision on the matter at its January or February meeting at the earliest.

In other council business, Diana Smith presented informa-

tion regarding alternative energy options for communities and individuals who want to go green or investigate other energy sources. Smith lives in the Sheridan area and is an independent consultant and grant writer. Sheridan has explored such options before when looking for ways to heat the town's swimming pool.

Derryberry said Smith's presentation was informational only

and no decisions were made. The council also approved claims and heard reports from town boards and committees.

"It is business as usual this time of year. We do not have any projects going on," Derryberry said.

The Sheridan Town Council meets the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Sheridan Town Hall.

Harrison to update school security system

Abigail Dennis
THE MADISONIAN
a.dennis@madisoniannews.com

At the Harrison School Board meeting on Dec. 9, superintendent Fred Hofman updated the board on recent security updates to the school.

"We have rekeyed all the doors to the school and now we are in the process of installing a pass code system, an electronic access kind of deal," Hofman said. "That should

hopefully be in place next week."

According to Hofman, the updated system will facilitate handing out keys to community members who want access to the school. Any adult who wishes to use school facilities after hours will be able to sign a user agreement and pay a deposit of \$5—the cost for replacing a lost key.

"Until this last week, essentially half the town had keys to the school and we never knew who was in here when," Hofman said.

The new pass code system will give school administrators monitoring power—each key has identifying information that tells when the person using it enters the building. Harrison, Norris and Pony community members use the school for a variety of after-hours uses. Some parents bring their children to the gym to shoot hoops or exercise, according to Hofman, but others just want keys so they can use the Internet, or access the school to retrieve a forgotten book.

"This is a small town and as the school, we are the main venue," Hofman explained. "These new locks are not saying people cannot use the school, but now they will have to sign a contract so they are accountable for what they are doing while they are at the school."

Board member Ann Hokanson said the situation with handing out keys to the school has been an issue for "years and years."

"We give out keys to people who need the school and they never

give them back," she said. "We decided this was a better way to share access to the school and know who is coming and going. Then, if the key is abused, within the new system we can just shut off that key so the person does not have access."

Keys will be reserved for people over 18, and Hofman said children must have adult supervision when they are in the building while school is not in session.

All the school doors have already been fitted with new locks,

but Hofman said the next step before the administration starts signing out keys is to get video surveillance cameras installed at each entrance.

"We very well might wait until we have video cameras in place for some accountability until we start handing out keys," he said.

Having video cameras at the school entrance will give Hofman and other administrators another method of ensuring accountability from community members using the school after hours.

Town of Ennis must fill vacant commission seat by New Year

Abigail Dennis
THE MADISONIAN
a.dennis@madisoniannews.com

The Ennis Town Commission is currently accepting applications to fill a soon-to-be-vacated seat. Mayor-elect Becky Vujovich will of-

ficially assume office on Jan. 1, 2014, which will create a commission seat vacancy.

Letters of interest should be sent to the Town of Ennis, and are being accepted through Dec. 30. According to Ennis Town Code, "the commission shall, by majority vote

of the remaining members, appoint a person eligible to hold such commission seat to fill the vacancy until the next regular town election at which time the remainder of the term shall be filled as provided by law."

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and residents within the in-

corporated limits of Ennis. The person selected by the current commissioners will serve until Dec. 31, 2015, after the November 2015 elections.

"We are looking for someone who is willing to be active and involved," current mayor Pat Clancey said. "Someone who is a deliberate

thinker. [Vujovich] was active in pursuing grants—like for the sidewalk project—for town beautification, so anyone could choose to continue that kind of work or decide what specific area they will focus on."

According to Clancey, there is not a specific set of guidelines the

commissioners must follow in selecting the interim member. In the past, people have been selected directly from their letters of interest; but more recently, the commission has chosen to hold interviews with those who offer their names for consideration.

Community member saddened by doctor's departure

Dear Editor,

We are so saddened that we are losing Dr. Kelli Christensen. We can't believe the CEO and Board of Community Health Center in Butte are letting this fine doctor leave this area. Dr. Christensen's husband was born in Sheridan and they decided that this was a great opportunity to come back home to raise their family. We were fortunate to

have such a great person and fine doctor come to this area. We have heard so many people say that Dr. Christensen has helped them with their health. I know that when we would go see her she was so caring and really wanted to help you. We need someone like Dr. Christensen in our valley, someone that cares for her patients.

CHC's credibility in our community has hit rock bot-

tom and is severely damaged. The new CEO of CHC has done nothing to help Kellie with her practice. This problem had been building over the past four months and it seems that the CHC has done nothing to support the clinic except to badger Kellie, criticize her and work her into the ground. Our doctor has been poorly treated by the management. Having unrealistic expectations and harassing

a new physician is deplorable. Kellie has done the best job that one person could do in the short of time she has been here. How could Dr. Christensen work under this management? I know she wanted to make Sheridan her home with her family but the way she was being treated kept her from staying. That is a cold hard fact, believe it, it was not the area, patients or her staff - it was management that drove her

away. They should have done everything they could have to keep Dr. Christensen instead they chased her away. I can't believe that the Board of CHC keeps this new CEO, Cindy was doing such a great job. It is a shame to see what is happen to CHC. I don't think the Board has any idea what has been going on, if they did then a new Board needs to be in place. If they think people are going to the Sheridan Clinic now

after Kellie leaves, they will be surprised the people that won't go back. If there is any way we could keep Kellie and her family in our community let's go for it. They were a true asset to this community.

Thanks,
Peggy Buyan
Sheridan

Community Health Center continues work in Sheridan

Dear Editor,

As the community is aware, Dr. Kelli Christensen of the Sheridan Community Health Center (CHC) recently resigned her position with her last day of work on Dec. 31, 2013. We respect her decision and thank her for her work with patients and

the residents of Ruby Valley in the past year.

Our directors have been involved in southwest Montana with our federally qualified health care center for over 28 years. One constant remains, that healthcare has and will continue to change. Rules, regulations and providers change. But

one thing has not and will not change: The CHC's commitment to its patients, the Ruby Valley and its mission-driven work.

The CHC will continue to care for its patients while it searches for a permanent provider for the clinic. In the interim, the clinic will be staffed with a physician's assistant Mondays,

Tuesdays and Fridays. Nurse practitioner Dayna Leavens will treat pediatric patients on Thursdays and the clinic will be staffed Monday through Friday to answer phones, make appointments and assist patients. Mac's Pharmacy, located in the same building as the clinic at 317 Madison St., will remain unchanged, open

from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

We are proud of the work the CHC provides for the 16,000 plus patients cared for in southwestern Montana at the Butte, Dillon and Sheridan sites. As a volunteer board, we oversee these clinics, and are passionate about healthcare and our com-

munities. We are confident that the CHC will continue to provide excellent care in Sheridan while we work hard to find a permanent provider.

Wayne Harper, board chair
Community Health Centers
of Butte, Dillon and Sheridan

Tester's Forest Jobs and Recreation Act is good for Montana

Dear Editor,

I am a Montana native who has always appreciated the backcountry hunting opportunity we have in southwest Montana. My children share my passion for the backcountry and will soon be passing that feeling on to their

children. That is why I support Senator Tester's Forest Jobs and Recreation Act.

The Forest Jobs and Recreation Act not only protects the backcountry that my family enjoys but also offers hope for resolving forest health and watershed issues.

For the past four years, Senator Tester has worked to improve management of Montana's national forests by bringing together people from different perspectives to work on solutions. After years of hard work, it is time for congress to move the Forest Jobs and Recreation Act forward.

Developing solutions is never easy, and certainly not when you are talking about public lands in Montana. But Senator Tester has brought together timber, sportsmen, and conservationists to develop a plan that everyone supports. These are people who used to be suing one another to

try to get their way. Now they are working together to find common ground and develop "win-win" solutions.

This approach is hard, and takes years and years to achieve consensus. And at the end of the day, no one gets everything they want, but everyone benefits. Mon-

tanans value hard work, cooperation, and doing things the right way. That's what Senator Tester has done with the Forest Jobs and Recreation Act. It should pass congress immediately.

Sincerely,
Mark Petroni
West Yellowstone

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Ennis Police Department only doing its job

Dear Editor,

Let us give Town Officer Scott Newell praise for his effort. A recent note in *The Madisonian* was an apology from him to what appeared to be annoyed citizens for his office giving out warning notices for improperly parked cars at the EHS football championship game. My sister living in "the city"

told me that those drivers could have had their cars booted or towed.

Our P.D. need not apologize for doing their job. They are only trying to service the whole town (not just a few spectators).

Thank you Town of Ennis for your service to us.

Lyndall Morgan
Ennis

Thank you so much, Purple Ladies

Dear Editor,

Who would have guessed that the place we go for health care, the Madison Valley Medical Center, also has a treasure of unusual gifts for Christmas? I was recently there on other errands and the bright cart of gifts in the lobby caught my eye. The devoted volunteers of the Auxiliary (the "Purple Ladies") maintain this cart full

of jewelry, cards, Christmas stocking craft kits, and many other assorted gifts for the benefit of the MVMC and patients. Check it out next time you're in the market for a gift! Thanks to you, "Purple Ladies".

Janet Dochnahl
Ennis

Support Madison Valley Medical Center

Dear Editor,

'Tis the season to give thanks.

Once again I find myself writing to the community to thank the Madison Valley Medical Center for being here at those moments in life that we hope

won't happen, but when you find yourself needing an X-ray, or a Cats scan, or blood work ordered by your "specialist" doctor over in Bozeman, what a gift it is to be able to simply drive 15 minutes or so for these necessary procedures. I was so happy when I found out that these services

were available; many of you may not be aware that state of the arts imaging and technologies are indeed just down the hall from the first floor entry. And then there is the added comfort of seeing a familiar face when you are going into this big machine. Thank you Bev and Sarah. Also, as a

reminder, this is the season of gratitude and giving. Remember to support our Madison Valley Medical Center so it may always be there for us. Thank you.

Shirley Bayley
Ennis, MT 59729

Thank you Madison Valley Hospital

On Dec. 5, 2013, I had a medical emergency. I arrived at Madison Valley Medical Center (hospital) and the doctors and staff immediately identified the emergency and started medical attention. They also were able

to immediately make arrangements and had a Summit Air helicopter to transport me to Bozeman in quick fashion. They were in continual contact with the medical staff at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital and due to

these actions the medical team was waiting when I arrived in Bozeman and the procedure was completed in 15 minutes. These actions saved my life and hats off to all involved in Ennis and Bozeman.

Thank you so much.

Mark Hamrock
Sheridan

OBITUARY

Mary Lou Appleby December 25, 1934 - December 6, 2013



Mary Lou was one-of-a-kind-special. So special in fact that she was born on Christmas Day and passed on what many in other parts of the world consider the real Christmas, St. Nicholas' Day.

A loving wife, a devoted mother, a caring community volunteer, a dedicated member

of the church, a true outdoors person, an extremely creative and artistic woman and all with a dry, quick wit that could match the best of them. Mary Lou always thought of others' wellbeing first. That's the kind of person she was.

Her life did not want for adventure. She was born in Williston, N.D. near the Missouri River. Raised in Glendive, Mont., her father Arthur Hagenston owned the local hardware store and was a state senator. Her mother Olive was a schoolteacher and master fly-fisher. Mary Lou had two older brothers, Arthur Jr. and Bob, and a younger sister, Juliana, whom she'd have a very special relationship with for her entire lifetime.

After graduating from Glendive High School in 1953, she married David Rooney, a famous jazz pianist and bandleader, moved to Minneapolis,

Minn. and had five children: William, Kathleen, Lori Ann, Charles and Timothy.

She returned to her roots in Montana and married her husband of 34 years, Michael, a fellow Montanan and her soul mate for life. They built a cabin in Ennis and lived the life they had always dreamed of.

Mary Lou was very proud of her grandchildren: Jessica, James, Natalie, Richard, Clin-

ton, Maggi, Amy and Kayla. And was overjoyed with her great grandchildren: Braxton, Clinton Jr., Jackson and Miles.

She will be deeply missed by all who knew her and remembered for the great woman she was.

A service honoring Mary Lou will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Ennis, Mont. on Thursday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m.

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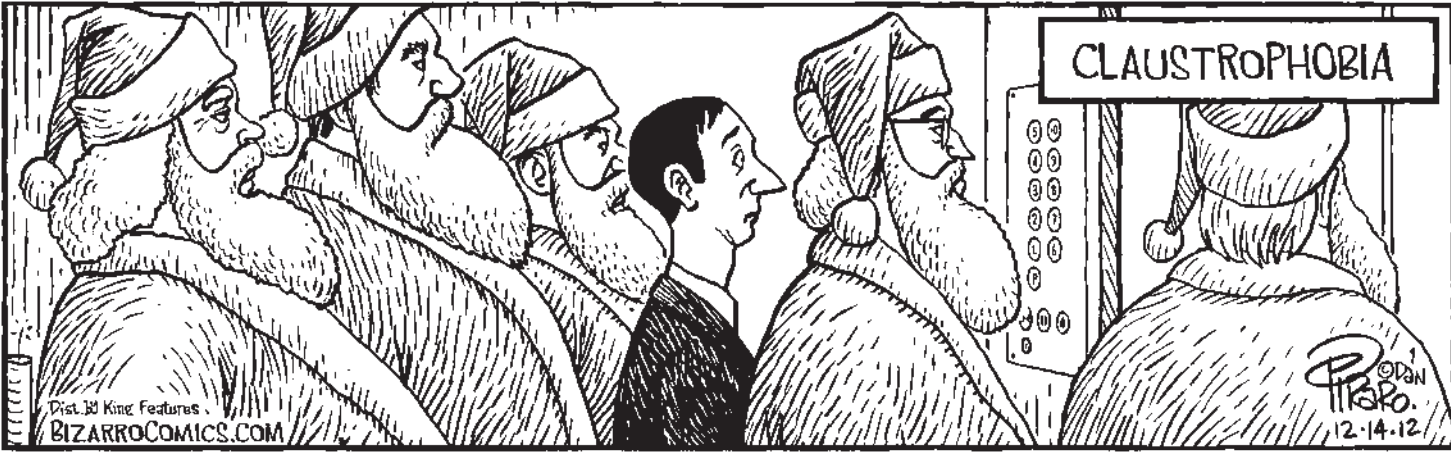
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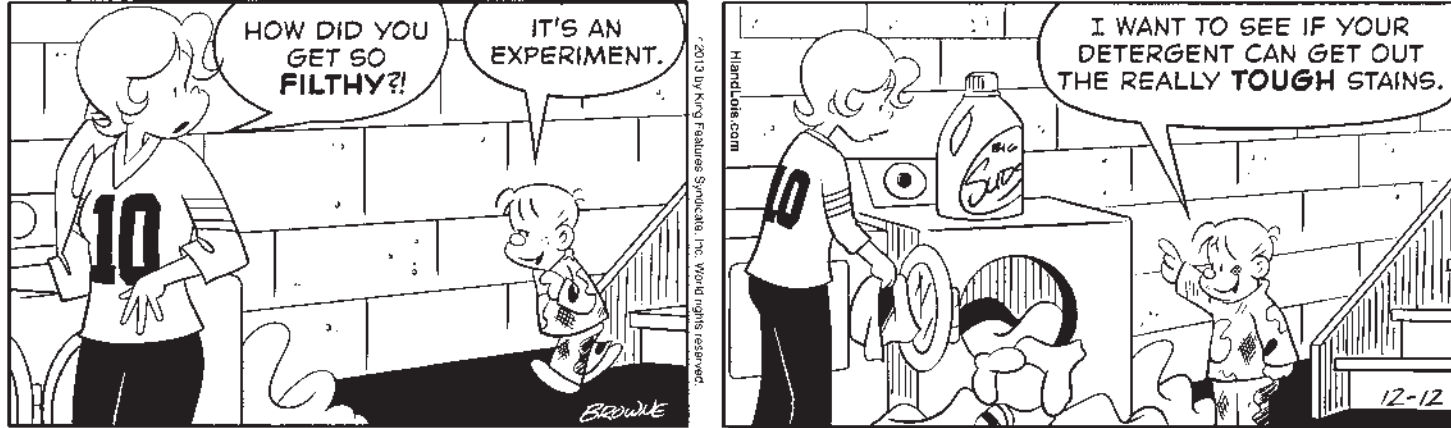
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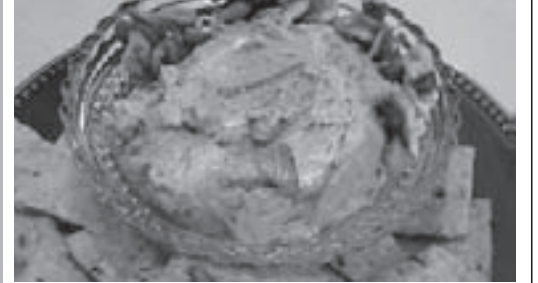


Sharing Hometown Recipes, Cooking Tips and Coupons

By Janet Tharpe

Guaranteed Party Favorite, Moscato Cheese Spread

"This is a nice munchie before dinner!"



Start the holiday season off right by making Michelle Koletar/Mertz's Moscato Cheese Spread for your next gathering. The gorgonzola cheese really gets your attention, and the tasty wine keeps you coming back for more! Serve this along side crackers and you have a guaranteed crowd pleaser.

See step-by-step photos of Michelle's recipe plus thousands more from home cooks nationwide at:

www.justapinch.com/moscato

You'll also find a meal planner, coupons and chances to win! Enjoy and remember, use "just a pinch"...

- Janet

Michelle Koletar/
 Mertz
 Harrisburg, PA
 (pop. 49,528)

Moscato Cheese Spread

What You Need

- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 c gorgonzola cheese
- 1/4 c grated white cheddar
- 2-3 tbsp moscato wine (or use a dry white, if you prefer)
- 1/4 cup, chopped walnuts
- 1 tbsp paprika

Directions

- Mix the cream cheese & gorgonzola.
- Add cheddar & mix again.
- Stir in the wine.
- It will now be very easy to mix! Add more/less wine to your taste. I usually go with 3 tbsp, but you may want to start with 2 tbsp and keep going from there.
- Add the walnuts & paprika. Stir well.
- Layer onto a pretty plate. Garnish with additional crushed walnuts, and, if you like, some grape halves.

Submitted by: Michelle Koletar/Mertz, Harrisburg, PA (Pop. 49,528)
www.justapinch.com/moscato

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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ACROSS

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- 12 A little of everything
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- 31 Raw minerals
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- 34 — de deux
- 35 One of the Brady bunch
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- 47 Kreskin's claim
- 49 "American —"
- 50 Neck hair
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DOWN

- 1 Clothing
- 2 Settled down
- 3 Old Italian money
- 4 Lassie et al.
- 5 In two places
- 6 Back talk
- 7 Connecting
- 8 Uniform shade
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- 10 Guitar's cousin
- 11 Club —
- 19 Type measures
- 21 Possess
- 23 Zoo howler
- 24 Paraphernalia
- 25 Without
- 26 Arizona tribe
- 27 Persia, now
- 28 Ceremonial robe
- Underbrush cutter
- 33 Pope Francis, et al.
- 35 Lustrous black
- 36 Without delay, initially
- 38 Pal from the 'hood
- 39 Ward off
- 42 Thought
- 43 Yuletide tune
- 44 Differently
- 45 Mischievous tyke
- 46 — chi
- 48 Scale member

All puzzle answers on B6

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Commissioners submit letter in response to sage-grouse working group draft plan

Submitted by the Madison County Board of Commissioners

On Dec. 3, the board of commissioners drafted, approved and sent the following letter in response to the sage-grouse working group draft plan. The three commissioners, James P. Hart – Chairman, David Schulz and Dan A. Happel, unanimously agreed that this is an important issue that demands attention and poses a detrimental effect on agriculture, public land use and main street economy. The public comment period ended on Dec. 4.

Dec. 3, 2013

Mr. Ken McDonald
Wildlife Division Director
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

1420 East 6th Ave.
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701

Re: Response Letter to the Draft Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy

Dear Mr. McDonald:

After a thorough review of the Draft Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy presented at the U of M Western scoping meeting on November 13th, we are respectfully submitting our comments on the strategy for your further consideration.

We wish to thank you and the Governor's Advisory Council for working to keep the Greater Sage-Grouse from being listed as endangered by the Department of the Interior. As elected officials in a largely rural county, we understand the importance of protecting grazing leases, public access, and productive use of much needed natural resources on public lands; impossible goals if the Greater Sage Grouse is listed as an endangered species. We

understand the need to be good stewards of the natural environment and harmonize those stewardship goals with traditional land uses. That concept is not lost on those who have watched Sage Grouse numbers that once flourished, decline as raptor and predator numbers increased exponentially over the same fifty-year timeframe. Our farmers, ranchers, and natural resource industries cannot be held solely responsible for environmental issues beyond their ability to control. Camera studies that have been conducted by range management organizations indicate that ravens, magpies and small predators account for a very significant decline in Sage Grouse numbers.

We are troubled that virtually all Federal and State Conservation Strategies focus only on habitat (land use) issues and refuse to conduct studies that include raptors and predators as factors in Sage Grouse conservation efforts. Without a full understanding of all threats to Greater Sage Grouse populations, any strategy that you develop will be flawed and will not guarantee a satisfactory outcome unless the true goal is making much of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain West off-limits for human use.

It is time to incorporate all factors and provable scientific studies into any proposed endangered species initiative and understand that your responsibility as state public employees is to the folks that have lived and paid taxes on our rural lands for many generations. Please forward this letter to all agencies that may have input into this conservation strategy.

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Hart – Chairman
David Schulz
Dan A. Happel

Madison Valley History Association invites public to potluck dinner

Submitted by Larry L. Love
MADISON VALLEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Mark your calendar for a potluck Christmas luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 19 in Jeffers at the Trinity Church at 12:30 p.m. The Madison Valley History Association (MVHA) will have good food and a time to socialize, sing Christmas songs and have a good time. The program

will be on Traditions of Families at Christmas time. Come and share your tradition with us. The public is invited. MVHA will furnish the turkey and ham. If your last name begins with A-F bring a salad, G-O bring a desert, R-Z bring a side dish to go with the turkey and ham.

If you would like to participate in a gift exchange, bring a gift. Merry Christmas, we hope to see you there.

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 <p>E WARREN STREET, VIRGINIA CITY \$229,000 • #188679 • 406.842.5650 2 bd 1 ba 2,500+-sf, 1.17+- fenced acres greatly remodeled, guest cabin/storage</p>	 <p>NEW LISTING MULE DEER LANE, ENNIS \$196,900 • #194598 • 406.682.5002 remodeled 2 bd 1 ba, 1,400+-sf 5+- acres, log cabin w/stick built addition</p>	 <p>MT HWY 287, ALDER \$120,000 • #193856 • 406.842.5650 2 bd, 1 ba country home tucked out of view, older 1977 mobile, recent updates</p>	 <p>BUFFALO LANCE, CAMERON \$799,000 • #184236 • 406.682.5002 2 bd, 1 ba, 1,089± sf, 70± acres (3 lots), borders NFS, native grasses, partly wooded</p>	 <p>THE HOMESTEAD, SHERIDAN STARTING AT: \$33,000 • 406.842.5650 broker is co-owner of the property 2-6 +/- acre parcels, power, natural gas & fiber</p>

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ECCS presents annual Christmas concert

Submitted by Amber Marks
ENNIS COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

To get in the Christmas spirit, join us on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. in the elementary school gym for the Ennis Community Children's School's (ECCS) an-

nual Christmas concert. There is no better way to celebrate Christmas than with a free concert, cookies and punch, and a visit by our favorite man in red—Santa Claus. The students have been working hard preparing for Christmas and are looking forward to seeing everyone there.



Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center November activities

Submitted by Roseann Troyer

Year 2013 is nearly over and The Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center (TRMCC) was busy during November, the 11th month of the year.

Nov. 1 found the folks at the care center enjoying ice cream in a variety of flavors. Later everyone exercised their brain muscles by taking part in brain teasers.

The resident council met on Nov. 5 and everyone finalized their Christmas lists.

The Butte Silver Bow Cloggers arrived in force on Nov. 7. There were nine members and they were very colorful and entertaining.

Four auxiliary members journeyed to Butte to Christmas shop for all of the residents. We shopped until we dropped.

Mike Morgan brought a uniformed group of Veterans to the care center on Nov. 11. They performed a flag ceremony for all. After the ceremony, the dietary department provided refreshments for everyone.

The monthly birthday party was held on Nov. 13. The Bethel Methodist Women sponsored the celebration. Millie Olsen was the only resident with a birthday. Ladies that helped at the birthday celebration were Kathy Flick, Joanie Fischer, Pat Stickman, Dorothy Brown, Dorothy Bradley, Shirley Overcast and Minnetta. The cake and ice cream was very tasty. The afternoon passed quickly.

On Nov. 19, residents had lunch at In Back. There were six people in our party.

Our Happy Hour was held on Nov. 22. The featured refreshments were eggnog and hot cocoa with whipped cream.

Thanksgiving Day was observed with the traditional turkey dinner. Some residents went out for dinner, while other families came in to be with their loved ones.

We have our care center decorated and ready for our Christmas Party, which will be Dec. 14.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Clint Rouse to retire from State Bank & Trust

Submitted by Holly Gyles
STATE BANK & TRUST

After nearly 40 years at State Bank & Trust, Clint Rouse, Executive Vice President and Branch President, will retire on Dec. 31.

Rouse started his career at State Bank & Trust on July 1, 1974 as a teller/bookkeeper. He later worked as the escrow officer and a loan officer. By 1979, he was Vice President and his duties included commercial lending, escrows and serving as cashier.

Clint was named to State Bank's Board of Directors in 1978. He enrolled in PCBS in 1980, graduating in 1982. In that same year, he was named EVP. After the owner and president of the bank, Charles Nicholas, passed away in December 1983, Clint was named President – a title that he has held for 30 years. He was on various committees for the Montana Bankers Association and Montana Independent Bankers.

Rouse says, "My favorite part of banking has been the relationships I have enjoyed with our customer base and all my co-workers over the years. I will really miss working with my co-workers and our loyal customers, as they are my friends. I look forward to continuing these friendships throughout my retirement."

Tom Romrell, CEO and President, states "Clint has been a tremendous part of the overall growth and success of State Bank & Trust and merger with The Bank of Commerce. We consider him a great friend and wish him and his wife, Mary, all the best as they enjoy the next chapter of their lives."

Rouse was a long-standing member of Barrett Hospital's Board of Trustees and University of Montana Western's Foundation. Clint was also instrumental in starting the Beaverhead Development Corporation, and served as Director of Chamber of Commerce, a member of Dillon Jaycee's and the Elks Club.

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Are all of your last minute gifts made? Is there a cute pattern that you want to try? We are giving you a year-end special sale to help you finish those gifts or to find new ideas.

Patterns • Books • Notions-30%
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(With a few exceptions.)

SALE IS DECEMBER 13-14 2013

Electric System Work Will Boost Service Reliability

Beginning Tuesday, December 17, at 2 a.m. NorthWestern Energy has scheduled a power outage that will last approximately four hours and will affect the entire Laurin and Alder area. The outage will allow company line crews to make repairs safely at a local substation. The crews will replace equipment needed to deliver reliable service to Laurin and Alder area customers. The impacted area will be south of Ramshorn Creek Road to the upper Ruby Road, including the towns of Laurin and Alder.

This work is part of NorthWestern Energy's comprehensive infrastructure investment program aimed at providing safe and reliable energy for the Montana communities it serves well into the future. For any questions or concerns, please call the NorthWestern Energy Customer Contact Center at (888) 467-2669.

Thank you for your patience while this necessary work is performed.



Just Married



Marc and Gail Elser are pleased to announce the marriage of their son Jeff Elser to Yana Vunder, daughter of Vladimir and Tatyana Vunder of Krasnojarsk, Russia. The ceremony was held at Grotto Falls in Hyalite Canyon near Bozeman, Mont. on Aug. 14, 2013. Vunder was an English instructor at a university in Russia. J. Elser is a product manager for Oracle in Bozeman, Mont. The couple is making their home in Bozeman.

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SESSION II -TUESDAY JANUARY 7TH 2014 -8 AM TO 5 PM

Plan to attend both days, as it covers different topics

COST: \$45.00 INCLUDES MATERIALS, REFRESHMENTS & LUNCH FOR BOTH DAYS. (non-refundable)

WHERE: Montana Tech - ELC Building 3rd Floor Computer Lab

FOR RESERVATIONS:

Michele Shea-406-533-6781 mshea@headwaterscd.org or Julie Jaksha - 406-533-6780 jjaksha@headwaterscd.org. Space is limited to the first 30 individuals!

PROFIT MASTERY CREATING VALUE & BUILDING WEALTH

This class will help you understand your business financials. Learn about your business cash flow & how to improve it.

The most successful businesses have found that the key to long-term success revolves around effective financial management. Through case studies and a down-to-earth style, experience this remarkably powerful program:

- Understand why and how to

benchmark your company performance.

- Establish the difference between "making a profit" and "having cash" volume and costs.
- Learn how to correctly compute your break-even, the effects of price, and how to do more of both.

FEBRUARY 5TH & 6TH 2014 • 8:00-5:00 BOTH DAYS

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FEE: \$255 (includes materials)

**WHERE: Butte, Montana • Thornton Building
 65 E. Broadway Butte, MT**

Contact Instructor Julie Jaksha at 406-533-6780 or jjaksha@headwaterscd.org to register.

Fee includes participant manual. Approved for 16 hours of CPE under NASBA. Your business may also qualify for IWT funding for this training.

GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING CLASS

As funding opportunities have become more competitive, good proposal writing skills are critical for managers in both the public and private sectors. This two day seminar will provide participants with key strategies to help them put their best foot forward on paper, while "demystifying" the grants process. Topics will include the

- following:
- Assessing Need and Setting Priorities
 - Identifying Projects and Reviewing Solutions
 - Identifying Grant Sources and Associated Requirements
 - Preparing Strong Proposals
 - Preparing Budgets
 - Managing Successful Programs

FEBRUARY 11 & 12, 2014-8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

FEE \$110.00 FOR 2 DAY CLASS AND MATERIALS.

Instructor: Janet Cornish • Pre-registration is required.

**WHERE: HEADWATERS RC&D SBDC
 65 E. Broadway Butte MT**

Register by calling 533-6780 or at <https://www.regonline.com/headwaterssbdcgrantclass>



Just for kids in winter – the Kids’N’Snow weekends

Submitted by Wendy Swenson
WEST YELLOWSTONE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

West Yellowstone Chamber
Looking for a family-friendly winter destination filled with events and activities for everyone? West Yellowstone, Mont. is the place for you and the kids.

The Kids’N’Snow program is offered one weekend each month during the winter December through March. The program was created to offer kids the opportunity to get outside and try new winter activities, experience Yellowstone in winter, take winter kid’s classes at the Grizzly & Wolf Discovery

Center, free movies, and more. Each weekend varies by activities and schedule so many families come for multiple weekends. Some activities have limited space so pre-registration is offered.

Weekend events starting in December will be held at Pioneer Park in the center of town. This is a new location for Kids’N’Snow which is allowing for a central location for activities and more space to add new activities, which may include a kids snowmobile track, Nordic ski area and snowshoe scavenger hunt.

The first full weekend, Dec. 14-15, 2013, includes the annual West Yellowstone Rodeo Run Dog

Sled Races. Families have a chance to meet the mushers and their teams as they ready for races and even get their own free sled dog ride on Sunday morning.

The Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center offers a special winter learning class each day through the weekend. The classes are interactive and hands-on. Free use of ice skates is part of the Saturday evening free S’mores, Skating & Sledging activity.

One of the most popular activities is the “Snowcoach Sampler.” Local West Yellowstone snowcoach tour companies offer a ride over the snow into Yellowstone Park. There is no charge for the

sampler, but a Yellowstone Park pass is required.

This year we have added many new activities including Kids M120 Snowmobile Demo Rides, “Lost In The Woods” search and rescue tips for kids and a chance to meet the S&R dogs, and GeoCache program.

Families can come early on Thursday, Dec. 12 for the Christmas Stroll and enjoy the holiday festivities, visit Santa and meet the dog sled teams.

January 18-19 is the Kids’N’Snow Weekend ice fishing camp just for kids sponsored by NAIFC/Cabela’s. Any kid is welcome to participate and re-

ceives their own rod & tackle, in-house instruction from the pros and practice out on the ice with local experts. All of the other fun Kids’N’Snow activities will take place as well.

The February 15-16 Kids’N’Snow Weekend program includes more s’mores, skating, samplers, a free movie at the IMAX, a chance to try out a cross country ski race with the Saturday morning SPAM cup, talks by Yellowstone rangers, and other activities too.

The March Kids’N’Snow Weekend, March 8-9, 2014, includes a full schedule of activities with a special day of cross-country

ski games and lessons with the annual Youth Ski Festival on Sunday, March 9, 2013.

Kids’N’Snow headquarters will be located at the West Yellowstone Visitor Center, 30 Yellowstone Avenue.

Join us on Facebook to stay up to date at “Kids’N’Snow.” As events grow and more activities are solidified, they will be added to www.kidsnsnow.org.

These events would not be possible without the support of our community businesses and our key sponsors, West Yellowstone Chamber and TBID, WYSEF and West Yellowstone businesses.

Mad-Gals meeting

Submitted by Danette Clark

The December meeting of Mad-Gals will be held at the Alley Bistro in Ennis on Dec. 19. Members, please call your reservations to Jackie at 682-5510 or Ethelyn at 682-4348

by noon on Dec. 16. There will also be gift/ornament exchange if you wish to participate.

The hostesses request guests wear a Christmas sweater—ugly, pretty, funny or special—to celebrate the season.

Adopt A Family Program spreads hope and holiday cheer across Montana

Submitted by Karen Kelly
ADOPT A FAMILY
PROGRAM GRANT MANAGER

The Town Pump Charitable Foundation celebrates its 7th year of the Adopt A Family program with \$95,000 in grants awarded thus far in 2013. Applications for the \$500 Adopt A Family grants continue to be accepted until Dec. 15, 2013. The Town Pump Charitable Foundation has granted more than \$415,000 to Adopt A Family Programs since 2007.

“We are honored to help the amazing organizations and volunteers across Montana working

so diligently to bring assistance to hundreds of people,” said Maureen Kenneally of the Town Pump Charitable Foundation. “These dedicated, hardworking Montanans show us all that together we can bring hope and make a difference in our great state.”

To apply for a \$500 Adopt A Family grant, send a brief letter describing your organization and charitable program, proof of your group’s non-profit status and contact information to the following address: Town Pump Adopt A Family Program, PO Box 6000, Butte, MT 59702.

Kids'N'Snow Weekend
in West Yellowstone
Montana
December 14-15, 2013

KIDS 'N' SNOW
WEST YELLOWSTONE-MT

for a full schedule and registration:
WWW.KIDSNSNOW.ORG

Take a break from the Holiday craziness to spend time with your kids or grandkids. Escape for a fun-filled weekend: snowshoe with a forest ranger, meet a real raptor, take a sled dog ride or watch sled dog race, take a "snowcoach sampler" into Yellowstone's winter wonderland, play on cross country ski's, take a Kids Snowmobile demo ride, ice skate or just make a S'more.

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STATE CHAMPS!

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Mountain lion hunting closed in multiple districts

Submitted by Jeanne Connolly
MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

The hunting of mountain lions closed in several Montana hunting districts in Regions 2 and 3 at one half hour after sunset on Monday, Dec. 9.

Closed to hunting of female mountain lions:

- HD 339, 343 and 388—

which includes portions of Lewis and Clark and Jefferson counties.

Closed to hunting of male mountain lions:

- HD 213 and 214— which includes portions of Granite, Powell, and Deer Lodge counties.

The closure notice for the hunt came shortly after Mon-

tana Fish, Wildlife & Parks officials received word that the pre-established harvest quota or sub-quota for the districts had been met.

For more information, visit FWP's website at fwp.mt.gov, click on "Hunting," then under Hunting Guides click on "Mountain Lion," or call the toll-free number at 1-800-385-7826.

Twin Bridges library to host Christmas movie night

Submitted by Betty Humbert
TWIN BRIDGES PUBLIC LIBRARY

The public is invited to the Twin Bridges Public Library to watch The Christ-

mas Star on Dec. 28 at 3 p.m., courtesy of Joe Witherspoon. The Christmas Star considers the astronomical possibilities of the Star of Bethlehem. The movie time is an hour.

The audience is encouraged to participate in discussion following the presentation. Everyone is welcome, free of charge.



Sheridan students participate in Hour of Code initiative

Submitted by Heather Puckett
SHERIDAN SCHOOLS

Students at Sheridan Schools enjoyed participating in the Hour of Code, a nationwide

initiative that was part of Computer Science Education Week, which lasted Dec. 9 through 15.

The event aimed to raise awareness and generate interest in the field of computer science.

The goal of the event was to get 10 million students of all ages to participate in the Hour of Code, which teaches students the basic concepts of computer programming.

Sheridan Schools announce November students of the month

Submitted by Sheridan Schools

Sheridan Schools is very pleased to announce the students of the month of November. Students are chosen by faculty and staff members based on citizenship, leadership and academic attitude. The recipients of this award look forward to a

free meal generously awarded to them by Jennie Short, proprietor of The Prospector.

November 2013 Students of the Month, kindergarten through twelfth-grade:

- Brandin Crismore
- Julianna Murolo
- Kellsey Allhands

- Beck Derby
- Jorien VerHow
- Dreonna Clark
- Amanda Grow
- Joree Hokanson
- Riain Deavel
- Janie Smart
- Hanna McParland
- Colter Kenworthy
- Cody Boucher



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Call 682-5002 to nominate a home!

Get Your Lights On!

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Please join us
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Clint Rouse.

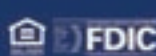


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Holiday Harmonies



Little Drummer Boy by Katherine Dave et al, trio performed by the Three Wise Guys, otherwise known as Vern Grotzke, Andrew Scruggs, and Paul Heese



Boogie Woogie Santa by Kirby Shaw, performed by Barb Pearson, Jan Smith and Janet Zimmerman



A Big Thank You
 To Everyone Who Donated To & Supported
The Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction
 At Cardwell on November 22, 2013
 to help South Dakota Ranchers
 devastated in the October 2013 Blizzard

Organized by Local Young Ag Producers
 Steven Carey, Carl Farrand, Larisa Mehlhoff, Kyle Glaus

More than 300 people from SW Montana attended the dinner and silent auction. \$17,000 was raised that will go directly to buy cattle for ranchers in South Dakota who suffered great losses. What an incredible community we live in!



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Applications for Conservation Stewardship Program due Jan. 17

Submitted by Tim Ouellette
 NRCS

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is opening the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) for new enrollments for 2014. Producers interested in participating in the program must submit applications to NRCS by Jan. 17, 2014.

The CSP is a Farm Bill conservation program that helps established conservation stewards with taking their level of natural resource management to the next level to improve both their agricultural production and provide valuable conservation benefits such as cleaner and

more abundant water, as well as healthier soils and better wildlife habitat.

CSP is now in its fifth year and so far, NRCS has partnered with producers to enroll more than 59 million acres across the nation. The program emphasizes conservation performance — producers earn higher payments for higher performance. In CSP, producers install conservation enhancements to make positive changes in soil quality, soil erosion, water quality, water quantity, air quality, plant resources, animal resources and energy.

Eligible landowners and operators in all states and territories can enroll in CSP through Jan. 17 to be eligible for 2014

funding. While local NRCS offices accept CSP applications year round, NRCS evaluates applications during announced ranking periods.

To be eligible for this year's enrollment, producers must have their applications submitted to NRCS by the closing date.

A CSP self-screening checklist is available to help producers determine if the program is suitable for their operation. The checklist highlights basic information about CSP eligibility requirements, stewardship threshold requirements and payment types.

Learn more about CSP by visiting the NRCS website or a local NRCS field office.

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All welcome to community candle lighting service

Submitted by Maria Lake
MADISON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Madison Valley Baptist Church of Ennis will hold its annual candle lighting service on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. The service

will conclude no later than 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the service and join in the singing of Christmas carols. Pastor Ray Teston will share the Christmas story, which will be followed by the candle lighting. The accompanist

for the evening will be Paula Teston.

This service is one of the longest held and most cherished traditions in the history of Madison Valley Baptist Church. Since its beginning, this service has wel-

comed countless people, both residents and visitors to the community to celebrate the Christmas season. Madison Valley Baptist Church is located at 5050 U.S. Highway 287 in Ennis, across the highway from the fire station.

Yellowstone opens for winter season

Submitted by Wendy Swenson
WEST YELLOWSTONE CHAMBER

On Dec. 15, the west entrance to Yellowstone Park opens for a unique experience and adventure. Each day, commercially guided snowcoach and snowmobile tours travel over snow-covered, groomed roads from the west entrance at West Yellowstone to popular destinations inside the wintry heart of Yellowstone.

All the tours are conducted

by interpretive guides. These guides are local experts and can provide a wealth of information about Yellowstone and personal experiences that you would never read in a guidebook.

While Yellowstone logs more than three million visitors annually, only five percent of those come during the winter months. However, no other season rivals the wonder of Yellowstone in winter. Erupting geysers and hissing vents propel amazing clouds of

steam into clear blue skies.

This winter looks to be exceptional in West Yellowstone. Snow started falling in late October, giving the area a jump start to its annual snowfall average of 143 inches. The streets of West Yellowstone will remain snow packed all season, providing a trailhead literally at your front door.

In January, the NAIFC Ice Fishing Tournament will take place on Hebgen Lake, just north of town. This official North American Ice Fishing Circuit event on Hebgen Lake at Kirkwood Resort

and Marina is winter's equivalent of summer's big time bass and walleye tournaments, filled with seminars, a kid's workshop and the fishing competition itself. The West Yellowstone/Hebgen Lake Tournament, like all NAIFC qualifiers, is a three-day event; two-thirds education and one-third competition, with a maximum entry of 150 two person teams. For those three days, West Yellowstone becomes the center of Ice Fishing with tremendous fishing education opportunities on Friday and Saturday and world class competition on Sunday.



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Karen & Jay Willett



4 P A W S RESCUE PET OF THE WEEK



BRITTA
You know, I'm really puzzled. Here I am, a nice young lady, playful, love to be petted and no one has called on me. Shucks and here I'm looking forward to being in a loving, playful, wonderful home for CHRISTmas. Would you be the special someone I'm looking for? I could hang my stocking next to yours. I'd fill your's with lots of love and purrs and love, etc. Hopefully and prayerfully, Britta

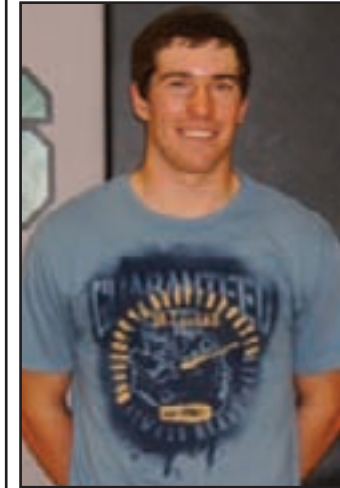
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STUDENT OF THE WEEK ENNIS




Wylie Leo is being recognized by Ennis High School as their Student of the Week. Wylie is a Junior at Ennis High School and is very active in numerous activities. Wylie is an awesome kid with a great attitude; he is always positive, willing to help and works extremely hard at every task he takes on. His determination to succeed and his work ethic are impeccable. Wylie is an Honor Roll student and is active in various activities such as Football, Basketball, Track, BPA, FFA, the school play and many other events at Ennis Schools. Wylie is a true Mustang and displays Mustang Pride each and every day! We are proud of you, Wylie Leo.

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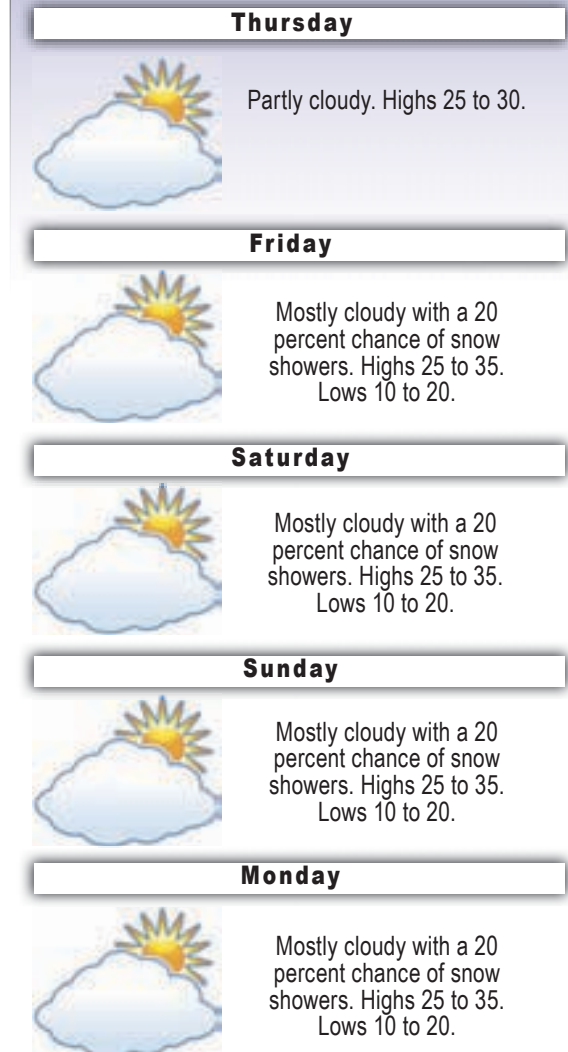
Thursday
Partly cloudy. Highs 25 to 30.

Friday
Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow showers. Highs 25 to 35. Lows 10 to 20.

Saturday
Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow showers. Highs 25 to 35. Lows 10 to 20.

Sunday
Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow showers. Highs 25 to 35. Lows 10 to 20.

Monday
Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow showers. Highs 25 to 35. Lows 10 to 20.



Quote of the Week:

"After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb."

Nelson Mandela



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BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

Southwestern Montana experiences some of the coldest temperatures on Earth

Madison River gorges in Ennis

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

With temperatures below zero throughout the past week, the Madison River's water slowed and eventually froze at the surface creating an ice jam early on Friday, Dec. 6.

Christie Trapp, executive director of the Madison Valley Medical Center Foundation (MVMCF), said the river gorge was captured on camera at 3:30 a.m. Trapp and the MVMCF created an online fundraising raffle called "ICE JAM" where one-hour time slots were sold to predict the date and time that the Madison River would gorge for the first time this year at the Ennis Bridge.

"The foundation wanted to create a different community fundraiser. One that everyone can participate in. And using a historical climatological event that often occurs on the Madison River seems like a perfect fit to associate the event with Ennis," Trapp said.

Richard Lessner, Madison River Foundation (MRF) Executive Director, said the natural phenomenon is one that the MRF takes note of with great interest, especially to see how far the ice will travel. Lessner said in years past the ice jam has gone as far as Varney Bridge and McAtee Bridge.

The MVMCF used a recording device to capture and register images every 30 minutes, 24 hours a day. According to Trapp, the line of sight was on a fixed object which allowed the foundation to view time elapsed photos of when the river gorges.

There was no winner since nobody purchased



The Madison River officially gorged during the early morning hours of Dec. 6 at the Ennis Bridge.

Photo by Abigail Dennis

the 3-3:59 a.m. time slot. This means half of the proceeds raised—\$500—will contribute to the next year's ICE JAM fundraiser proceeds. The other \$500 will be the "seed" money for the 2014 fundraiser, according to Trapp. If all 3,624 time slots were to be purchased, the winner would receive nearly \$36,000.

While the fundraiser is beneficial to the Ennis community and area, the effects of the gorge have added up to big problems in past years. Low-lying areas along the river can be flooded when the ice jams up culverts the water usually flows through freely. Madison County Commissioner Jim Hart said since the highway is right by the river—MT Highway

287—is a state highway the city and county are generally on watch for any problems, but leave most of the work to the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT).

"We try to assist with the traffic and some equipment," Hart said. He added that the city and county have sandbagged houses nearby to protect them from the water and ice. "It's come quite close. We'll be ready."

Bill Stecker with MDT said he usually receives a phone call from the county. His crew then goes out to survey the area to see what needs to be done. He said they had to plow through the Ennis Bridge area a few years ago. In addition to equipment, MDT brings in signage to let

people know the dangers of driving through the icy water when it comes over the top of the bridge and through the guardrail.

Drivers can go through at their own risk, Stecker said. He added that drivers may go around but sometimes the alternate routes are not only longer but could be icy and flooded too.

"The guardrails plug up and we need to free the ice and create drainage," Stecker said. "We can't stop the river from flowing, but we can give it an entrance and exit point."

The Beaverhead River in Twin Bridges was slushy and moving slowly, but had not gorged yet as of Monday.

Cold front creates unseasonably low temperatures

Faith Moldan
THE MADISONIAN
news@madisoniannews.com

According to The Weather Channel, average highs for Madison County hover right around freezing during the month of December, but Mother Nature must have forgotten that fact in the past two weeks.

Temperatures reached nearly 50 degrees in Ennis on Monday, Dec. 2. That was just one day before a cold front

engulfed the state of Montana. Daytime temperatures dropped into the teens on Dec. 4 and overnight temperatures dropped below zero. Temperatures continued to plunge well below zero and remained day and night until Dec. 9, when the daytime high was back up in the teens.

The frigid weather, combined with power outages, closed the Twin Bridges School on Friday and led Twin Bridges to cancel its outdoor Christmas Stroll.

Average temperatures have remained more than 16 degrees below seasonal norms so far this month. Temperatures are even expected to climb above freezing by the end of the week, according to the National Weather Service.

With a low of 33 degrees below zero over the Dec. 7-8 weekend, Montana was home to the near coldest temperatures on Earth, according to the National Weather Service. The meteorologists could not

determine 100 percent if it was indeed the coldest.

Madison County experienced a low of 24 below zero Saturday night, according to Chris Mumme director of Madison County Emergency Services. Just across the Idaho border, Island Park reached a low of minus 13 that same day. Far off Fairbanks, Ala., reached 15 degrees above zero and Casey, Antarctica, was also warmer than Madison County with a high of 17.6 degrees

above zero.

The wind added to the already frigid temperatures. Wind speeds picked up on Dec. 8 and remained through the morning of Dec. 10. This combination created a wind chill warning for Madison County and its neighbors of minus 20 to minus 40 degrees possible.

The wind blew snow around and created hazardous travel conditions around the county, especially in the

Madison Valley. Luckily, the Madison County Sheriff's Office reported very few accidents or issues. The office even aided drivers towing large loads by helping them secure chains to their trucks' tires in order to make it over Norris Hill and Virginia City Hill.

There is a slight chance of precipitation during the next week, but temperatures are expected to remain in the 30s and even get above 40 degrees on Sunday.

The show must go on—local ranchers move cattle despite cold temps

By Susanne Hill
THE MADISONIAN
s.hill@madisoniannews.com

A morning cattle drive on MT Highway 287, south of Ennis, had many people sympathetically wondering what unfortunate events must have happened to force the moving of those cattle off the Virginia City hill in Sunday's bitter cold temperatures.

The real reason for the cattle drive might remind us all of a Montana rancher's work ethic or the reason for the legacy of the cowboy. According to local rancher Gary Clark, there were no unfortunate circumstances. It was nothing more than local ranchers bringing their cows home from summer pasture.

Ranchers across the county were outside in those temperatures taking care of their livestock—just as they do everyday.

The roughly 175 head of cattle, some belonging to Gary Clark and others to John Crumley, had spent much of the

summer up Trail Creek—on top of the Virginia City Hill—it was time to get them off that pasture. "We were actually three days late to get them home. Help is a little hard to come by and we rely on our grandkids for help. Everyone was available Sunday, so we brought the cows home then," Gary Clark said of the cattle drive.

Neither Gary nor his son David could remember the low temperature that morning—both responding to the question with a nonchalant disregard of the cold. According to Christopher Mumme, Madison County Director of Emergency Services, the overnight low was 24 degrees below zero. When the horseback riders pushing the cattle neared the Ennis city limits, they had not yet seen temperatures warmer than 10 below zero.

When asked if there was anything interesting about Sunday's cattle drive, "There was nothing interesting about that morning," G. Clark said with a chuckle.



Gary and David Clark braved the cold temperatures as they helped move 175 head of cattle off of the Virginia City Hill on Sunday morning.

Photo by Abigail Dennis



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Weighing in on holiday eating and wintertime exercise

Submitted by Debra McNeill
 RUBY VALLEY HOSPITAL

Hoping to get through the holidays and winter season without a larger pants size? Interested in some exercise advice that is based

on Montana's climate and lifestyle? You can find some localized eating and exercise tips in the "It's That Time of Year" article on the front page of www.RubyValleyHospital.com.

• New tips to help

you minimize the caloric damage of holiday feasts and shopping.

• Suggestions for planning outdoor and indoor workouts.

• Pointers for ski-oriented workouts, and

• Links to exercise routines that don't require any special equipment.

Next time you're surfing the web, stop by www.RubyValleyHospital.com.

You might be able to dodge some seasonal pounds.

Montana Red Cross urges caution as frigid temperatures persist across the region

Submitted by Anna Fernandez-Gevaert
 MONTANA RED CROSS

With frigid temperatures finally upon us, Montana Red Cross urges Montanans to take adequate precautions as they head outdoors. Although most Montana residents assume they know how to protect themselves, the fact is that every year people fail to heed winter weather warnings and end up injured or worse.

"As with any severe weather event, preparation can be the difference between life and death," says Rod Kopp, CEO of Montana Red Cross. "When very cold temperatures predominate, everyone should be prepared for the worst, especially when they head outdoors".

Before a winter storm: Montana Red Cross recommends having the following items on hand all winter long:

- At least a three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and non-perishable food;
- A flashlight, battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio and extra batteries;
- A well-stocked first aid kit;
- A seven-day supply of medications and medical items; and
- Supplies for babies and pets.

People can learn also what to do in an emergency in case advanced medical help is delayed by taking a First Aid and CPR/AED course and by downloading the free American Red Cross First Aid App.

During a winter storm:

- Listen and watch for critical information from the National Weather Service.
- Bring pets inside. Move other animals and livestock to sheltered areas.
- Stay inside. If people must go out, wear warm, loose-fitting, lightweight clothing in layers.
- Minimize travel.



If travel is necessary, keep emergency supplies in vehicles.

• If possible, the Red Cross also asks that everyone check in on their neighbors, especially those requiring special assistance and those living alone.

• Additional information on what supplies to have and what to do before, during and after a winter storm is located at redcross.org/wintersafety.

Protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia:

Frostbite and hypothermia are cold-related emergencies that may quickly become life or limb threatening. Preventing cold-related emergencies includes not starting an activity in, on, or around cold water unless you know you can get help quickly in an emergency. Be aware of the wind chill. Dress appropriately and avoid staying in the cold too long. Wear a hat and gloves when appropriate with layers of clothing. Drink plenty of warm fluids or warm water but avoid caffeine and alcohol. Stay active to maintain body heat. Take frequent breaks from the cold. Avoid unnecessary exposure of any part of the

body to the cold. Get out of the cold immediately if the signals of hypothermia or frostbite appear.

Frostbite is the freezing of a specific body part such as fingers, toes, the nose or earlobes. Signals of frostbite include lack of feeling in the affected area; skin that appears waxy, is cold to the touch, or is discolored (flushed, white or gray, yellow or blue).

What to do for frostbite:

1. Move the person to a warm place.
2. Handle the area gently; never rub the affected area.
3. Warm gently by soaking the affected area in warm water (100–105 degrees F) until it appears red and feels warm.
4. Loosely bandage the area with dry, sterile dressings.
5. If the person's fingers or toes are frostbitten, place dry, sterile gauze between them to keep them separated.
6. Avoid breaking any blisters.
7. Do not allow the affected area to refreeze.
8. Seek professional medical care as soon as possible.

Hypothermia is another cold-related emergency. Hypothermia is life threatening. Hypothermia is caused by the cooling of the body caused by the failure of the body's warming. The goals of first aid are to restore normal body temperature and to care for any conditions while waiting for EMS personnel. Signals of hypothermia include shivering, numbness, glassy stare; apathy, weakness, impaired judgment;

loss of consciousness.

What to do for hypothermia:

1. CALL 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
2. Gently move the person to a warm place.
3. Monitor breathing and circulation.
4. Give rescue breathing and CPR if needed.
5. Remove any wet clothing and dry the person.
6. Warm the person slowly by wrapping in blankets or by putting dry clothing on the person. Hot water bottles and chemical hot packs may be used when first wrapped in a towel or blanket before applying. Do not warm the person too quickly, such as by immersing him or her in warm water. Rapid warming may cause dangerous heart arrhythmias. Warm the core first (trunk, abdomen), not the extremities (hands, feet). This is important to mention because most people will try to warm hands and feet first and that can cause shock.

You can help people affected by disasters like severe winter storms, as well as countless other crises at home and around the world, by making a donation to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for and provide shelter, food, emotional support and other assistance in response to disasters. Visit www.redcross.org/montana, call 1-800-ARC-MONT (1-800-272-6668), or mail a check to American Red Cross of Montana, 1300 28th Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405.

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SPORTS

SHERIDAN HOSTS JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



Photo courtesy of Stephanie Haag
Daniel Krueer (center white jersey) plays defense during last weekend's junior high tournament in Sheridan.



Photo courtesy of Stephanie Haag
Kaleb Small dribbles around a defender.



Photo courtesy of Stephanie Haag
Kenny Foster (32) looks for an open teammate during the Sheridan Booster Club junior high basketball tournament on Dec. 7.



Photo courtesy of Stephanie Haag
From left to right Mikey McCormack, Cade McParland, Dustin Garcia, Isaiah Davis and Kaleb Small anticipate a rebound.

Submitted by Ed Burke
 SHERIDAN SCHOOLS

Ten teams from six schools competed in three divisions at the Sheridan Booster Club Junior High basketball tournament held on Saturday, Dec. 7. Cardwell won the A division. Dubois, Idaho, won both the B and C divisions in round robin fashion. The schools participating were: Sheridan, Lima, West Yellowstone, Harrison, Cardwell, and Dubois, Idaho.

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DISPATCH LOG Dec. 1, 2013 thru Dec. 7, 2013

Dec. 1
 Deputies dispatched to disturbance complaint in 500 blk W Hugel St
 Dispatched EA to E Rock Trl
 Deputy dispatched to illegal hunting complaint in 700 blk S Second St
 Dispatched Tbfd to McCartney Mountain area
 Deputy dispatched to assist public at US Hwy 287 MM 41
 Dispatched RVA for transport to Butte
 Dispatched EA for transport to Bozeman

Dec. 2
 T/s at US Hwy 287 MM 48
 Deputy dispatched to an alarm on Windy Pass Ln
 Deputy dispatched to traffic complaint in Norris
 Deputy dispatched to animal complaint in 200 blk Mill Creek Rd
 Deputy dispatched to traffic complaint at US

Hwy 287 MM 57
 T/s at US Hwy 287 MM 57
 Deputy dispatched to vehicle accident at US Hwy 287 MM 17
 T/s at US Hwy 287 MM 57
 Received animal complaint in 600 blk Mill Gulch Rd
 Deputy dispatched to vehicle accident at US Hwy 287 MM 52
 Received threats complaint on Utley Ln
 T/s on Armitage St
 Received unfounded 911 call

Dec. 3
 Dispatched RVA to 100 blk Carey Ln
 Deputy dispatched to assist public at Rocky Mountain Supply
 Deputy dispatched to assist public in McAllister/Norris Hill area
 Received public safety complaint at Mt Hwy 287 MM 25
 Deputy dispatched to

vehicle/deer accident on Mt Hwy 287 at Laurin
 T/s at US Hwy 287 Norris Hill
 T/s on Norris Hill
 T/s at US Hwy 287 MM 60
 Received theft complaint in Twin Bridges
 Received request for welfare check at Mt Hwy 84 MM 8

Dec. 4
 Deputy dispatched to assault complaint in Alder
 Received unfounded 911 call
 Received traffic complaint in 800 blk Mirza Way

Dec. 5
 Deputy dispatched to traffic complaint on Mt Hwy 41 north from Dillon
 T/s at Mt Hwy 41 MM 45
 T/s at Mt Hwy 41 MM 46
 Received request for assistance in 100 blk W Hamilton St
 Received unfounded 911

call
 Received traffic complaint on Mt Hwy 55 south from Whitehall
 Deputy dispatched to vehicle accident at Madison County Courthouse
 Received unfounded 911 call
 Deputy dispatched to suspicious circumstances in 300 blk Mill St
 Dispatched SFD to an alarm in 300 blk Boundary St

Dec. 6
 Coroner dispatched to E Rock Trl
 Received threats complaint in Ennis area
 Received threats complaint in Ennis area
 Received public safety complaint in Sheridan area
 Coroner dispatched to 500 blk Ray Ln
 Received report of vehicle accident at Mt

Hwy 84 MM 15
 Received public safety complaint in 200 blk Poppleton St
 Deputy dispatched to vehicle accident on US Hwy 287 at West Fork Cabins
 Dispatched HFD to 100 blk Harrison St
 T/s at Mt Hwy 287 MM 37
 Received unfounded 911 call
 Deputy dispatched to assist other agency in Revenue Flats area
 Dispatched SFD to an alarm in 300 blk E Madison St
 Dispatched SFD to an alarm in 300 blk E Madison St
 Received unfounded 911 call
 Deputy dispatched to an alarm on My Lane Rd
 T/s at Mt Hwy 287 MM 23
 Received unfounded 911 call
 Deputy dispatched to found property complaint

on Wisconsin Creek Rd
 Dispatched EFD up South Meadow Creek
Dec. 7
 Deputy dispatched to assault complaint in Alder
 Received unfounded 911 call
 Received wildlife complaint at US Hwy 287 MM 24
 Deputy dispatched to an alarm in 5400 blk US Hwy 287
 Received wildlife complaint in 100 blk Jeffers Loop
 Received report of vehicle accident on E Armitage Rd
 Received unfounded 911 call
 Received theft complaint in 300 blk E Main St, Ennis
 The Sheriff's Office made 11 traffic stops and received 60 calls for service.

TOPS recommends seasonal produce

Submitted by Beth Maniero
TOPS

This season, add zest and color to meals with nutritious options that are seasonally available. Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) Club, Inc., the nonprofit weight-loss support organization, advises that variety is indeed the spice of life and has the power to keep healthy eaters on track.

Consider the following fruits and vegetables to add dazzle to dinners in a healthy way, making it easier to avoid high-fat treats:

Squash is available in several varieties, including butternut, sweet dumpling, acorn, spaghetti, banana, hubbard and buttercup. Surprisingly, the rich taste of winter squash contains only 80 calories per cup. Winter squash is a source of complex carbohydrates and fiber and also contains potassium, niacin, iron, vitamin C, folate and cancer-fighting beta-carotene. It can be featured in an array of recipes: baked, boiled, microwaved, sautéed, or steamed. Squash halves can be baked as a boat containing fillings such as vegetable and bread stuffing or fruit mixtures. Squash can also be added to enhance pasta and rice dishes, adding extra fiber, vitamins and minerals.

Kale, a member of the cabbage family, can be used

as a stand-in for spinach or collard greens in many dishes. Bursting with nutrients, kale contains potassium, vitamin A, vitamin C, iron, calcium and beta-carotene. Kale also has two grams of filling protein in a serving. Look for dark-colored bunches of kale and avoid brown or yellow leaves. It makes a delicious addition to smoothies, soups, stir-fries, casseroles, or even simply sautéed as a side dish.

Clementines are a refreshingly sweet variety of mandarin orange often referred to as "seedless tangerines." They are much easier to peel than other citrus fruits and are a good source of vitamin C, potassium, folic acid and fiber. When picking out clementines, choose those that are slightly soft, blemish-free, strongly fragrant and heavy for their size, meaning they are full of juice. You can simply peel the skin and eat the fruit's segments or add them to salads. To enjoy the flavor all year long, make preserves or cook freezable sauces.

Sweet potatoes, often mistakenly advertised as yams, can be substituted for regular potatoes, not only to add variety to menus but also to provide a healthier option. Sweet potatoes have almost twice the recommended daily allowance (RDA) of vitamin A, 42 percent of the RDA for vitamin C and four times

the RDA for beta-carotene compared to white potatoes. When eaten with the skin on, sweet potatoes have more fiber than oatmeal and carry a reasonable 130 to 160 calories. Sweet potatoes digest slowly, causing a gradual rise in blood sugar so people feel satisfied longer. When preparing sweet potatoes, replace the butter, marshmallow and brown sugar with healthier choices such as nutmeg and walnuts or pineapple tidbits for a different flavor. Slice a sweet potato into thin wedges, bake, and dust with cinnamon for French fries that are not deep-fried.

Pomegranates are known for their bright, tart taste and pinkish-red pulp and juice. They contain arils, which are full of nutritious juice surrounding a small white crunchy seed. You can eat the entire aril, containing fiber-

rich seeds, or spit them out. One glass of pomegranate juice contains the same disease-fighting polyphenol content as four glasses of cranberry juice or 10 cups of green tea. They are an ideal source of potassium, vitamin C and niacin. When buying a pomegranate, look for a round, plump and heavy fruit. The arils are tasty eaten raw or sprinkled over salads, oatmeal, yogurt and fruit salad. Pomegranates can be messy to seed. To make seeding a clean job, score the rind of the fruit in quarters and soak in a dish of water for 15 minutes. Peel the rind and seed under water. Drain seeds, water, and pomegranate membrane in a colander. Keep seeds refrigerated in an airtight container. The juice is flavorful as a fresh drink on its own or as an addition to glazes, marinades, and dressings.



Take precautions to prevent home fires around the holidays

Submitted by Anna
Fernandez-Gevaert
AMERICAN RED CROSS OF MONTANA

The American Red Cross is responding to home fires and weather-related emergencies around the state as the cold weather continues to cause havoc in many communities. After a week of very cold weather, power outages and other hazardous conditions, the humanitarian organization wants to reassure everyone that its volunteer teams are assisting many individuals and families with food, lodging and other emergency supplies and that the organization is ready to open overnight shelters and warming stations should larger groups require help during this prolonged cold spell.

"Our disaster action teams have been busy this past week with numerous house fires and other emergencies across Montana. We want our fellow Montanans to know that we are ready to help anyone who is experiencing weather-related emergencies," explains Rod Kopp, CEO of Montana Red Cross. "Anyone requiring assistance can call us at 1-800-

272-6668 and ask for the duty officer on call."

The Red Cross also wants to remind everyone to be especially careful around the holidays, as the number of house fires always goes up in December.

"Cooking is the leading cause of home fires, and as people are cooking, entertaining, and stringing lights this holiday season, we're urging that they take safety measures to ensure that their homes and loved ones are safe from the threat of fire," said Kopp.

Christmas Day, Christmas Eve and Thanksgiving are the top three days for cooking fires, according to the National Fire Prevention Association. Each year approximately 2,500 Americans perish in home fires — that's nearly seven deaths every single day. Sadly, many of these tragedies could have been prevented.

Here are a few holiday safety tips:

Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms.
- Check food regularly while cooking and remain in the home while cooking. Use

a timer as a reminder that the stove or oven is on.

- Enforce a "kid-free zone" in the cooking area and make children stay at least three feet away from the stove.

- Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stove, oven or any appliance in the kitchen that generates heat.

- Clean cooking surfaces on a regular basis to prevent grease buildup.

- Purchase a fire extinguisher to keep in the kitchen. Contact the local fire department to receive training on the proper use of extinguishers.

Holiday Decorating

- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.

- Keep children, pets and decorations away from lit candles.

- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.

- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of LED strands to connect. Some strings of lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.

- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.

- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

People can test their knowledge on how to prevent home fires by taking the Fire Safety Quiz, and can learn more

about fire prevention by visiting redcross.org/montana.

People should also download the free American Red Cross First Aid app, which provides instant access to information on handling the most common first aid emergencies. The apps can be downloaded from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store for Android by searching for American Red Cross or by going to redcross.org/mobileapps.

As people look for meaningful gifts this year, the Montana Red Cross invites everyone to visit www.redcross.org/montana where they can purchase a variety of symbolic gifts in the name of the people on their gift list this year. Shoppers can buy things like infant care kits for babies in emergency shelters, comfort kits for wounded warriors, or water containers used when natural disasters disrupt a community's water supply overseas. Catalog purchases come with greeting cards shoppers can send to a friend or loved one, letting them know a donation has been made in their name. The purchase of each gift item is a tax-deductible contribution that supports the mission of the Red Cross. Donations can also be made via our website at redcross.org/montana, via phone at 1-800-272-6668, or my mail: American Red Cross of Montana, 1300 28th Street South, Great Falls, MT 59718. Each gift helps us help others, so please give generously.

For more information, please visit redcross.org or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

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COLUMNS

This, OUR VALLEY:

By Reverend Keith Axberg

Advent in the Valley

"Be prepared, for the Lord is coming!" Matthew 24:42

Watch. Wait. Stay awake! These are the watchwords of Advent.

The past several columns I've talked about my desire for a more safe, sane and holy month leading up to Christmas. At our community choir holiday concert at St. Paul's, in Virginia City, I explained to the audience that for the world "out there" this is the Christmas season – a time of shopping and celebration – but for the world "in here" (inside the confines of the church) it is the season of Advent.

Advent is a season of patient anticipation. In some ways, Christmas can be more special when we don't jump the gun. We can approach the birth of Christ thoughtfully, meditatively, and deliberately. How many people start singing happy birthday to one another a month or two in advance of the actual birthday?



By Rev. Keith Axberg

I'm not such a stick in the mud that I cringe at the Yuletide shenanigans of the season around the community. Winter is dark and dreary, so it's delightful joining in and working with the community choir to provide seasonal cheer in voice and song. A goodly number of hearty souls came out to enjoy the concerts in the minus double digit temperatures that hit the region really hard this year. For that, I am thankful!

We are part of a community, and participating in activities that warm hearts and minds is important. I'm glad we could do that, and especially glad that people put the community service over a Thursday night football game – or whatever else might have kept them more sanely indoors. One will never confuse the talents of the local community choir with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, but we came together, we sang and celebrated, and then we feasted, and that was enough.

No, the world goes crazy this time of year, and that's OK. It is the insanity of the human race that really explains why God bothered to send us more than a greeting card – or a cease-and-desist order, for that matter.

For millennia, God tried a number of things to help restore sanity to the world, but after Adam and Eve's bungle in the jungle (and consequent ejection from the game-preserve), things

just went downhill fast.

God could have left us alone to our own devices, but we just seem to prefer the vices. During the time of Noah, God put us into the wash and rinse cycle, but that didn't seem to work either. None of us, it seems, is wrinkle free!

God laid down the law with Moses, and while it gave us some structure and parameters within which to work, we still don't get it. It seems we're pretty good at looking for and finding loopholes.

"Love your neighbor?" Sure, I can do that. Here are the three people on my neighbor list. Everyone else: Watch out!

"Do not covet"? No problem. I will just borrow the money I need to buy the stuff you have that I want (whether I need it or not) – and then it's not coveting because I'll already have it, so there!

God tried religion, and do I really need to lie out how that has worked out over the past few millennia?

Ironically, the purpose of religion is to unite. The root word is "lig" (as in ligature or ligament). But we clever humans use it as a bone of contention.

The point of law is to bring order out of chaos, but it turns out that is more like nailing jelly to a hot wall. There is a law of physics (the second law of thermodynamics) that simply points out the propensity of everything to decay in time.

So, since law and religion don't seem to be very effective in changing the world for the better, God sent his Son into the world to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves. This is the essence of the Christmas story. And we can't get it all on one day of the year, or even in a month of manic berserkery or miracles on 34th Street.

We get it by quieting down, waiting, watching, and staying alert. Advent. It's a good word. It means the adventure is about to begin, and I'm excited to be a part of it here in this, our valley.

The wind blows, are both things we can do if we choose to here in this, our valley.

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



by Gail Banks

"The weather outside is frightful, but the fire is so delightful and since we have no place to go, Let it snow, Let it snow, let it snow!"

We certainly could do without the below zero temps and the wind. I got home Tuesday evening and it was so cold and windy. I thought to myself, "Get the wood in first to start a fire and just get it over." I got a big arm full of wood and brought it into the house to find my wood box heaping full already. Went to start the stove and it was full of paper and kindling all ready to go. Later, I found out that my son Adam had been at the house and did that for me. I thought to myself what a super nice thing to do for me. He is definitely on the "good list."

You know you have grown up when none of the things you want for Christmas can be bought at a store.

As Murphy's Law always has it: if something can go wrong when it is really cold and extremely hard to deal with, it will when it is below zero degrees. First night of the arctic blast that hit Madison County

square on, I head for home and my heater in the car starts making a screaming noise and then quits. No heat. Oh my gosh it was so cold driving home, but I knew the worst was still to come because I had to get the car back to Twin Bridges to get it fixed. So the next morning I bundled up as best I could, scraped the car windows, and headed to Twin Bridges with no heat. Worst of it was trying to keep the windows clear to see; lots of scraping and wiping the windshield. Just have to do what you have to do, my fingers and toes quit stinging after a while. Then Friday morning the power goes off at 2 in the morning in Twin Bridges and Sheridan. I had power at my house and had no idea that there was no power in Twin, so I headed to work early so as to make sure if something went wrong I wasn't late. I knew that I had to be nearly in town, but there were no lights. Thought to myself where in the heck am I? I know I'm just in town. Drove into town and no lights; guess the Grinch didn't steal Twin Bridges. Just then I get a phone call saying there is no electricity in Twin Bridges and school was cancelled. Since many people only have land lines phones that don't work with the power is off we still ran the morning school bus routes to make sure all kids knew there was no school and wasn't standing out in the cold waiting for a bus. Pushing the big bus barn door up manually was really interesting, had to use some seldom-used muscles to get that done.

Have to give much respect and many thanks to the crews that go out in that cold and repair the power lines, so we don't all freeze. Thank gosh they got the power back on a bit after 7. Even in five hours many people's homes froze up and water

lines broke. I saw one trailer home in Twin that had so much water running out of it that water was running down the alley. Makes you wonder just what you would do if the power went off for days like it does back east in the winter. If you had a wood stove, you could survive and hopefully keep things from freezing up, but with no back up heat, you would just have to leave your home and go elsewhere; dealing with damages later. It would be horrible.

It is so cold outside that I swear I just saw a deer passing a snowflake. It is so cold outside that there are K-birds on the fence posts, saying "K-ripes it is cold out side!" Frostbite in Montana is called ice tan.

Been 72 years since the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Hopefully we never forget how fast it can happen and the consequences.

So what have we learned this week? Laugh until your belly hurts and then laugh a bit more. A bad attitude is like a flat tire; you can't go anywhere until you change it. There are givers and takers in this world, the takers eat better and the givers sleep better. Shivering does count as exercise. It is true most of us have flakes as best friends. Don't be afraid to rock the boat, if someone falls out they were not meant to be in the boat.

My dear friend Chuck Benetts is having his 100th birthday party in Whitehall this Saturday 12-4 p.m. Knowing Chuck he will be writing a poem about his 100 years. Chuck was our friendly Montana power man for many years.

"A negative mind will never give you a positive life."



Be prepared – it can save your life

The Thanksgiving holiday weekend was the unofficial kickoff to winter recreation season as well as the holiday season, and a time when families head out to find their Christmas tree. Many times those events involve a trip to public lands.

Recreationists will find some of the best cross country, back country and downhill skiing; snowshoeing, snowmobiling, ice climbing and winter camping opportunities within U.S. Forest Service, BLM or State managed lands. However getting to those areas in winter can sometimes mean sketchy road conditions.

Make sure you always check with the local U.S. Forest Service, BLM or State offices about weather and road conditions before you set out on your trip. Before you leave, notify someone of your planned route of travel, departure time and planned

time of return. Traveling on forest roads during the winter months is serious business. You should always carry a survival kit in case you are stranded that includes:

- PMA. (Positive Mental Attitude) The most important survival tool, along with common sense.
- One sleeping bag or two or more blankets for every person in the vehicle. You may also use a "space" blanket, plastic tarp, or two large black plastic leaf bags to help retain body heat.
- Matches and small candles stored in aluminum foil. A blanket over your head, your body heat and the heat from a single candle can prevent freezing. The candles can also be used to melt snow.
- An empty coffee can be used to melt snow, heat water and as a tool to dig.
- Dental floss—it is strong and may be used

for lashing branches for improvised shelters.

- Bottled water
- High-energy foods such as candy, nuts, dried fruits and raisins and several packets of instant soup, hot chocolate, tea, etc.
- A spoon.
- An LED flashlight with extra batteries.
- A whistle—good for signaling for help.
- Extra winter clothing –hat, mittens, heavy socks, gloves, coveralls, etc. Cotton is not recommended because it provides no insulation when wet.
- A first aid kit that includes any special medications needed by you or your passengers.
- A basic tool kit with a jackknife.
- Paper towels or toilet tissue, which can also be used as fire starters.
- Pieces of bright cloth to tie to the car's antenna or door handle.
- Money (two nickels, two dimes, two quarters, \$20 bill –helpful for making phone calls or paying for gas if broken down along highway.)

Many of these items can be stored in the coffee can. Place a stocking cap over the kit and carry in the passenger compartment for easy retrieval.

You should always have the following emergency gear for your vehicle in the winter:

- Jumper cables.
- Sand for traction (note, kitty litter dissolves in water and is not as good.)
- Ice scraper, snowbrush, and a small shovel with a flat blade.
- Warning devices such as flares and reflectors.
- A tow chain or strap and braided nylon rope at least 25 feet long.
- Bailing wire.

Additionally, using parts from your vehicle can save your life:

- A hubcap or sun visor can be used as a shovel.
- Seat covers can be used like a blanket.
- Floor mats can be used to shut out the wind.
- Engine oil burned in a hubcap creates a black smoke that can be seen for miles.
- The horn can be heard as far as a mile downwind. Three long blasts at 10 seconds apart every 30 minutes is a standard distress signal.
- A rearview or side mirror can be used as a signaling device.

Remember that if a storm traps you inside your vehicle or if you become lost and stranded do not panic. Think the problem through and decide on a course of action and implement it slowly and carefully. Above all, stay with your vehicle.

Just remember to have fun and be safe out there.



BusinessBriefs

Sara Racine
THE MADISONIAN
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at 682-5823 or visit them at 70 MT Hwy 287 in Ennis.

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The Splendid Feast

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There is a year-end close out special going down in Sheridan right now. Alamo Art and Framing is slashing prices on a wide selection of western and wildlife prints. Stop by Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or during the Sheridan Christmas Stroll on Dec. 13 until 8 p.m. If you purchase your print by Friday, Dec. 13 there's still time to have it framed for Christmas, so get in to 117 N. Main St, Unit D or call 842-7900.

In the depths of winter, when Mother Nature holds Montana in her icy grip, the Elling House brings a magical mix of music, companionship and great food to its warm halls in Virginia City. This year, Chef Janet Marsh and a small army of festive volunteers prepare and present The Splendid Feast Dec. 13 and 14 at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP as this event always sells out. Reserve your spot by calling 842-5454. Meals are \$50 per person and guests are encouraged to bring their own wine.

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SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

- SHERIDAN**
- Monday, Dec 16**
Breakfast: Bagels and toppings
Lunch: Chicken nuggets
- Tuesday, Dec 17**
Breakfast: Hot or cold cereal
Lunch: Chicken fried steak
- Wednesday, Dec 18**
Breakfast: Muffins, pop tarts
Lunch: Mac n' cheese
- Thursday, Dec 19**
Breakfast: French toast
Lunch: Lasagna
- Friday, Dec 20**
NO SCHOOL
- TWIN BRIDGES**
- Monday, Dec 16**
Breakfast: Waffles, sausage
Lunch: Hamburgers
- Tuesday, Dec 17**
Breakfast: Choice of cereal
Lunch: Burritos
- Wednesday, Dec 18**
Breakfast: Egg wrap
Lunch: Spaghetti
- Thursday, Dec 19**
Breakfast: Choice of cereal
Lunch: Sub sandwich
- Friday, Dec 20**
Breakfast: Cinnamon pizza
Lunch: School made sack lunch
- ENNIS**
- Monday, Dec 16**
Breakfast: Donuts
Lunch: Chili cheese tots
- Tuesday, Dec 17**
Breakfast: Waffles, sausage links
Lunch: Tacos
- Wednesday, Dec 18**
Breakfast: Biscuits and gravy
Lunch: Baked rigatoni
- Thursday, Dec 19**
Breakfast: Cinnamon rolls
Lunch: Sweet & sour chicken
- Friday, Dec 20**
Breakfast: Scrambled eggs and scones
Lunch: Corn dogs

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Faced with a drinking problem? Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help.
SUazN - 10 a.m., No Smoking, Virginia City Library
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

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

DAYSRING MISSION
3648 Hwy 287, Sheridan
596-0707

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON IN RE ESTATE OF: DAVID EDWARD REIFENBERGER, Deceased Cause No. B
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against said decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to MARY JO REIFENBERGER CHANDLER, Personal Representative, C/O Kruer Law Firm, P.C., P.O. Box 718, Sheridan, MT 59749 or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. Dated: November 19, 2013
I declare under perjury under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief
//s/STEPHANIE GEHRES KRUER, Attorney for Personal Representative (Pub. Nov 28, Dec 5, Dec 12 2013) sk

Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against said decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to ALAN S. NOACK, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at P.O. Box 431, Ennis, MT 59729, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. Dated: November 5, 2013
//s/ ALAN S. NOACK Personal Representative STATE OF MONTANA) :ss COUNTY OF MADISON) ALAN S. NOACK, being first duly sworn, upon oath, deposes and says: That he has read the foregoing NOTICE TO CREDITORS and that the facts and matters contained therein are true, correct, accurate and complete to the best of his knowledge and belief. I make this declaration under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana.
//s/ ALAN S. NOACK Personal Representative SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 5th day of November, 2013.
//s/ Janet R. Cookson Notary Public for the State of Montana Residing at: Ennis, MT My Commission expires: 1/30/2017 (SEAL)
Personal Representative's Attorney: Karen McMullin Post Office Box 55

Ennis, MT 59729 Telephone: (406) 682-7878 (Pub. November 28, Dec 5, 12 2013) km

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
DV-29-13-54
LOREN TUCKER
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
MADISON COUNTY
JUDY MAYNARD, Plaintiff v.
SHAYNE RYAN and CATHY STRAUGHN
And all persons, unknown, claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate, or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the complaint adverse to Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent.
The State of Montana Sends Greetings to: all persons, unknown, claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate, or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the complaint adverse to Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent:
You are required to appear and answer the complaint of Judy Maynard, plaintiff, filed with the clerk of this court, within 60 days after the first publication of this summons, and set forth what interest or lien, if any, you have in or upon that certain real property or any part of the real property situated in the county of Madison, state of Montana, particularly described as follows:
Lot 167 of the Virginia City Ranches Subdivision, the plat of which is of record in the offices of the Clerk and Recorder, Madison County, Montana, in Book 4 of Plats, pages 82 thru 84. The lot is generally located in Section 24 of Township 6 South, Range 2 West, of the principal Montana meridian, Madison County, Montana.
You are further notified that, unless you appear and answer, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the complaint:
1. Defendants, named and unnamed, and all persons claiming under them, be required to set forth the nature of their claims to the described real property. 2. All adverse claims to such real property be determined by an Order of this Court. 3. Order that the three living heirs of Emma Ryan, namely Judy Maynard, Cathy Straughn, and Shayne Ryan, own in fee simple, as tenants in common, and are entitled to the quiet and peaceful possession of such real property, and that Defendants, named and unnamed, and all persons claiming under them, have no estate, right, title, lien, or interest in or to the real property or any part of it. 4. Pursuant to an agreement between the Plaintiff Judy Maynard and the identified Defendants Shayne Ryan and Cathy Straughn, order the sale of the subject property, the net proceeds of which shall be distributed equally between Judy Maynard, Shayne Ryan, and Cathy Straughn, with the shares of the net proceeds from the sale for Shayne Ryan and Cathy Straughn to be reduced by their proportionate shares of the prior and current property taxes and by the fees and costs associated with the current quiet title action. 5. Enjoining all Defendants, named and unnamed, and all persons claiming under them, from asserting any adverse claim to Petitioners' title to the property. 6. Such other relief as this Court deems just and proper. The following persons are said to claim an interest in or lien upon said property, adverse to plaintiff:
Mr. Shayne Ryan
409 Oak Street
Junction City, KS 66441-3840
Cathy Straughn
795 Winchester Dr.
Deer Lodge, MT 59722
WITNESS my hand and the seal of court this 15th day of October, 2013.
//s/:- Bundy K. Bailey, Clerk of Court
Michael L. Rausch, Esq.
SMITH,WALSH CLARKE & GREGOIRE, PLLP
104 2nd Street South,
Suite 400
P.O. Box 2227
(406) 727-4100
(Pub. November 28, Dec 5, 12 2013) swcg

conveyed on Personal Representative's Deed recorded in Book 271, page 657, records of Madison County, Montana. WILLIAM E MURRAY, as Grantor(s), conveyed said real property to Charles J Peterson, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Beneficiary, by Deed of Trust dated January 27, 2005 and Recorded February 3, 2005 in Book 524, on Page 991, under Document No. 104009. The beneficial interest is currently held by Green Tree Servicing LLC. First American Title Company, LLC, is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, Montana. The beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust by failing to make the monthly payments due in the amount of \$610.40, beginning March 1, 2013, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. The total amount due on this obligation as of July 28, 2013 is \$61,559.73 principal, interest at the rate of 5.875% now totaling \$1,774.52, late charges in the amount of \$20.80, escrow advances of \$755.47, and other fees and expenses advanced of \$45.00, plus accruing interest at the rate of \$9.91 per diem, late charges, and other costs and fees that may be advanced.
The Beneficiary anticipates and may disburse such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Grantors. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's fees and attorney's fees, costs and expenses of the sale and late charges, if any.
Beneficiary has elected, and has directed the Trustee to sell the above described property to satisfy the obligation.
The sale is a public sale and any person, including the beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier's checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed without any representation or warranty, including warranty of Title, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale.
The grantor, successor in interest to the grantor or any other person having an interest in the property, at any time prior to the trustee's sale, may pay to the beneficiary or the successor in interest to the beneficiary the entire amount then due under the deed of trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and thereby cure the default.
The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation up to 15 days for any reason, and in the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least every 30 days.
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
Dated: August 29, 2013
Lisa J Tornabene
Assistant Secretary,
First American Title Company, LLC
Successor Trustee
Title Financial Specialty Services
P.O. Box 339
Blackfoot ID 83221
STATE OF Idaho)
ss.
County of Bingham)
On this 29th day of August, 2013, before me, a notary public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Lisa J Tornabene, know to me to be the Assistant Secretary of First American Title Company of Montana, Inc., Successor Trustee, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.
Dalia Martinez
Notary Public
Bingham County, Idaho
Commission expires: 2/18/2014
Greentree Vs. Murray 42072.044
(Pub. November 28, December 5, 12 2013) apps

That she has read the foregoing NOTICE TO CREDITORS and that the facts and matters contained therein are true, correct, accurate and complete to the best of her knowledge and belief. I make this declaration under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana.
//s/ PATRICIA A. TOY
Personal Representative
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to (or affirmed) before me this 13th day of November, 2013, by PATRICIA A. TOY, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person who appeared before me.
//s/ Jeanne Dudak
Notary Public for the State of California Residing at: Amador County My Commission expires: 2/25/2017 (SEAL)
Personal Representative's Attorney: Karen McMullin Post Office Box 55 Ennis, MT 59729 Telephone: (406) 682-7878 (Pub. November 28, Dec 5, 12 2013) km

KTVM-TV LPTV LICENSE RENEWAL LOCAL PUBLIC NOTICE
On December 1, 2013, BlueStone License Holdings Inc. filed with the Federal Communications Commission an application for the renewal of the license of station K10HLD, which serves Virginia City, Montana, on Channel 10. The station rebroadcasts KTVM-TV, Channel 6, Butte. Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to the station's renewal application, and to whether this station has operated in the public interest, should file comments and petitions with the FCC, Washington, DC 20554, by March 3, 2014.
(Pub. Dec 12, 2013) ktvm

PUBLIC NOTICE
Minutes of the Madison County Board of Commissioners' meetings for the period beginning November 1, 2013, and ending on November 30, 2013, are now available for public review in the office of the Clerk and Recorder at the Madison County Courthouse. Individual requests for personal copies of these minutes, or any previous minutes, will be accepted by the Clerk and Recorder in her office. Approved minutes can also be viewed on the Madison County website at www.madison.mt.gov. Signed this 5th day of December, 2013.
(Pub. Dec 12, 2013) mcc


PUBLIC NOTICE
The Madison County Board of Commissioners approved claims for payment in the amount of \$445,378.21 and payroll for all funds in the amount of \$778,258.89 with a total of \$1,223,637.10 for the period beginning November 1, 2013, and ending on November 30, 2013. The full and complete claims and payroll lists are available for public review in the office of the Clerk and Recorder at the Madison County Courthouse. Individual requests for personal copies of these lists will be accepted by the Clerk and Recorder in her office. Signed this 5th day of December, 2013.
(Pub. Dec 12, 2013) mcc


ENNIS TOWN COMMISSION VACANCY
The Town of Ennis is seeking an interested person to serve on the Ennis Town Commission.
The position requires the applicant to be a resident within the incorporated limits of the Town of Ennis. (The term being filled will go up for election at the next Municipal Election for the Town of Ennis).
If you are interested in this position, send a letter of interest to: Town of Ennis, P.O. Box 147, Ennis, MT 59729, or it can be delivered to Ennis Town Hall. Deadline for letters of interest is December 30, 2013.
If you have any questions regarding this position you may call 682-4287 or come in to Town Hall during normal business hours.
(Pub. Dec 12, 19, 26 2013) toe

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY IN RE ESTATE OF: JESSEE R. VON BERGEN, Deceased Cause No. DP-29-2013-42
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or their claims will be forever barred.
Claims must either be mailed to Jaycee F. Von Bergen, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at Crowley Fleck PLLP, P.O. Box 797, Helena, MT 59624-0797, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.
//s/ Jaycee F. Von Bergen
Personal Representative's Attorney:
Daniel N. McLean
Crowley Fleck PLLP
900 North Last Chance Gulch,
Suite 200
P. O. Box 797
Helena, MT 59624-0797
Telephone: (406) 449-4165
(Pub. December 12, 19, 26 2013) cf

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON IN RE ESTATE OF: CARLEEN G. CLARK, Deceased Cause No. DP-29-2013-41
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
Claims must either be mailed Barry Carter, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested c/o Braaksma & Miller, PLLC, 1283 North 14th Avenue, Suite 202, Bozeman, Montana 59715, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court.
DATED this 6 day of December, 2013.
/s/ Barry Carter
Barry Carter
Personal Representative
Mark E. Miller
BRAAKSMA & MILLER, PLLC
1283 North 14th Avenue
Suite 202
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 586-0839
mark@braaksmamillerlaw.com
ATTORNEYS FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
(Pub. December 12, 19, 26 2013) bm

LOOKING FOR FAMILY DESCENDANTS
In search of family descendants - to Henry A. Powers, born Feb. 1852 in Iowa. Died July 16, 1922 in Blackfoot, Idaho. Wife: Isabella Rosella McKinney, born Feb. 6, 1872 in Butte, Montana. Died Oct. 15, 1926 in Pocatello, Idaho. Please contact Mary Powers Baldwin at P.O. Box 5, Caliente, CA 93518.

SKYLINE SURVEYING INC.

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


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Quality Service at a Fair Price
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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TO BE SOLD FOR CASH AT TRUSTEE'S SALE on January 6, 2014, at 11:00 o'clock A.M. at the Main Entrance of the First American Title Company of Montana located at 122 South First Street in Ennis, MT 59729, the following described real property situated in Madison County, Montana:
A tract of land 110 feet by 160 feet in size located in the Normal Addition to the town of Twin Bridges, being more particularly described as follows:
As an initial point beginning at a stone 12X6X6 inches, which said stone is located at the intersection of the center of Wray Street and the center of Eighth Avenue of the said Normal Addition;
Thence East 45 feet to intersect the East line of said Wray Street; Thence North over and along the said East line of Wray Street a distance of 45 feet to the point of intersection with the North line of Eighth Avenue; Thence East over and along the North line of said Eighth Avenue a distance of 100 feet to the point of beginning of the tract herein intended to be described. Thence continuing East on said North line of Eighth Avenue 110 feet; Thence North on a line parallel to the East line of said Wray Street a distance of 160 feet; Thence West on a line parallel to the said North line of Eighth Avenue a distance of 110 feet; Thence South on a line parallel to the East line of Wray Street a distance of 160 feet to the place of beginning.
It is intended that the foregoing description be the same property as heretofore described in Book 175, page 163, and Book 180, page 473, records of Madison County, Montana. Excluding a tract described in Book 215, page 215, records of Madison County, Montana, and as most recently

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON IN RE ESTATE OF: NORMA AILEEN RADCLIFFE, also known as NORMA A. RADCLIFFE, Deceased Cause No. DP-29-2013-40
That the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against said decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to PATRICIA A. TOY, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at P.O. Box 389, Mountain Ranch, CA 95246, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. Dated: November 13, 2013
//s/ PATRICIA A. TOY
Personal Representative STATE OF CALIFORNIA) :ss COUNTY OF AMADOR) PATRICIA A. TOY, being first duly sworn, upon oath, deposes and says:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON IN RE ESTATE OF: ROBERT A. STOTTS, Deceased Cause No. DP-29-12-2
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against said decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to JASON T. CUTTS, Attorney for the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 201 West Madison Avenue, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court at 110 West Wallace, Virginia City, Montana 59755
Dated: June 30, 2013
//s/ ROBERT A. STOTTS, JR
Personal Representative
Personal Representative's Attorney:
Jason T. Cutts
201 West Madison Avenue, Ste. 450
Belgrade, MT 59714
Telephone: (406) 388-5050
(Pub. December 5, 12, 19 2013) jc

contact susanne at s.hill@madisoniannews.com

Get Results.



the Madison County MARKETPLACE

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HELP WANTED

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

TOBACCO MOUNTAINS CENTER, A SMALL FAMILY ORIENTED LTC FACILITY IN SHERIDAN, MT, IS NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS: CHARGE NURSE - RN OR LPN & CERTIFIED NURSE'S AIDES COMPETITIVE WAGES, GREAT BENEFITS, INCLUDING HEALTH INSURANCE AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS. CONTACT PAM AT (406) 842-5600 FOR MORE INFO AND APPLICATION. EOE 7-2-b



Wanted: Dispatcher Full-Time 30-40 hrs/week Full Benefits The Madison County Sheriff's Office is hiring Full Time Career Communications Officers On the job training provided. Salary \$14.31 - \$17.89 To apply, submit application & resume to Sheriff's Dept. or County Finance Dept. in Virginia City Courthouse. Applications available online: www.madison.mt.gov Accepting applications until the positions are filled. For more info: 843-4211 39-tfc-b

Head Bartender Wanted, 40 hrs per week. Apply in person at Cardwell Store, or send resume to cardwellstore@outlook.com. 3-tfc-b

NOTICE OF BOARD VACANCIES:

The Madison County Board of Commissioners has vacancies on the Big Hole River Advisory Board, the Big Sky Mountains, Trails, Recreation, and Parks District Board, the Planning Board, one position representing the Town of Twin Bridges, and one position representing the Sheridan area, and the Public Health Board representing the Sheridan/Alder/Virginia City area (Commission District 1). If you are interested in serving on any of these boards please contact the Commissioners' Office at 406-843-4277, by email at madco@madison.mt.gov, or visit our website at www.madison.mt.gov. 6-2-b

Request for Catering Bids for Courthouse Christmas Party:

Madison County will be accepting bid proposals to prepare and serve a holiday meal for the County Employees' Christmas party, for approximately 85-100 people, to be held at the Elks Lodge in Virginia City, Montana, on January 10, 2014, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Typical menu items include a meat entrée with an optional poultry or fish item also being offered. Potato, salad, bread, and dessert should also be included with the price of the meal. Please contact the Commissioners' office at 406-843-4277 or email at madco@madison.mt.gov if you have questions. Please submit completed bids to the Madison County Commissioners' Office, P.O. Box 278, Virginia City, Montana, 59755, by December 16, 2013. 6-2-b

RUBY VALLEY HOSPITAL 10 BED CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL in Sheridan, Montana has openings for per deim Registered Nurses, ACLS, BLS, PALS preferred Certified Nurse Aides, CPR Certified. We offer a competitive wage depending on experience. Contact: Ted Woirhaye, RN, DON. Ph: 406-842-5453 4-4-b

MISCELLANEOUS

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

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1-tfc-b

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Expert Tree Care
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Mother of two older children would like to start babysitting in her home. Hours and rates reasonable and negotiable. Four kiddos max. 551-5203 8-4-b

TAMI'S HOUSECLEANING References available. Honest, dependable and efficient. Call for a free estimate. 406-548-2954 3-4-p

FOR RENT

FOR RENT Large single family home for rent in Ennis. Energy efficient RENTED!

dryden okay - NO pets. Very large garage/shop available Jan 1 2014. Call 682-7349 5-tfc-b

MADISON VALLEY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SANDI BOURGEOIS 406.599.1088 sb_bourgeois@yahoo.com COMMERCIAL

+140 SQFT Office in Prof. Suite, \$100/mo *Prime Downtown Ennis: +2300 SQFT Warehouse \$400/mo +850 SQFT *Storefront/Retail \$400/mo Combine for \$750/mo!!! +500 SQFT Highly Visibility *Restaurant w/outdoor seating \$475/mo

RESIDENTIAL *1bed+sleeping loft, 1 bath historic lower Ennis \$500/mo W/D incl. *Beautifully furnished 2 bed/2 bath Golf course townhouse. Short term lease now-April 30th \$900/mo

CLIENTS LOOKING FOR: *2-3 BEDR/1+BATH W/GARAGE, *AUG VACATION RENTAL: 2+ BEDR, QUIET LOCATION 6-2-b

FOR RENT: Call Apex Management at 682-7112 or 581-0103 for long term or vacation rentals in Ennis and the Madison Valley. 1-tfc

BARKER VILLAGE APARTMENTS: 1 bedroom unfurnished apartments available in Ennis. A/C, washer/dryer equipped, private location. 1 year lease, \$600 per month plus security deposit, utilities included, non-smoking, no dogs. Call Erich Vogeli, Manager at 406-682-5737. 15-tfc

FOR RENT: Large mobile home site 1 mile from Ennis. 100 x 150', water & sewer, country atmosphere, quiet. NO DOGS. 682-4854. 29-tfc

BARKER VILLAGE APARTMENTS: 1 bedroom furnished apartments available in Ennis. A/C, washer/dryer equipped, private location. 4 month lease, \$650 per month plus security deposit, utilities included, non-smoking, no dogs. Call Erich Vogeli, Manager at 406-682-5737. 15-tfc

3Bedroom, 2Bathroom rental in great condition. Located in Jeffers. Asking \$700 per month. Please call for more details. (406) 788-4646 1-1-b

FOR RENT: 2bd/2ba mobile home. W/D, large yard, large deck, \$600/month + deposit. 682-4616 or 581-0719 4-4-p

For Rent: Immaculate 2 BD/1 BA Sheridan home on Mill Creek frontage. Can be furnished. Call 406-842-7737. 2-tfc-b

FOR RENT IN ENNIS: Office Space - 390 sq. ft. includes office, storage area & bathroom. Please contact Cindy at 682-3011 or 581-5372. 14-tfc

RENTAL in Harrison. 12 Center St, Harrison, 4 BD, 2BA, \$700 a mo. Call Baycroft's Prop. Mgmt, Inc. 406-560-3274 4-tfc-b

For Rent: Clean furnished 2 bedroom, 1 bath apt in Ennis, W/D, AC, \$575 plus propane. No smoking, no pets. Call 682-7268. 5-3-b

Available soon, in Sheridan, 2bd/1 ba home. No pets/smoking. 842-5585. 7-2-b

ENNIS MINI STORAGE New low prices with 10 x 10's starting at \$35. Larger sizes available. Call Melinda at 596-4288. 15-tfc

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

Professional Office Space available in downtown Ennis, close to banks, restaurants. Common area facilities included. Various sizes starting at \$190 per month. Call 682-5653. 15-tfc

PETERSON'S DISCOUNT STORAGE now taking reservations for enclosed storage of any size RV's and motorhomes. Ennis. 682-7442 18-tfc-b

FOR SALE

Place Your Classified **682-7755**

BIG SKY CAR RENTAL LIQUIDATION SALE

PRICES SLASHED!

2011	Chevy Aveo LT	\$9650
2011	Chevy Aveo LT	\$8895
2011	Chevy Aveo LT	\$8895
2010	Chevy Aveo LT	\$7395
2009	Chevy Aveo	\$6250
2009	Chrysler PT Cruiser	\$5775
2007	Pontiac G6 SE	\$6875
2005	Ford Focus SE	\$5325
2007	Chevy Impala LS	\$7850
2010	Chevy Impala LT	\$8195
2011	Chevy Impala LT	\$7395
2010	Chevy Impala LT	\$7395
2009	Kia Sedona EX	\$9295
2010	Dodge Grd Caravan	\$9695

415 Yellowstone Ave. West Yellowstone, MT 59758 406.646.9564 48-tfc-b

Ennis Rodeo Association is accepting bids on a 1972 GMC fire truck. As is, where is. No title. Send sealed bids to PO BOX 236, Ennis MT 59729 by Dec 26, 2013. Truck can be viewed at entrance to Ennis Rodeo Grounds. 7-2-b

FINNIGAN'S FIREWOOD: Honest Cord, \$165 delivered. Any size or amount, Ennis/VC/Ruby Valley. 599-5270. Senior/Veteran/Volume Discount. 15-13p

2009 Subaru Forester X Sport 4D, 2.5lt Manual, 5 spd, 30 mpg, 69,000k, great condition, new tires \$11,400 Call Ron @ 406-599-9976 7-tfc-p

Home-raised AKC cocker special pups. Born 8/22/13. Tri-color and tri-parti boys, up-to-date shots, socialized, possible delivery. 406-686-9996 7-1-p

REAL ESTATE

Connected lots in Virginia City. Great location for a cabin. Block 64, Lots 13/14/15/16. Call 702-271-5694 46-tfc-b

HOME FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, new everything, extra large master, landscaped Sheridan home. Call 916-600-3018 or 406-842-7737. 5-tfc

NEWLY REMODELED HOME at Rainbow Point with private access to Ennis Lake. Info @ www.ennislakefront.com or 406-581-7820. 22-tfc

Place Your Classified **682-7755**

RUN IT TIL IT SELLS \$25

(10 WORDS OR LESS) ASK FOR DETAILS

CLASSIFIEDS THROUGH NEW YEAR'S EVE!

(20 WORDS OR LESS, 30¢ FOR ADDITIONAL WORDS)

OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

B9 Thursday, December 12, 2013

GO TO outpostevents.net FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11

Story Time, Ennis
Books and Babies, 10:30 a.m. Madison Valley Public Library. 682-7244.

School Board Meeting, Ennis
5 p.m. Room #3, Ennis High School 682-4258

Cooking Class, Ennis
Jeremiah Lake instructs. \$50 per person or \$90 per couple. 6 p.m. Copper Door. 682-4722

THURSDAY DECEMBER 12

Heritage Commission Meeting, Helena
Quarterly meeting of the Montana Heritage Commission, Reeder's Alley at the Old Stonehouse Building, 9 a.m. 843-5247

Auxiliary Meeting, Ennis
Madison Valley Manor, 1 p.m. Sun Room

Reading Group, Ennis
Lucy Ennis leads discussion of "Perma Red" by Debra Magpie Earling. 1 p.m. MVPL

HS Basketball, Ennis
Ennis vs. Three Forks, 3:30 p.m. HS Gymnasium

Christmas Stroll, West Yellowstone
9th Annual Parade of Lights, visit from Santa, meet the sled

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



The Sphinx catching the light of the setting sun.
Photo by Gen Pierce

dogs and their mushers and shopping. 5:30 – 9 p.m. Downtown West Yellowstone.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13

HS Basketball Tip-off Tourney
Ennis @ Manhattan Christian Harrison and Twin Bridges @ Three Forks Sheridan @ home. Dec. 13 and 14. Times to be determined. Check local school.

Christmas Stroll, Sheridan
Sponsored by the Main Street Improvement, enjoy specials throughout participating businesses, carolers, hayrides and photo ops with Santa. 5:30

– 9 p.m. Main Street. 842-5790

Christmas Strolls, Virginia City
Visit The Dancing Buffalo, The Artisan's Guild, Rank's Mercantile and Elling Gold Exchange while holiday shopping. Hours vary per business. Check out Outpost Events online for hours. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 22. Annie 843-5933, Toni, 843-5454.

Splendid Feasts, Virginia City
The annual tradition continues on Dec. 13 and 14, with Janet Marsh as guest chef. 6:30 p.m. \$50 per person. RSVP to 843-5454. For complete details, visit Outpost Events online

or The Elling House website.

Christmas Stroll, Big Sky
16th annual stroll, Meadow Village and Big Sky Town Center, 5:30 p.m.

Live Music, Norris
Joe Schwem (Originals) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

SATURDAY DECEMBER 14

Kids'N'Snow Weekend, West Yellowstone
Sled dog races, "Birds of Prey" presentation, snow-shoe program, races, snowmobile rides s'mores, skating and more. The fun starts at 9 a.m. Visit the Kids'N'Snow website for details.

Gingerbread Workshop,

Virginia City
The VC Chamber presents a Gingerbread House Workshop for the whole family. 10 a.m. St. Paul's Parish Hall. Public welcome.

Live Music, Norris
Shea Stewart (Blues) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15

Cooking Class, Ennis
Kathy Shepard presents you with fun & easy holiday appetizers. \$20 per person. 2 p.m. Copper Door. RSVP to 682-4722 as space is limited.

Ice Skating Party, Virginia City
Weather dependent, there

will be skating, food, drinks and memories to be made. Family event. 2 p.m. Sterling Pace Park.

Photos with St. Nick, Virginia City
Join Jolly Ol' St. Nick for ice cream and photos. 2 – 4 p.m. Virginia City Creamery.

Live Choir, Ruby Valley
Ruby Valley Chorale presents Journey of Promises by Joseph Martin, the story of Christmas. Bethel Church in Sheridan, 2:30 p.m. Church of the Valley in Twin Bridges, 7 p.m. 684-5200

Veteran's Dinner, Twin Bridges

Outpostevents.net
CONTINUED ON PAGE B12



WILLIE'S DISTILLERY UPCOMING EVENTS:

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OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

B10 Thursday, December 12, 2013

55th annual community Christmas Dinner, 5 p.m. Free to the public. Twin Bridges School Cafeteria. 684-5245

Live Music, Norris
You Knew Me When (Folk) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

MONDAY DECEMBER 16

Christmas Program, Ennis
Ennis Elementary School Christmas Program, 7 p.m. High School Gymnasium.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 17

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

HS Basketball, Sheridan
Sheridan vs. Lima, 5:30 p.m. Sheridan School.

Fly Tying Roundtable, Ennis
Every Tuesday 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., unless noted. Everyone welcome. Second floor of Ennis Café. Ron 600-6081

School Board Meeting, Twin Bridges
7 p.m. Montana Room, Twin Bridges School, 684-5613.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18

Story Time, Ennis
Books and Babies, 10:30 a.m. Toddler's Story Time, 11 a.m. Madison Valley Public Library, 682-7244.

Christmas Program, Alder
Alder School's Christmas Program with a special visitor to attend. Everyone welcome 6:30 p.m. Alder School.

Live Music, Ennis
Jerry Joseph & Steven Drizos (Rock) Gravel Bar 9 p.m. 682-5553

THURSDAY DECEMBER 19

Mad-Gals Meeting, Ennis
December meeting, Alley Bistro, 12 p.m. Christmas sweaters and gift/ornament exchange. RSVP to Jackie, 682-5510 or Ethelyn, 682-4348 by Dec. 16.

Christmas Feast, Jeffers
Madison Valley History Association's annual Christmas luncheon, 12:30 p.m. Potluck event open to the public: last name A-F bring salad, G-O dessert, R-Z side dish. Trinity Church.

Complete details on Outpost Events website or call 682-5780.

HS Basketball Games
Ennis @ Twin Bridges, 1 p.m. Harrison @ Lone Peak, 4 p.m. Sheridan @ West Yellowstone, 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Program, Ennis
An Ennis Community Children's School annual event, their Christmas program. 6 p.m. Ennis elementary gymnasium. Public welcome. 682-7388.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20

Christmas Stories, Ennis
Special story time with Christmas books. 11 a.m. Madison Valley Public Library 682-7244.

HS Basketball Games
Harrison @ WSS, 2:30 p.m. Twin Bridges @ Gardiner, 2:30 p.m. Ennis vs. Lone Peak, 4 p.m.

Christmas Strolls, Virginia City
Last weekend to visit The Dancing Buffalo and The Artisan's Guild while holiday shopping. Hours vary. Check out Outpost Events online for hours.

Annie 843-5933, Toni, 843-5454.

Community Dinner, Virginia City
Pot Luck Dinner, bring a side dish to share. Meat and ice cream provided. 5:30 p.m. Elks Club.

Live Music, Norris
Charlie Denison (Soul) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

SATURDAY DECEMBER 21

Story Hour, Virginia City
Classic Christmas stories, stocking decorating and a special visit from Santa. 11 a.m. Thompson-Hickman County Library.

Ice Skating Party, Virginia City
Skating, warm-up fire, snacks and hot beverages. 1 p.m. Sterling Pace Park.

Live Music, Norris
Aaron Williams (Reggae) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

Movie Party, Virginia City
The Virginia City Opera House presents "It's a Wonderful Life" with snacks and hot beverages. Dress in warm clothes and bring blankets. 7:30 p.m.

Astronomy Night, Twin Bridges
Big Sky Astronomy Club's presentation on the Christmas star. Open to the public, - bring equipment if you have it. Cottontail Observatory, 280 Wet Georgia Rd.

Call 842-7722.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 22

Christmas Party, Cameron
Annual Bear Creek Schoolhouse Christmas Party. Pot-luck supper, 6 p.m. Parents: bring small gift. Adults bring a non-perishable item for Food Bank. Everyone welcome. 682-4636

Live Music, Norris
Micah Swanson (Folk) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

FRIDAY DECEMBER 27

Live Music, Norris
Billy Abel & Mandy Rowden (Acoustic) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

SATURDAY DECEMBER 28

Holiday Film, Twin Bridges
Twin Bridges Public Library presents "The Christmas Star" compliments of Joe Witherspoon. 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Free.

Holiday Gala Dinner and Ball, Virginia City

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Live Music, Norris
Tommy Georges (Americana) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs

SUNDAY DECEMBER 29

Live Music, Norris
Dan Dubuque (Soul) 7 p.m. Norris Hot Springs



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Madison Conservation District Meeting
Mon., December 16
Lone Elk Mall
7:00 p.m.

NORRIS HOT SPRINGS

MUSIC THIS WEEKEND:
Fri 12/13 - Joe Schwem
Original Folk/Rock
Sat 12/14 - Shea Stewart
Hill Country Blues
Sun 12/15 - You Knew Me When
Truly Folk/Rock

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