

The Madisonian.

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

Montana's Oldest Publishing Weekly Newspaper. Established 1873

75¢ | Volume 143, Issue 19

www.madisoniannews.com

March 5, 2015

SENATE BILL 64 SIGNED INTO LAW

Governor Bullock signs bill that revises MHC statutory language

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Late Friday afternoon on Feb. 27, Governor Steve

Bullock signed Senate Bill 64 into law. The bill, which is the result of three years of work, revises the statutory language that explains how the Montana Heritage Commission operates.

"This is a culmination of three years of work between the heritage commission and the Environmental Quality Council," said MHC chairperson Marilyn Ross. The EQC was the legislative committee designated to overview the MHC statute. This legislative session, Sen.

Jim Keane, D - Butte, sponsored the bill, which passed through the Senate and the House before landing on Bullock's desk on Feb. 24. "It's been 15 years down the road from when the MHC was established," Ross said, explaining why it was time to revise the statutory language.

"We had a good idea of what works well and what doesn't for effective operation of Virginia City and Nevada City." When the EQC first started reviewing the statute with the MHC, the involved parties went through it line by line, identifying areas that needed revision. The three-year process

saw multiple suggestions. Originally, the Department of Commerce wanted to reduce the size of the 14-person commission and take over the supervision of the MHC's executive director, Ross said. "As a commission, we

Turn to SB64 on pg. 2

Ruby Valley Hospital board approves USDA loan

Nearly \$10 million loan will help hospital construct a new facility

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At a meeting last week, the Ruby Valley Hospital board approved a letter of conditions for a \$9,995,000 loan from the United States Department of Agriculture. That loan, combined with grants and community fundraising, will fund the construction of a new hospital, according to administrator John Semingson.

"The board approved the letter of conditions for the loan so now the final papers are being drafted and we will have those ready for a signature in just a few weeks," Semingson said.

Semingson said the board may hold off signing the papers until interest rates drop slightly - the interest rate for the USDA loan is currently 3.75 percent but could drop to 3.5 percent in just a few weeks. Once the hospital signs the contract, they are locked into an interest rate and it cannot be raised.

The nearly \$10 million loan is for 37 years, Semingson said. "It's already built into the hospital's budget to make the payments," he added.

The hospital gets reimbursed from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which is how the loan

will be paid, Semingson said. Ken Walsh, chair of the hospital board, said approving the letter of conditions and moving forward with the USDA's loan offer is the "end of the discussion instead of the beginning."

"We've been talking about this for years," he said. "The discussion has been happening since before I was on the board."

Walsh said the board is excited to move forward with construction.

"There is some trepidation that comes with it because it's a huge decision," he said. "But we're comfortable because we've done our due diligence."

The total project is estimated to cost \$11,650,000 - the hospital is currently completing a Community Development Block Grant for \$400,000 to be used for purchasing equipment, Semingson said.

"It's possible we'll submit a second (CDBG)," he added. "The amount of money we are looking at for a fundraising campaign is \$1.3 million."

Semingson said the fundraising campaign will probably kick off in the next month, around the same time the hospital plans to reach out to Ruby Valley residents by holding community meetings in Sheridan and Twin Bridges.

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WOLVES IN THE MADISON

FWP population counts remain stable but some locals have seen more wolf activity close to Ennis

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The day after Christmas, just 300 yards away from Dot Merrill-Martin's yard on Cedar Creek in the Madison Valley, wolves killed her corgi.

"We were gone and they killed my corgi 300 yards out of our yard," Merrill-Martin said. "They screwed up another one of our blue heelers. They keep running that same exact path, even though two have been shot out of that pack, I think."

Merrill-Martin said she was certain the culprits were wolves.

"You could tell by the tracks in the snow," she said. "We had six dogs, if they had been coyotes, our dogs would have shredded them."

Stable population

According to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks media contact Andrea Jones, the Madison wolf population is stable.

"(The population has not increased) over the past few years," Jones told *The Madisonian*. "Wolf harvest is up in the Madison compared to the last couple of years."

Even if harvest numbers are up, some Madison Valley residents like Merrill-Martin believe wolves are moving closer to town than they have historically.

"There are a lot more wolves running on the east side of the valley too," Merrill-Martin said. "That's for dang sure."

Jones said the FWP has not seen there is some pack "activity"

Turn to WOLVES on pg. 2

WHERE IS THE SNOW?



Abigail Dennis/The Madisonian

Snowpack percentages are below average in the Madison and Ruby river basins, but spring precipitation could help the region play catch up.

Snowpack in Madison, Ruby below average

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"I would love to give you better news but I can't," Lucas Zukiewicz, water specialist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, told *The Madisonian* on March 3. "It's no surprise to folks in the area, but basin percentages have dropped." Zukiewicz said a few small

storms moved through Southwest Montana in February, but a lack of snow contributed to below-average snowpack percentages in both the Madison and Ruby river basins.

"The Madison River Basin as a whole is 80 percent of normal as of March 1," he said. "That is down three percent from what it was Feb. 1."

Zukiewicz said the Ruby River Basin is also below normal.

"The Ruby Basin is fairly dry," he said. "Our Snotel site at the top of the Ruby drainage is at 70 percent of normal ... lower elevations are sitting at 77 percent of normal. There's been no recovery."

Remaining hopeful, Zukiewicz pointed out Southwest Montana historically sees increased precipitation in March, April and even into May.

"We are heavily favored for spring precipitation in our neck

of the woods," he said. "More so than in January and February. If long term trends mean anything, we should see a change."

Zukiewicz said he realizes irrigators are trying to plan their water use for this spring and summer, but he said it is "not time to get really worried yet."

* The NRCS is releasing streamflow forecasts at the end of the week, check next week's paper for an update.

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

From fuel mitigation to conifer encroachment - Gravelly Landscape Collaborative discusses forest management plan

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"Rather than talk about things, let's get something going on the ground," said Gravelly Landscape Collaborative member and former Ruby Valley rancher George Trishmann at the group's meet-

ing in Sheridan on March 2.

The Gravelly Landscape Collaborative formed around three years ago when a group of interested stakeholders decided to help the Forest Service get conservation projects on the ground in the Gravelly Mountain Range. Now, after years of discussion, debate and data collection, the group has proposed

a project to the Forest Service.

The current proposal focuses on the Greenhorn Mountains, which are approximately 80,000 acres in the Gravelly Mountain Range, and targets specific portions of the mountains that have issues with conifer encroachment, riparian health, aspen habitat and fuel management, according to Kevin Suzuki, who works with the Forest Service on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

According to collaborative facilitator Jennifer Boyer, the last time the entire group met was in October - in recent months, however, a

"technical team" of some collaborative members has been meeting regularly to refine the project proposal.

"We're all here to get an update," Boyer told the group on March 2. "We all want to get on the same page and then get an idea of where we'll go next."

Program of work

The Nature Conservancy's Nathan Korb said he recently met with BDNF Supervisor Melany Glossa to discuss getting the Greenhorn project on the Forest

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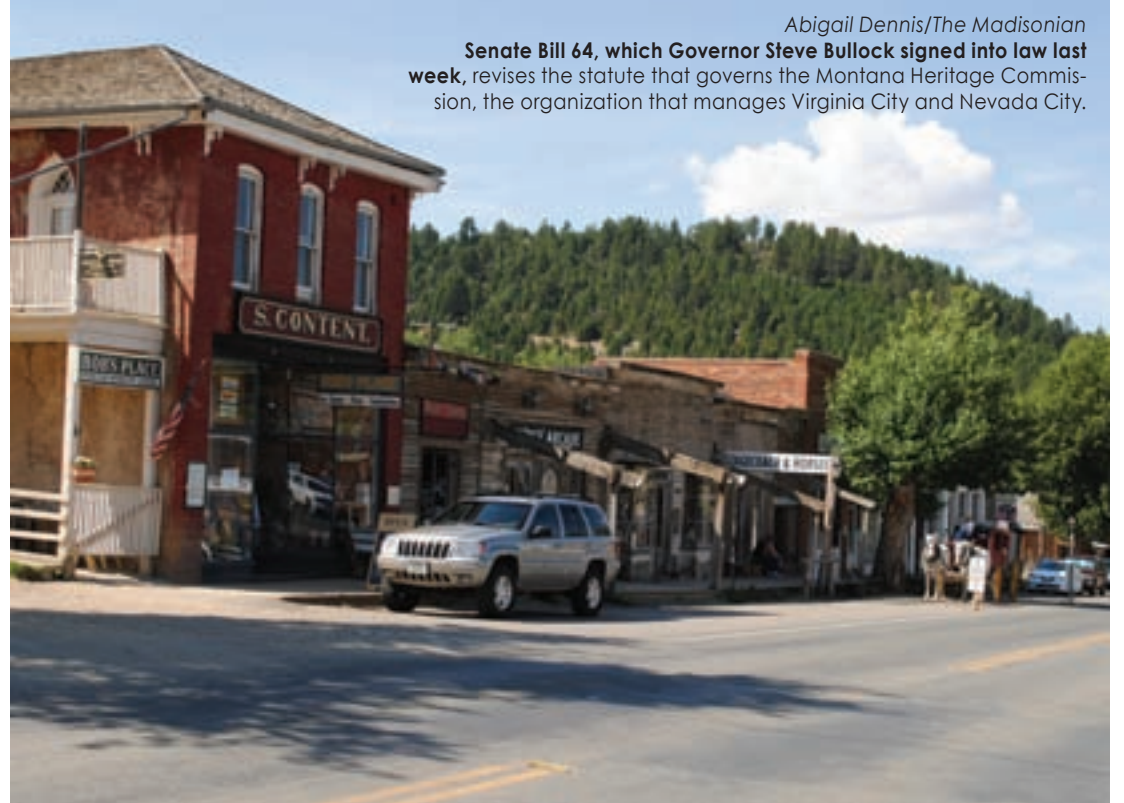
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didn't want that to happen," Ross said. "We believe all our commissioners, who are from all over the state, have various experience – it's an important mix to have."

Ross said the commission also wanted to maintain hiring, firing and supervising authority over the executive director because the commissioners are the "folks that are on the ground" and intimately involved with the MHC.

"Fortunately, that was not changed," Ross said. She added that the most important revision was removing the language that prohibited the MHC from receiving general fund money.

"It doesn't mean we receive money, but it gives us an equal shot at competing for those general fund dollars," Ross said.



Abigail Dennis/The Madisonian

Senate Bill 64, which Governor Steve Bullock signed into law last week, revises the statute that governs the Montana Heritage Commission, the organization that manages Virginia City and Nevada City.

GRAVELLY from pg. 1

Service's program of work.

"We understand that funding and capacity issues on the (BDNF) complicate things," Korb said. "This is an important project though."

According to Korb, Glossa said the Greenhorn project is currently on the Forest Service's program of work for fiscal year 2017.

"She said that's when the planning starts," Korb said. "That means at least three more years of planning and possible litigation before anything happens on the ground ... Personally, I don't think the schedule is right."

Korb said he believes the Greenhorn project should receive high priority with the Forest Service because the collaborative has been working hard on crafting the proposal for three years and

has invested a lot of work.

The project proposal is broad – it includes a mechanical removal of conifers, prescribed burns and more. A mechanical removal of conifers involves physically cutting down the trees, which is only feasible in areas that are not too dense. In densely forested areas, the proposal suggests controlled burns.

Conifer removal will hopefully restore aspen habitats – aspens are desirable trees with multiple wildlife uses. Removing conifers from the aspen will help the tree expand because the conifers are currently out-competing the aspen.

"This is a good project with a lot of merit," said Dale Olson, Madison District ranger. "It addresses timber volume, aquatic restoration and more, it's integrated work."

Korb said Glossa also recommended the collaborative reach out to the BDNF Work-

ing Group, which is another collaborative that meets monthly in Butte and addresses projects on the whole forest, not just the Gravelly Mountains.

"It may be helpful to have representation there," Korb said.

Korb is attending the March BDNF Working Group meeting along with another Gravelly Collaborative Member – Bob Zimmer with the Greater Yellowstone Coalition – and said he would have a better idea of whether or not the larger working group would benefit the collaborative.

A specific concern

Though the entire Greenhorn landscape is in need of restoration, fire is always a major concern in Southwestern Montana. The Greenhorn Mountains landscape used to be home to an open forest with large, fire resistant trees and grasslands – now, a build up of fuels creates

the potential for a large, hot fire.

One element of the project proposal includes fuel mitigation at a key point in the mountains – a place that would serve as a fire break in case of a wildfire.

"It's a hard area to fight a fire," said Mark Petroni, former Forest Service District Ranger and member of the collaborative. "The terrain is difficult and you can't get big equipment in there."

Though the collaborative collectively agreed they want to keep the Greenhorn project proposal intact, there was some talk of breaking the large landscape proposal into smaller projects with the hope some could be completed quicker.

Petroni suggested creating a fire break in a key spot could be one of those breakaway projects.

"It would be good to get that done as soon as possible," Petroni said. "Fire is inevitable."

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close to town, but that the packs that run near Ennis have been in the area for a "number of years."

Ennis resident Brian Hilton lives with his family on the golf course, located on the outskirts of town. For the last three years, Hilton said he hears wolves howling behind his home a few times a year, usually during the winter.

"Elk winter back up behind the golf course," Hilton said. "When they've been there awhile I think the wolves move in."

Hilton said elk were coming "all the way down to hole four" around New Year's Eve this year – on New Year's day he said he heard wolves on the hill behind his home.

"We hear coyotes all the time," he said. "There's a distinct differ-

ence when it's a wolf."

Hilton said it makes sense the wolves follow their food source – elk – but he said it is still spooky to hear them near his home, especially since it is so close to town.

"I've never seen one," he said. "But in the last few years I'll hear them a few times in the winter, it's steady."

Wolf harvest

FWP statistics show the total Montana wolf harvest for the 2014/15 season was 199 – including hunting and trapping – as of Feb. 27. The Madison includes portions of wolf management unit 320, which is west of U.S. Highway 287 to I-15, and WMU 310, which is east of U.S. Highway 287 and stretches into the Gallatin Valley.

So far this season, 20 wolves were harvested in

WMU 310 and 16 were taken in WMU 320.

Madison Valley resident and avid hunter Pat Noack has been hunting wolves since the FWP started allowing it. This year, Noack and his hunting partners have successfully harvested wolves in the Madison Valley this year.

"There's a lot of activity this year," Noack said. "They seem more prevalent close to town."

Noack said he has seen more wolves on the front face of the Madison Mountain Range – usually they keep to the backcountry.

"People are spotting them right in Jeffers," he said. "It seems like there are an abundance staying down low, maybe following the elk as a food source."

Noack said wolves usually become nocturnal quickly

when they are hunted, but this year he has seen them up and down the valley at all hours.

"I saw one at 10 a.m. coming off the Cameron flats," he said. "They've been more active closer to town. Maybe they are coming down to Jeffers where there is an abundance of whitetail (deer) and antelope. I saw one chasing an antelope right outside of Jeffers."

Hunting regulations

According to FWP biologist Julie Cunningham, wolf hunting was first allowed in Montana in 2009, but then not allowed in 2010. There has been a wolf hunting season in place since 2011.

"In 2014 wolf archery only season began Sept. 6, then general wolf season opened Sept. 15 – March 15," Cunningham said. "Trapping season is open Dec. 15 through Feb. 28."

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"We were holding off on reaching out because there was no reason to have meetings until the board made the decision to move forward with the loan," he said. "We certainly want to hear what the residents of the Ruby Valley have to say and we want to give them our updated information."

Les Gilman sits on the Ruby Valley Hospital Foun-

ation, which is the organization in charge of the fundraising campaign.

"We are having a meeting next week to start moving forward," Gilman said. "We were waiting until the board made the decision to move forward with the loan."

Gilman said he believes in the need for an upgrade and that the foundation is commit-

ted to working with the community to make it happen.

"As a lifelong resident of this valley, I rely on quality health care," Gilman explained. "I want to assure it for my family, my children and my grandchildren. If we have quality providers, we must have a quality facility for them to practice in."

Construction timeline

If everything goes according to plan, the hospital hopes to break ground on the new building in October, Semingson said.

"A lot of the timeline is contingent on fundraising," he said.

Semingson's tentative timeline shows construction running from October 2015 through October 2016 – he said the possibility of being in a new facility by the end of 2016 is "exciting."



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Congrats to Lester Braach from Sheridan – Lester correctly identified last week's photo as a shot of the Ruby River Drive!

MORE NEWS:

MUSTANG FOOTBALL COACH RESIGNS

Jay Fredrickson led Ennis to four consecutive semifinals and all the way to a state championship one of those years

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For the last four years, former Ennis Mustang football head coach Jay Fredrickson took his team to the semifinals. One of those years, the Mustangs stampeded all the way to a decisive state title.

“Last year’s team – well, we were just loaded with talent and they were really driven to get to the pinnacle,” Fredrickson said about his championship-winning team. “We got it done and it was a great thing.”

At an Ennis School Board meeting on Feb. 11, Fredrickson resigned as head coach. In his words, the school board and administration were not going to offer him another contract so the “best” thing for him to do was resign.

“I could have fought it and drug it through the mud, but

six years old. He grew up and graduated high school in Big Timber before playing college football in Dillon at University of Montana Western. He was a head football coach in Idaho for a few years in the 90s before moving to Ennis in 1999 and taking over the junior high football team. He quickly moved up to the assistant high school football coach, and six years ago he took over the as head coach.

“I transitioned Ennis from 11-man back to 8-man,” Fredrickson said, explaining some of the harder tasks he worked through as head coach. “I was there when we lost our co-op with Harrison. My first year coaching we didn’t have any returning starters.”

Reid Farnes, who graduated from Ennis in 2014, said the main reason he played high school football was because of Fredrickson’s encouragement when he was a freshman.

“I wasn’t even going to play,” Farnes said. “He was just one of those coaches who was hard-nosed but who would always listen to what you had to say.”

Farnes was a starter and one of the 11 seniors who clinched the state championship in 2013 – his senior football season.

“We were extremely athletic and extremely gifted but we had strong personalities and some issues,” Farnes said about the team. “We were 11 good athletes competing for eight starting positions. (Fredrickson’s) coaching didn’t end on the field, he coached us as people.”

Farnes’s teammate Derek Wham agreed. Wham was another senior starter on the state championship team.

“I wouldn’t be the same person if I hadn’t played football,” Wham said. “Learning to work as a team was hard. He helped us understand our roles in a team. We wouldn’t have gotten far without that.”

Wham’s mother – Tammy –

said she believes Fredrickson is a man of integrity who instilled good values in his players.

“Any sport with the right coach makes boys better men,” T. Wham said. “It teaches them to be teammates and a good teammate is a good coworker. A good coach teaches people how to be a person of honor.”

Derek Wham said Fredrickson cared about winning, but cared even more about turning his players into “good young men.”

“We’ve all carried on the things he taught us,” he said. “We used to think about ourselves first, but that is less important now.”

Ennis Superintendent John Overstreet said Fredrickson put Ennis “back on the map” as a football powerhouse.

“He’s done a great job,” Overstreet said. “He’s a good motivator and kids like playing for him ... He cares about the kids.”

For Fredrickson, winning state in 2013 was a high, but he said the 2014 Mustangs made him the “proudest” of any team he ever coached.

“We lost 11 seniors to graduation and had a great season anyway,” Fredrickson said about the team that made it to the semifinals before losing to No. 1 Wibaux, 20 – 22. “I don’t believe anybody knew what was coming. They refused to be a team that fell off the face of the earth and I was tremendously proud of that.”

Both Wham and Farnes said playing Mustang football helped shape them into the people they are today. Fredrickson said he believes football builds character, mental toughness and determination.

“There is danger on the football field. You overcome that with courage and understanding of the game,” he said. “The game helps young kids mature as young men – they learn to conquer fear.”



Tammy Wham/The Madisonian
TOP
Former Ennis head coach Jay Fredrickson stands at attention during the national anthem before a football game.
BOTTOM
Fredrickson (second from left) poses with three former players, Chad Johnson, Derek Wham and Reid Farnes.

“There is danger on the football field. You overcome that with courage and understanding of the game. The game helps young kids mature as young men – they learn to conquer fear.”

– Jay Fredrickson, former Ennis head coach

I didn’t want to do that to the community,” Fredrickson said. “I don’t regret anything – I’ve had a great career here and I’ve coached tremendous kids.”

Football has been a part of Fredrickson’s life since he was

Overstreet said the school would like to have a head football coach in place by the end of March.

CARCASS COMPOSTING ON A SMALL SCALE

Discussion continues for countywide facility, but landowners learn how to compost mortalities at home

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Composting dead animals prevents the spread of dis-

eases and protects air, water and soil quality, a Montana State University extension agent told a group attending a workshop in Ennis Feb. 26. Madison Watershed Coord-

inator Sunni Heikes-Knapton introduced MSU extension agent Tommy Bass at the workshop. Bass, who is a livestock environment associate, gave a presentation about on-site carcass composting.

Madison County’s MSU extension agent Billy Whitehurst attended the presentation. Whitehurst said there is a “large majority” of producers in the county who have bone yards.

“They send the mortalities down a draw,” Whitehurst said. “A place where nobody will be downwind of it ... that’s been the practice for years.”

Heikes-Knapton said ranches in the area use

the abandonment method, but many bury their mortalities.

“Or they have been essentially composting already,” she said. “They just don’t do it in such a formal way.”

Bass said abandonment is not “advisable.”

“It’s a threat,” he said. “It can attract scavengers like coyotes and birds. It can even attract big predators, which is a real concern in a valley like this.”

With carcass composting, Bass said predators and scavengers are uninterested in the sites.

“I took MSU food and nutrition students to the site adjacent to campus (in Bozeman),” Bass said. “They could not detect any unpleasant odors. There were no scavengers. We saw some bird prints nearby in some spilled feed, but none on the pile.”

Feasible in Madison County?

Whitehurst said he thought the presentation was “cool.”

“Especially with predators being a bigger issue these days than they were 20 years ago,” he said. “To me, (mortality composting) looks like something that’s doable and really doesn’t cost a whole lot. There’s fairly minimal time involved.”

Mortalities during the winter months can currently pose a problem, Whitehurst said.

“When there is a mortality when the ground is frozen if you’re composting, you don’t have to beat your backhoe to death trying to dig a hole,” he said.

Whitehurst said he thought on-site carcass composting may be a “tough sell” to some ranchers in Madison County.

“People are creatures of habit and they already have habits,” he said. “It can be a hard institute to change.”

The reality is that Southwest Montana is not as remote as it used to be, Whitehurst said.

“Agriculture is a fishbowl

and people are watching what we do,” he said. “There’s not a whole lot that goes unnoticed and it only takes a few people with a certain mentality to see a rancher dragging carcasses to a bone pile. But the grim reality of the livestock industry is that there are mortalities.”

Bass’s presentation focused on the specifics of creating an on-site composting operation – interested landowners can contact the MSU extension office at 287-3282.

Various partners in Madison County have been discussing the idea of a countywide carcass composting facility for more than a year. The project is currently at a standstill, however, because the partners are still determining an appropriate site in the county for a facility.

“We’re still looking into it,” Heikes-Knapton said. “There will always be situations where on-site (composting) is just not the preferred method.”



Photo courtesy of Julia Dafeo, MT Ag Experiment Station
Three sided hay bale “bins” are effective composting sites.

LOGGING IN TOBACCO ROOT MOUNTAINS

Forest Service project may mean delays for travelers in Meadow Creek Road area

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A logging project in the southern Tobacco Root Mountains started last week and may cause

delays for some recreationists in the Meadow Creek Road area of the Madison Valley, according to a Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest press release.

“The Madison Ranger District is advising travelers in the

Meadow Creek Road area that logging activities from the Madison Roadside Hazard Reduction Salvage project will begin west of McAllister on Forest Service roads 160D and 1249,” according to the press release. “Travelers

to this area are advised to drive cautiously and to expect short delays as there will be logging machinery traveling these roads through March 14, 2015.”

The purpose of the project is to thin the trees on both sides

of the roads, Madison District ranger Dale Olson said.

“They are going in and knocking down dead and dying trees on the side of the road to take care of some of the trees that are potential hazards,” Olson said. “They are

just cutting and decking, they will not be hauling out until later this year when the roads dry out.”

Olson said this is the tail end of a project that started last fall. The machinery will be in the area through March 14.

For more information, contact the Madison Ranger District at 682-4253.

OPINION

The Madisonian.

Established in 1873

(USPS 325-340)

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Thanks for friends and neighbors

Dear Editor,

Thank you to our friends and neighbors for the calls, cards, visits, food and donations in memory of Norman

Degner. Special thanks to Ted Woirhaye and the Ruby Valley Ambulance response team, officer Chris Tenny and Keith of K&L Mortuary. Heartfelt appreciation

and gratitude to Bundy and Ken Bailey, who were here to help at every step.

Your kind and thoughtful words and acts in the midst of deep personal loss is a

reminder of how fortunate Norm and I have been to live in this caring community.

Thank you,
Diane Degner and family

Thanks to medical clinic staff

Dear Editor,

My thanks to the Whitehall Medical Clinic staff and Dr. Gayle Sacry for providing me quick help. Thanks to the Whitehall Ambulance Service for the fast trip to St. James, saving me from a heart

attack. The care I received from Frontier Home Health Care got me back up on my feet after I received my new heart device. I will now be able to continue enjoying this beautiful state in which I live. I am thankful for the most beautiful thing a person

could have - my family and wonderful long term friends. Without all of you, it would have been so easy for me to just lay down and give up.

Thanks to the Sheridan Hospital and the outstanding care I received from Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center. I

am thankful for the great nurses as well as my dear family and friends of the Ruby Valley.

Thank you,
Bill Kenworthy

OBITUARIES

Neal C. LaFever

June 16, 1944 - February 22, 2015



The world has lost a great man. Neal LaFever passed away in the early morning of Sunday, Feb. 22, 2015.

He was born on June 16, 1944, 10 days after the invasion of Normandy, to Clarence and Helen LaFever. He grew up in Batavia, Wis., with his three brothers, Mark, Miles and Dennis. He spent the most treasured days of his childhood on his grandparents' farm, a place that remained very special to him throughout his life.

He graduated from Random Lake High School in 1962 and attended the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh where he majored in history and geography after five years, taking an extra year because he was having too much fun to leave. He worked hard to put himself through

school, working as a bartender at Robin's Supper Club in Oshkosh where he learned the art of the cocktail and began his lifelong career in the bar business.

He ventured west to Montana for the first time during college, hitchhiking all the way from Wisconsin with his best college buddy Richard "Schmitt" Schmidt. The spirit of the west resonated with him and he moved to Billings in 1968, driving out in a \$10 1949 Chevy. He tended bar at the Golden Belle at the Northern Hotel, the Koko Club and the 1145 Club, among others. He began to sell real estate in the 1970s, mastering his ability to make a deal.

In 1975, Neal wound up in Virginia City searching for gold. While he did not strike it rich in Alder Gulch, he bought the Pioneer Bar on May 26, the same day gold was first discovered there in 1863. The friends and memories he made in Virginia City and at the Pioneer were some of his most beloved.

He married his wife Dianne on Sept. 27, 1980. They bought the Monte Carlo in downtown Billings in 1985 and together they built the business to what it is today. They were a great team, they were partners in life and

business, but above all else, they always had a lot of fun together.

Later in life, he became involved in the oil and gas business, where his passion for business deals grew into a profession he truly enjoyed.

Of all of his accomplishments, he was most proud of his three daughters: his first daughter, Cresta, and his two daughters with Dianne, Alison and Cori. Nothing brought him more joy than spending time with his girls and they will forever be grateful for the lessons he taught them and the memories they have of their dad, their "buddy" Nealo.

Neal lived a full life, traveling the world and making friends everywhere he went. He worked hard and was a respected and sharp businessman, but he was also kindhearted and very generous to people of all walks of life. He was involved in the Masonic Lodges of Billings and Virginia City and the Al Bedoo Shrine, as well as numerous other fraternal organizations and social clubs throughout his life such as the Billings Jaycees, the Billings Trap Club and the Montana Tavern Association. He enjoyed hunting for game of every kind

and fishing in Canada with his brothers and appreciating a fine wine and a gourmet meal. His latest adventures took him to Europe, Tanzania, South Africa, Argentina, Peru and Brazil. Neal is on to his next great adventure, wherever that may be, Godspeed.

Neal is preceded in death by his parents Helen (Mehlos) LaFever and Clarence LaFever; brother Jay LaFever; his father-in-law Phil Holten; and his sister-in-law Sandy LaFever. He is survived by his wife Dianne (Holten) of Billings; his brothers Mark LaFever of Random Lake, Wis., Miles LaFever of Butte-des-Morts, Wis. and Dennis LaFever and his wife Jackie of West Yellowstone; his three daughters Cresta LaFever and her husband Mike Allenbach of Seattle, Wash., Alison LaFever of New York City, N.Y., and Cori LaFever of Billings; his mother-in-law Ella (Woltermann) Holten of Columbus; as well as numerous in-laws, nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service was held in Billings on Friday, Feb. 27. Another celebration of his life will take place in Virginia City in the coming months.

Peggy Marie Werner

August 7, 1926 - February 26, 2015



Peggy Marie Werner, 88, a long-time resident of Whitehall, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 26, 2015. She was born in Corwin Springs, Mont., on Aug. 7, 1926, to Harry and Altha Wentz.

Peggy married the love of her life, Jewell Werner on Dec. 17, 1947 in Whitehall. Peggy and her husband were long-time ranchers in the area. Peggy also had operated a chicken egg layer business for 35 years, raised sheep and cattle with her husband.

Peggy will be dearly missed; she was an incredible mother, grandmother and great grandmother and a good friend to many in the community. She had many hobbies; she played cards with the valley card club, was an avid gardener, seamstress, crocheted and often outshot the boys as an expert marksman and hunter.

Surviving family members include Jim Werner, Shirley (Don) Gilbert, Diana (Tim) Wilson and Bobbi Squires. She has nine grandchildren

and 11 great grandchildren. Her surviving siblings are Fred and Jimmy Wentz, Dorothy Powell, Marilyn "Dolly" Holland, Joanne LaFlex and Louise Coons.

Peggy was preceded in death by her parents; siblings Ruth Shaffer, June LaFlex, Calvin, Paul and LeRoy "Sonny" Wentz.

Funeral services were held in Whitehall on Monday, March 2 at 1 p.m. at the K&L Mortuary. Interment was held at Fish Creek Cemetery.

Michael Benincasa

October 1, 1933 - February 24, 2014

Michael Benincasa Jr., 81, passed away at Barrett Hospital in Dillon on Feb. 24, 2015.

He was born Oct. 1, 1933, in French Camp, Calif. to Michael and Mary Benincasa. He attended Webber Grammar School in Stockton, Calif., and then graduated from Stockton High School in 1952. He worked eight years for the Stockton Record in California before going into the trucking

company PIE and IML for data entry. After his wife retired in 2000 from Lipton Food Company they decided to move to Silver Star where they have had home for the last 14 years.

Mike had numerous hobbies; he enjoyed collecting wolf figurines, plates and plaques. He had a large collection of Louie La' Moure books, Jason Bourne Trilogy and Sherlock Holmes Series. Had a love for photog-

raphy and always made sure everyone had copies of what he admired. Anybody who knew Mike probably knows he has the largest collection of DVDs, over 1000, from westerns to classics - he had them all. He enjoyed car rides with his dogs, rock polishing, visiting with his neighbors Glen and Carol Lince and spending quality time with his family and grandchildren.

Mike is survived by his beloved wife of 27 years Charlene Benincasa of Silver Star. He is also survived by two brothers, John David and Ronald Joe Benincasa both of Stockton. He also is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Eva Marie (Beth) and Glenn Barbera (Castle Rock, Colo.); and two sons, James Christopher Benincasa (Paso Robles, Calif.) and Michael Lyle Benincasa (San Francisco, Calif.);

stepchildren, Emily Richards, (Lima), Jason Richards (Stockton) and Jeff Richards (Tampa, Fla.); 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

There will be a private family gathering at a later date. A guestbook is available online at www.brundagefuneralhome.com.



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Halfway there

By Rep. Ray Shaw
HOUSE DISTRICT 71

This week in the Legislature, we voted on several important pieces of legislation. I know you have received several calls and flyers on these subjects.

The first piece of legislation I would like to address is House Bill 583. The purpose of this bill was to prohibit the State of Montana from adopting any regulations based on Agenda 21. Agenda 21 is a United Nations resolution on sustainable development. It was adopted by President George H. W. Bush. This legislation was poorly written and I voted against

it. It actually prohibited state and local governments from spending any public money on public services. We would not be able to fund basic government services like police, fire and public schools. Please be assured that I oppose stringent land use controls, but I am not going to vote for a piece of legislation that makes government unmanageable. This bill should never have come out of committee.

House Bill 583 would have actually eliminated the ability of the State of Montana to manage air quality programs. Under federal law, the State of Montana has the ability to manage air quality programs.

If this bill had become law, our authority would be revoked and the federal government would manage our air quality programs. It is much better to have the state manage these programs and not the federal government. This bill was opposed by numerous industry groups and the wood products association. The ability to use wood burning stoves is not going away.

I would like to talk a little about House Bill 454. This bill changes the way precinct people are selected. Under current law, precinct people are elected. This bill gives political parties the choice to either appoint or elect precinct people. I supported

this because local central committees should have a choice. Most people are appointed anyway, and it reduces costs associated with an election.

House Bill 519, which was introduced by Rep. Glimm, deals with exempt wells and was passed in the House and will now go to the Senate. This bill was 16 years in the making and was put together by ag-related people, well drillers, industry and everyone involved with water wells. This was long overdue.

The Senate passed the CSKT Water Compact and it will now come to the House. This is a common sense piece of legislation. This collab-

orative agreement solves many potential problems down the road. I will support and vote for the CSKT Water Compact.

Sen. Ankney has introduced a bill referred to as the Trace Act, which will bring truth and transparency to where all the money comes from that goes into our elections. It is time we all get to know this.

Many big concerns will be coming out in the second half of the session, infrastructure spending (House Bill 5), health care, which we are all concerned about, plus education and agriculture issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you. Please

call me at 596-5039 or send an email to shaw@3rivers.net with your thoughts and concerns.



HALFTIME REPORT: LEGISLATURE STILL FACES THORNY ISSUES

Submitted by Michael Wright
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

At his transmittal press conference, Gov. Steve Bullock told reporters what grade he would give the Montana Legislature for its first 45 days.

"Incomplete," Bullock said.

That sentiment was echoed by political scientists and lawmakers, former and current. While the governor has signed more than 60 bills, including a school funding bill, the 64th Montana Legislature has yet to resolve some of the biggest issues facing the state.

Former Republican Sen. Jim Peterson — who served six legislative sessions, his first in 2003, his last in 2013 — said the "warm up period" is over and the second half of the session is where "the rubber meets the road." Following the news from his home in Buffalo, Peterson said he has noticed big issues like Medicaid expansion have mostly avoided debate so far.

Both sides of the aisle introduced their version of Medicaid expansion in the first half of the session, but the full House has not debated either proposal.

House Bill 249, carried by Rep. Pat Noonan, D-Ramsay,

is the governor's plan to expand Medicaid to as many as 70,000 people using additional federal money available under the Affordable Care Act. The federal government would pick up the bill for the next two years and the state would start paying some of the cost in 2017.

That bill will get its first hearing in a House committee in early March.

Republicans who are against the plan say it covers too many people, and a number of "able-bodied, childless adults," and want to focus Medicaid expansion to only the most vulnerable people. Their bill to address that has already had a hearing.

House Bill 455, carried by Nancy Ballance, R-Hamilton, would expand Medicaid to poor families, some veterans and the disabled — estimated to be around 10,000 people — without using the available federal money. The state would spend about \$60 million on the program over the next two years. That bill was pushed out of the House Human Services committee in February, but has not been debated by the full House yet.

The contrast between the two ideas is obvious. Each covers different numbers of people and uses different money to do it.

Peterson, who served in 2013 when a Medicaid expansion proposal died in the process, said he hopes the two sides can find a middle ground.

"I think it is something that can happen," Peterson said.

During his mid-session press conference, Bullock said he had met with "some Republican legislators" about Medicaid, but he did not elaborate further.

Many bills have already made it through the system. Leaning back in his chair in the last row of the Senate chambers, Sen. Lew Jones, R-Conrad, listed bills he is happy have already gotten through the Senate — like House Bill 27, an increase in school funding, something many have said they have never seen clear the Legislature this early. He also mentioned shoring up funding for university extension programs — bills he said the legislature needs to pass.

"They're not the headline bills, but the work bills," Jones said. "But I tell you what, it will all come back to the revenue estimate," Jones said.

The revenue estimate has been a point of contention lately. Both the governor's budget office and the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Division project how much money the state will bring

in over the next three years, and the legislature adopts a projection to know how much it can spend during the session.

The estimates from the governor's office and the Legislative Fiscal Division from January were around \$350 million apart, a much larger difference than usual.

Jones said there is usually some wrangling over projections, but never about a sum this large. He said the danger is in overestimating how much money will flow into the general fund — if the estimate is wrong, there will not be enough money for everything in the budget.

At that point, the legislature might have to return for a special session to cut spending, which Jones said the governor will not want to do.

"He certainly doesn't want to call the legislature back to town to clean up the blood in the streets," Jones said.

Jones and Sen. Bruce Tutvedt, R-Kalispell, both said the major difference between the two projections is how they project wage growth in the next few years. The governor's office says growth will be high, the legislative fis-

cal division is less optimistic.

Despite not having a revenue estimate, Republicans have pushed a tax cut to the governor's desk, House Bill 166. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Keith Regier, R-Kalispell, cuts tax rates in each bracket by 0.2 percent. The plan would cost the state around \$80 million over the next two years.

Democrats bash this move, calling it irresponsible. Senate Minority Leader Jon Sesso, D-Butte, said in a press conference that the governor is more or less forced to veto it, because it hurts the process of balancing the budget.

"He's got no choice but to say 'no, this isn't ready for primetime,'" Sesso said.

Several education measures are still moving through the system. Democrats have pledged to do whatever they can to get Gov. Bullock's \$37 million plan for publicly funded preschool into the budget, though some think the request is doomed since Republicans will oppose it at every turn. On the Republican side, a couple of publicly funded school choice proposals and a set of bills aimed at eliminating Montana's Common

Core standards still have life.

Funding for infrastructure development is still somewhat in question, with Gov. Bullock's nearly \$400 million Build Montana plan sitting in the House Appropriations committee. That plan includes building projects like roads, sewer and water systems in places across the state. Republicans have countered with a group of bills that fund some of the projects included in Bullock's plan.

Montana State University political scientist David Parker said the end of the session might be "veto heavy," like the last session was. Bullock vetoed more than 70 bills in 2013. Parker added that Republicans will likely continue trying to stop the governor's major proposals.

"I suspect Republicans are going to be very leery of creating any wins for Bullock's people," Parker said.

- Michael Wright is a reporter for the Community News Service at the University of Montana School of Journalism. He can be reached at michael.wright@umontana.edu. Follow him on Twitter @mj_wright1

REPUBLICAN SPLIT HAS NOT HAD SIGNIFICANT EFFECT, BUT MAY IN SECOND HALF

Submitted by Michael Wright
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Winter at the Capitol has been a bit calmer in 2015.

"Last time, by now things were fairly heated up," said Sen. Llew Jones, R-Conrad.

During the last legislative session in 2013, a clear divide in the Republican majority at the Montana Legislature influenced major bills and made headlines for more than a year afterward. The split has not dominated headlines so far, but a few major votes show it is alive in both chambers and may prove influential in the second half of the session.

It all started with a group of moderate Republicans — Jones being one of the most prominent — joining Democrats to move major bills onto the governor's desk, such as a school funding bill and a state employee pay plan.

Carroll College political scientist Jeremy Johnson said he does not think that sort of divide has been as big of a factor in the early goings of the session. Johnson has taught at Carroll since 2011 and has watched the legislative sessions closely, especially since the Capitol is just down the road from his office.

He remembers 2013 as a year where every news story included something about the split in the Republican party.

"I don't think it's been as extreme," Johnson said, adding that he does not think the conservative wing of the party is as strong as it was before.

Some votes in the last few weeks have shown a willingness among some Senate members to join with Democrats to pass bills. Senate Bill 289, Gov. Bullock's major campaign finance reform bill, passed on a 28-22 vote. Senate Bill 262, the Flathead Water Compact, got through on a 31-19 vote.

The water compact is a contentious agreement between the Confederated Salish and

Kootenai Tribes and state and federal governments. Its divided the state for the most part, with opponents saying it takes away water rights and proponents saying it prevents costly litigation.

Inside the Senate, it has been no different. It is carried by Sen. Chas Vincent, R-Libby, who has fought members of his own party on the bill at every step of the process. There have been reports of him clashing with party leadership at different points in the process, but for the most part, senators say the party has been far more civil than in 2013.

"The first half, I think, has gone probably smoother than many people anticipated," said former Sen. Jim Peterson.

Peterson, a Republican from Buffalo, was in the senate in 2013. He saw the split first hand.

"There was just too much rancor last time," Peterson said.

Last session's split even bled into the 2014 primary elections, with leaders of the party's conservative wing trying to find candidates who could unseat the more moderate Republicans.

Sen. Bruce Tutvedt, R-Kalispell, said he thinks the party leadership is more focused on keeping the party together this session.

Key figures in last session's senate leadership — former Senate President Jeff Essmann, R-Billings, and his Majority Leader Art Wittich, R-Bozeman — have crossed over to the House, where the split has been more pronounced in 2015.

The first week was dominated by a rules fight, which saw a group of Republicans helping Democrats fight against rule changes they thought were to keep the majority party in control. The fight ended in a deal that gave Democrats six chances to save bills from dying in committee.

Some of the more conservative Republicans said the moderates forced the leadership to make the deal. Other than that, there are not many votes to point to that show

a definitive split in the party.

Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick, R-Great Falls, said no one vote really shows the House Republican split just yet because it is not always the same lawmakers who join with the Democrats. But he did acknowledge that if a bill has wide Democrat opposition, it seems easier to stop those bills.

"I can't believe how many bills have gone down on the floor," Fitzpatrick said. "If the Democrats lock up, it's easy to kill it."

The Democrats also have two more seats in the House than they did in 2013.

House Minority Whip Jenny Eck, D-Helena, said that has likely helped them block more bills this session. They only need nine Republicans to cross over, and on more than a few occasions have been able to do it.

"I don't think we can be taken for granted as a caucus," Eck said. House Minority Leader Chuck Hunter, D-Helena, said he would not attribute it directly to gaining two seats, but to a blend of that and "thoughtful folks on the other side of the aisle."

In the second half of the session, the split in the Republican majority will likely be more influential. Bills like the Flathead water compact and the governor's campaign finance reform that split the party in the Senate will move over to the House. Major issues like Medicaid expansion will move through the system as well.

Johnson, the political scientist, said those are the reasons the session will be worth watching in the second half.

"All the big decisions still have not been made," he said. "Stay tuned."

- Michael Wright is a reporter for the Community News Service at the University of Montana School of Journalism. He can be reached at michael.wright@umontana.edu. Follow him on Twitter @mj_wright1.

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SPORTS



BASKETBALL ROUND UP

DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT



Kurtis Koenig

THE MADISONIAN

k.koenig@madisoniannews.com

The divisional tournament was held in Butte last weekend. Three local teams represented Madison County in an attempt to advance to the state tournament, which will be held over the next two weeks.

The Harrison Lady Wildcats entered the tournament as a number two seed while both Twin Bridges teams were number one seeds. The best in the south challenged the best in the west to decide who would be invited to state and who would be buying tickets.

BOYS BRACKET

Twin Bridges Falcons 45, Granite 37

As the lone representative of the local boys' basketball teams at the divisional tournament in Butte, the Falcons got off to a great start, downing the Prospectors in the first round.

The game did not start off well, however.

Granite leapt to a 10-2 lead as the Falcons struggled to get the ball rolling, but the Falcons utilized points from eight different players to claw into the lead.

A 14 point second-quarter output enabled the Falcons to go to the locker room down only three points. It would take a few quarters to do it though.

After the break, the Falcons surged to retake the lead after a 10-5 third period. The output led to a four point lead by quarter's end, but the Falcons were just getting started.

Tracen Eggers led the charge with 14 points and Nolan Koenen fired up 11 to help the Falcons put together a 19-15 fourth quarter, which was enough to take away the first round win and advance to the semifinal round. Twin Bridges 2 14 10 19 - 45 Granite 10 7 5 15 - 37

Semifinal: Twin Bridges Falcons 66, Arlee 78

After a come-from-behind victory in the first round, the Falcons could not put together enough of a run to take down the Arlee Warriors in the semifinal matchup.

Five Falcons scored in double digits and Tracen Eggers was just shy of a double-double (11 points and nine rebounds), but it was not enough to overcome the high powered Warrior offense.

Twin Bridges slipped behind by eight points in the first quarter before making a solid comeback in the second. The Falcons went to the locker room down by only four points.

After the half, the Falcons made a run and got to within one point. Arlee then turned on the jets and rocked to a seven point lead at the quarter's end.

In a high-scoring fourth quarter, the Falcons attempted to rally. Nolan Koenen, who led the Falcons with 15 points, made good on nine of 10 free throws on the night, while Eggers added a five of six effort.

In the end, Arlee's 53 percent shooting from the field eclipsed the Falcon's 43 percent effort, which caused Twin Bridges' demise. The Falcons fell to the loser's bracket with the loss. Twin Bridges 9 16 17 24 - 66 Arlee 17 12 20 29 - 78

Loser-out semifinal:**Twin Bridges Falcons 54, Superior 36**

A loss in the tournament means that if a team wants to get to that consolation game they will have to survive the early-morning loser-out, semi-final matchup.

Twin Bridges had a tough row to hoe in that they played a team, the Superior Bobcats, who came off of a win against Gardiner the night before, while the Falcons suffered a difficult loss against Arlee. The Falcons were

up to the task.

It took them a little while to get going, however. Superior jumped out to a three point lead in the first period, but that was when Tracen Eggers found his stride.

Eggers amassed 11 of his game-high 17 points in the second quarter to spark a 22-7 surge, which allowed the Falcons to go to the locker room up 32-20.

In the third quarter Nolan Koenen popped off a couple three-pointers and Eggers chipped in six buckets to further solidify the Falcon lead.

Twin Bridges cruised to the win and the consolation game. Superior 13 7 7 9 - 36 Twin Bridges 10 22 14 8 - 54

Consolation:**Twin Bridges Falcons 50, Valley Christian 42**

Although the Falcons' season came to an end at the consolation game, the team certainly went out on a high note. The Valley Christian Eagles presented themselves as a formidable foe, but Twin Bridges rose to the occasion and took home the third place trophy.

Tracen Eggers had a career night with 19 points, many of which generated from his aggressive defensive play and high-speed transition potency. He shot 50 percent from the field and hit five of six free throws to pace the Falcons.

The low scoring first quarter found Twin Bridges ahead by only one point. The Eagles battled back in the second and snagged a one point lead of their own. At the break, Twin Bridges trailed 18-17.

Valley is known for its outside shooting this season and they started to heat up in the second half.

The Falcon's failed to strike gold on five attempts from behind the big arc, but the Eagles netted seven three-balls. The lead changed seven times in the

third quarter and Twin turned the tables and regained the one point lead at quarter's end.

In the final period, Twin Bridges trailed by as many as five points but some last minute heroics by Eggers and Nolan Koenen tied the game and sent it into overtime.

While Valley Christian might be known for their three-point shooting prowess, they will not forget Twin Bridges' performance from the charity stripe. The Falcons connected on 18 of 22 free-throws, seven of which occurred in overtime.

The Falcons held the Eagles to only one point in the extra period while bagging nine points for themselves. The battle closed with the Twin Bridges Falcons earning third place at the divisional tournament with a score of 50-42. Twin Bridges 8 9 12 12 9 - 50 Valley Christian 7 11 10 13 1 - 42

GIRLS BRACKET

Twin Bridges Lady Falcons 59, Charlo 30

Twin Bridges opened up with the Charlo Vikings in the first round. The northerners would not withstand the Falcons.

In the first quarter, Twin Bridges held a narrow lead over the Vikings, but in quarter two the Falcons hit their stride and thoroughly dominated.

With the help of a 12-5 run, the Lady Falcons went to the locker room with a 26-16 lead. They extended that lead in the third period with another huge run and put the game out of reach.

Kailee Oliverson led all scorers with 16 points while Megan Martin added nine. Cassidy Wetzel ripped eight rebounds in the win. Twin Bridges 13 12 15 19 - 59 Charlo 11 5 4 10 - 30

Harrison Lady Wildcats 31, Seeley Swan 42

While the Lady Falcons

were taking care of business, the Lady 'Cats stumbled over the Seeley Swan Blackhawks.

Harrison came out firing in the first quarter and edged out a slim lead in the first quarter. In the second, however, things fell apart for the Lady 'Cats. They would go to the locker room down 18-12.

The Blackhawks would continue to roll in the third quarter as they extended their lead by another three points. Harrison made a run in the fourth quarter, but were unable to climb back into the game where they would eventually fall 42-31.

Britt Cooper pulled down a double-double in the game, scoring 17 points and 12 rebounds. The loss sent the Lady 'Cats to the loser's bracket where they would face the Charlo Vikings. Harrison 8 4 8 11 - 31 Seeley Swan 7 11 11 13 - 42

Harrison Lady Wildcats 37, Charlo 32

Britt Cooper and Taya DeFrance each netted 13 points in first round of loser-out play against Charlo. Their effort contributed to another win in the divisional tournament.

The Lady 'Cats came out on fire in the first quarter while they held the Vikings to only five points.

Though their offense sputtered slightly in the second stanza, Harrison still went to the break with a 15-11 lead. They would hold onto that lead for the remainder of the game and eventually repel the Viking attack.

Cooper completed a double-double in the win after ripping 12 boards. Harrison 12 3 11 11 - 37 Charlo 5 6 11 10 - 32

Loser-out semifinal:**Harrison Lady Wildcats 59, Shields Valley 36**

Anything can happen at the Saturday morning loser-out semi-final game. The team that beat the Lady Wildcats a

week ago at the district tournament was about to be served a cold dish of revenge.

Harrison was firing on all cylinders from the jump. Alecia Panagakis, Britt Cooper and Taya DeFrance would not be denied their vengeance as they scored 14 of the 16 Wildcat points. The trio would score 18 points in the next quarter.

At the break, Harrison owned a 36-8 lead and all the momentum.

Though the score evened out in the third quarter, Cooper's eight points paced the Wildcats and allowed them to cruise into the fourth quarter with a comfortable 28 point lead.

By the end of the game, Panagakis would earn game scoring honors with 19 points. DeFrance finished with 18 and Cooper tallied 15. The win advanced the 'Cats to the consolation game. Harrison 16 20 15 8 - 59 Shields 6 2 15 13 - 36

Semifinal: Twin Bridges Lady Falcons 62, Seeley Swan 34

The Lady Falcons dominated the semifinal matchup and earned the right to compete for the divisional championship.

The solid Falcon defense held the Blackhawks to fewer than 10 points through three quarters. In the first quarter, Twin Bridges led by seven points, but Seeley would hang on in the second quarter. The Lady Falcons went to the locker room up 32-24.

In the second half Twin Bridges held the Blackhawks to only 10 points while they dropped in 30. The convincing victory set the stage for the championship game.

Kailee Oliverson led all scorers with 16 points and Julia Cox grabbed 13. Oliverson and Cox combined for 14-17 free throws and the team amassed 20 of 28 from the stripe. Twin Bridges 16 16 12 18 - 62 Seeley Swan 9 15 3 7 - 34



Kurtis Koenig/
The Madisonian
Alecia Panagakis draws the shooting foul.



Kurtis Koenig/
The Madisonian
Tracen Eggers elevates for the jumper.



Kurtis Koenig/
The Madisonian
Audrey George finds room to drive.

Sports continued on A7

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Sports continued from A6

**Consolation:
Harrison Lady Wildcats 47,
Arlee 39**

In the trophy round, Harrison came away with much more than third place. They kept the hope of a challenge game and a potential state tournament bid alive.

In the first half, the game was very close. Harrison led by two points after the first quarter, but that lead slipped to just one at the half.

Both teams started to heat up in the third quarter, but Britt Cooper found her stride. She made good on 10 of 11 attempts from the field to lead her team with 22 points, including a pair of three-pointers.

The Scarlets continued to struggle with Cooper as she tore down 14 rebounds, completing a double-double.

With Cooper in full stride, the Wildcats improved their lead in the third period to 31-28.

The fast-paced, final period was all Harrison. The Lady 'Cats put nine points between themselves and their opponents and cruised to the win. The Wildcats were then guaranteed a chance at a Monday evening challenge game.

That challenge would eventually become the Lady Falcons. Harrison 12 6 13 16 - 47
Arlee 10 7 11 11 - 39

**Championship:
Twin Bridges Lady Falcons 44,**

Gardiner 49

The Lady Falcons came up short in the final minutes of the divisional championship game last Saturday night.

Neither team scored for the first minute and a half, but Gardiner would be the first to strike. One minute later, Kailee Oliverson evened the score. This game of cat and mouse occurred for the entire quarter. The eight to eight score at the end of one led the fans know that this was going to be a down-to-the-wire war.

At the outset of the second quarter, Julia Cox dropped in a pair of free-throws to give the Lady Falcons the lead. After that the Falcons started to struggle with getting the ball in the hole. Though they managed to secure numerous offensive rebounds, they could not get the put-backs to fall.

Then Twin Bridges dropped into their feared diamond press.

It immediately caused a pair of turnovers, which were converted into layups. At the four minute mark Twin Bridges owned a four point lead.

With 30 seconds left, Gardiner managed a deep three-ball to bring them to within two points. At the break, Twin led 21-19.

Back and forth scoring outlined the third quarter, but at the end of it, Gardiner snuck in and stole a 29-28 lead.

The Falcons trailed by as many as eight points at one

point in the fourth quarter, but they battled back to a one point deficit with 14 seconds left when Megan Martin put back a rebound for two.

Forced to foul, the Falcons put Hannah Dean on the charity stripe. She downed both ends of the one-and-one to make it a three point game again.

A scrambling Cox was fouled in the act of shooting a three. With four seconds left she had the opportunity to tie the game from the charity stripe.

Cox shot an impressive 12 for 16 from the line up until that moment in the tournament, but the final shots rattled off the rim.

Dean knocked down a pair of free-throws with less than three seconds left to ice the game and claim the championship for the Bruins.

Cassidy Wetzel drilled 10 points to pace the Falcons, and Oliverson and Martin each added eight.

The loss set up a challenge game with the Lady Wildcats on Monday.

Twin Bridges 8 13 7 16 - 44
Gardiner 8 11 10 20 - 49

**Read about the challenge game and find out which team advanced to state on B1.*



Kurtis Koenig/
The Madisonian
Nolan Konen gets a
shot off as Woody
Puckett throws a block.

**Spring/summer open burning
season started March 1**

Only untreated wood and plant material legal to burn

Submitted by Lisa Peterson
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Spring/summer open burning season began Sunday, March 1, 2015, and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality reminds people that only clean, untreated wood and plant material can be burned legally.

It is illegal to burn, among other things, food waste, plastics, wood that has been coated, painted, stained, or treated, dead animals or animal droppings, rubber materials, chemicals, asphalt shingles, tar paper, pathogenic or hazardous wastes and standing or demolished structures containing prohibited materials.

DEQ strongly recommends that people contact their county health departments before they start open burning to find out if there are any county air quality requirements that apply to them, especially in Lewis and Clark, Missoula, Lincoln, Flathead and Yellowstone counties.

All burners should contact local fire control authorities before open burning any time of the year to get information on local fire safety requirements and to notify authorities of the location and time of their burns.

For more information on air quality related rules for open burning, open burning seasons and state permit requirements please see DEQ's website at www.deq.mt.gov.



**A
DAY'S
WORK**

Abigail Dennis/
The Madisonian
A tractor rests after a day's
work in the Ruby Valley
outside of Twin Bridges.

University of Great Falls dean's list

Local high school graduates make dean's list

Submitted by Shelly Burke

The University of Great Falls announced students named to the 2014 fall semester president's

honor roll and dean's list. There are a total of 268 students.

The following students are from Madison County and earned a perfect 4.0 grade

point average and were named to the president's honor roll:

Sydnee Burke, Sheridan Bailey Escott, Twin Bridges
The following students from

Madison County earned a grade point average of 3.5 or above and were named to the dean's list:

Taylor Statton, Harrison Mickayla Yochim, McAllister

Twin Bridges honor roll

submitted by Twin Bridges school

SENIORS

Austin Brentlinger
Ashlee Bryson
Gibson Butler
Seth Dustin
Baylee Lawrence
Woody Puckett
Phil Vial
Julia Cox
Tristen Guillot
Katie Hall
Gabe Johnson
Dusty Kiem
Josh Kneeland
Nolan Konen
Sami Nicholls
Kassidy Patrilli
Paige Phillips
Ezra Redfield
Spencer Stewart
Michael Walsh
Mic Wetherbee
Jared Wisler
JUNIORS
Kaylan Garrison
Megan Martin

J.D. Mehlhoff
Rylee Mehrling
Justin Nelson
Katie Pfertsh
Monty Tipps
Cassidy Wetzel
Bill Yeager
Madysone Beagley
Jessica George
Alice Giem
Mariah Mays
Kjersten Sandru
Gabbi Stephens
Eric Swenson
Wynn Swenson
SOPHOMORES
Wesley Armstrong
Shay Broksle
Cooper Christensen
Erika Corrigan
Haley Fournier
Laryssa Jones
Chase Kneeland
Skiela Mager
Mickey Patrilli
Garrett Wentzel

Kaleb Bausch
Sierra Frandsen
Audrey George
Mara Johnson
Brooke Schandelmeier
Brooke Smith
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Ericka Delgado
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Megan Bausch
RaeAnne Bendon
Matt Buscemi
Emily Dustin
Lane Frandsen
Kaleb Garrison
Noah Harbor
Jennifer Hobbs
Eddie Kelly
Michaela Madden
Kyle Minert
Abbi Olsen
Andrianna Pollorena
Mick Hendrickson
Beth Huttinga
Kailee Oliverson
Ruth Redfield

Sierra Rinta
Savanna Stewart
EIGHTH-GRADE
Cole Escott
Riah Edsall
Bailey Mays
Ayden Anderson
Taryn Johnson
Blu Keim
Ethan Kneeland
Clancy Phillips
SEVENTH-GRADE
Aaron Grabil
Kenna Millhouse
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Please come visit us at our new location: 110 West Main Street between Nacho Mama's Burritos and Town Pump, we share the office complex with INA Accounting and Madison Valley Property Management.

Meet your Agent: Amanda Nelsen Smethurst was born and raised in Sheridan, Wyoming. She received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Wyoming in 1999, and spent the next decade in Fort Collins and her hometown growing with every experience. She moved to Ennis in early 2007, as she had found a great small town to raise her daughter and splendor over the natural beauty of SW Montana and all the opportunity it may provide. She formed a solid understanding of insurance during her tenure at Moonlight Basin Resort. With an eye for detail, diligent work ethic and world class mentoring, she was promoted as their Insurance Risk Manager. Despite the intrigue of the work, she coveted a career closer to her community. Amanda joined the Agency Insurance Division in 2014 as their full-time Ennis agent. "I am excited to finally be a 'local'." Her intentions are to bring solid, professional insurance services to Ennis, Madison County and beyond. "I enjoy insurance because I get to meet people, understand their needs and place them with the carrier that best serves them." Amanda will complete the National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research CISR program in 2015 and thereafter work towards her CIC (Certified Insurance Counselor) designation. She is a Madison Valley Rural Fire Department volunteer firefighter and is also active in the Madison Valley Woman's Club. She enjoys horticulture, wildlife and spending as much time as she can with her daughter Alana, husband Ross, and her parents, Margo & Dave Nelsen.



AGENCY INSURANCE DIVISION
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AROUND THE COUNTY

Abigail Dennis
THE MADISONIAN
a.dennis@madisoniannews.com

Woman's club scholarships

Students who are interested in applying for scholarships through the Madison Valley Woman's Club must follow the exact definitions accompanying the application form, which is available at the Nearly New Shoppe, Re/Max Mountain Properties or at ennischools.org. Applications may be taken to the Nearly New Shoppe or mailed to the Madison Valley Woman's Club at P.O. Box 122, Ennis, 59729. The deadline for all applications to be dropped off or mailed (must be postmarked by deadline) is April 15, 2015 – late applications will not be considered.

Bowhunter education offered in Twin Bridges

Bowhunter education classes will be conducted April 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 at the Twin Bridges High School. The classes are for adults and youths (who will be at least 10 years old by Dec. 31, 2015). Students must attend all five sessions to be certified. Classes start each evening at 6 p.m. and finish around 9 p.m. On April 11, arrive at 8 a.m. – a free lunch will be provided because the class will last until approximately 3 p.m. Register for the class online at fwp.mt.gov or call Doug Stonebraker at 490-3699 or 684-5526 with any questions.

Help out with channel restoration in the Ruby

Join Big Sky Watershed Corps member David Stout on

March 5 and 6 to collect willow branches for a channel restoration project along the Ruby River. If you are interested in lending a hand, call Stout at the Ruby Valley Conservation District at 842-5741. All the necessary tools will be provided.

Happenings at the Ennis Public Library

The Friends of the Ennis Library are continuing their mental health series with a discussion about the Autism Spectrum Disorder on March 7 at 11 a.m. with Claire Leonard. The following week, Jessie Close will be speaking about bipolar disorder on March 14 at 11 a.m., while talking about her book, "Resilience: Two Sisters and the Story of a Mental Illness." Be sure to head to the library for these informative events.

Where's Melinda?



Melinda Merrill, Broker

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20 UNDER 40 Madison Valley Medical Center CEO John Bishop honored

Submitted by Dottie Fossel
MADISON VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER

John Bishop, CEO of Madison Valley Medical Center, was one of 20 top young business professionals under age 40 honored at a luncheon at the Hilton Gardens Inn in Bozeman on Monday, Feb. 23. The event was attended by 300 people. Bishop was chosen from 125 nominees in Southwest Montana.

When Bishop was asked what the most rewarding aspect of his job was, he answered, "Health care is complex and each day brings new and different challenges. Overcoming and finding solutions to those challenges is extremely rewarding."

Bishop joined MVMC in

2011 as the chief financial officer and became CEO in 2012. According to Dottie Fossel, chairman of the board of trustees, "Under John's leadership we have grown tremendously, have a stable medical staff and high quality medical care close to home. Our vision is to become the health care provider of choice for our community."

Bishop loves the outdoors and is an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoys living and working in the small town of Ennis. He and his wife, Halsey, built a house here last summer where they live with their two children, Brecken and Addison.

Fossel could not help adding, "We hope John continues to lead the medical center for many years."



Be Aware! New snowfall could trigger avalanche danger

Submitted by Tom Palmer
MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE
AND PARKS

Traditional winter snows heading to Montana over the coming weeks and months will likely be accompanied by avalanche danger due to fresh and unstable snow.

Snowmobile riders, cross country skiers and other participants in winter recreation need to be cautious. Safety tips include:

- Only one snowmobile rider should be on the slope at a time.
- Learn to recognize and understand avalanche-prone terrain – including any slope steeper than 30 degrees.
- Observe the slope ori-

entation with respect to the sun and the wind.

- Be cautious of cornices.
- Travel with a partner and carry the appropriate rescue gear.
- Practice using an avalanche beacon.

These online avalanche centers are popular places for outdoor adventurers to visit for continuous updates on conditions:

- Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center
- Glacier Country Avalanche Center
- Missoula Regional Avalanche Advisory

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks also offers a handy online guide to avalanche resources on its website at fwp.mt.gov.

MADISON COUNTY SANITARIAN'S OFFICE
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mcsani@madison.mt.gov

SEPTIC INSTALLER'S TRAINING

The Madison County Sanitarian's Office will be holding two Septic Installer Training sessions. There is no fee for attending. Lunch will be provided. Both Sessions will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Attendance is required at one of these sessions in order to maintain your current Installers License for Madison County.

Date: March 12, 2015 – Session I

Location: Sheridan, MT

Philanthropy River Building, Suite 106, 120 S. Main St

Date: March 13, 2015 – Session II

Location: Ennis, MT (Big Sky)

Jack Creek Preserve Foundation's Education Center, located at 1206 Jack Creek Rd.

Please call the Sanitarian's Office at 843-4275 to register for one of the sessions by March 9, 2015. Due to limited seating you must be registered in order to attend.

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

- ATTENTION - HIGH PEAKS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION MEMBERS

The 54th annual meeting of the membership will be at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 9th, 2015 at the University of Montana Western in the Lewis & Clark Room. A short business meeting with elections will be held.

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FREE Technology Classes

offered by 3 Rivers Communications

Saturday • March 7, 2015

Ennis Public Library • Community Room • Ennis, MT

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. • **Internet Security**

The Internet has opened a wide new world of communication. It makes so many things possible from visiting with friends and family, to doing research, to online banking. All of these things are great, but also require some safety precaution to safeguard your identity. Learn some basic do's and don'ts to protect yourself when you are online.

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. • **Google Drive**

Do you have a Google or Gmail account? Did you know with this account you can create documents, presentations, spreadsheets and more online - for free? In addition you can upload existing files (including photos, videos, and audio files) to your cloud storage so you can access them from any computer with internet access. Learn all about how to use these free tools in this class session.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. • **Devices**

Open Forum. If you are interested in learning about the different devices or already have one and want to learn more. Bring your Kindle, Nook, iPad, or android tablet. You will have time to ask questions and explore your device with the instructor.

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



FREE Technology Classes

offered by 3 Rivers Communications

Saturday • March 21, 2015

Twin Bridges School • Montana Room • Twin Bridges, MT

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. • **Windows 8**

Did you recently upgrade to Windows 8? Are you thinking about purchasing a new computer pre-loaded with Windows 8? Are you finding the new interface frustrating? Learn the basics of using this new operating system. Bring your own computer, tablet, or phone with Windows 8 or just come and watch.

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. • **Google Drive**

Do you have a Google or Gmail account? Did you know with this account you can create documents, presentations, spreadsheets and more online - for free? In addition you can upload existing files (including photos, videos, and audio files) to your cloud storage so you can access them from any computer with internet access. Learn all about how to use these free tools in this class session.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. • **Devices**

Open Forum. If you are interested in learning about the different devices or already have one and want to learn more. Bring your Kindle, Nook, iPad, or android tablet. You will have time to ask questions and explore your device with the instructor.

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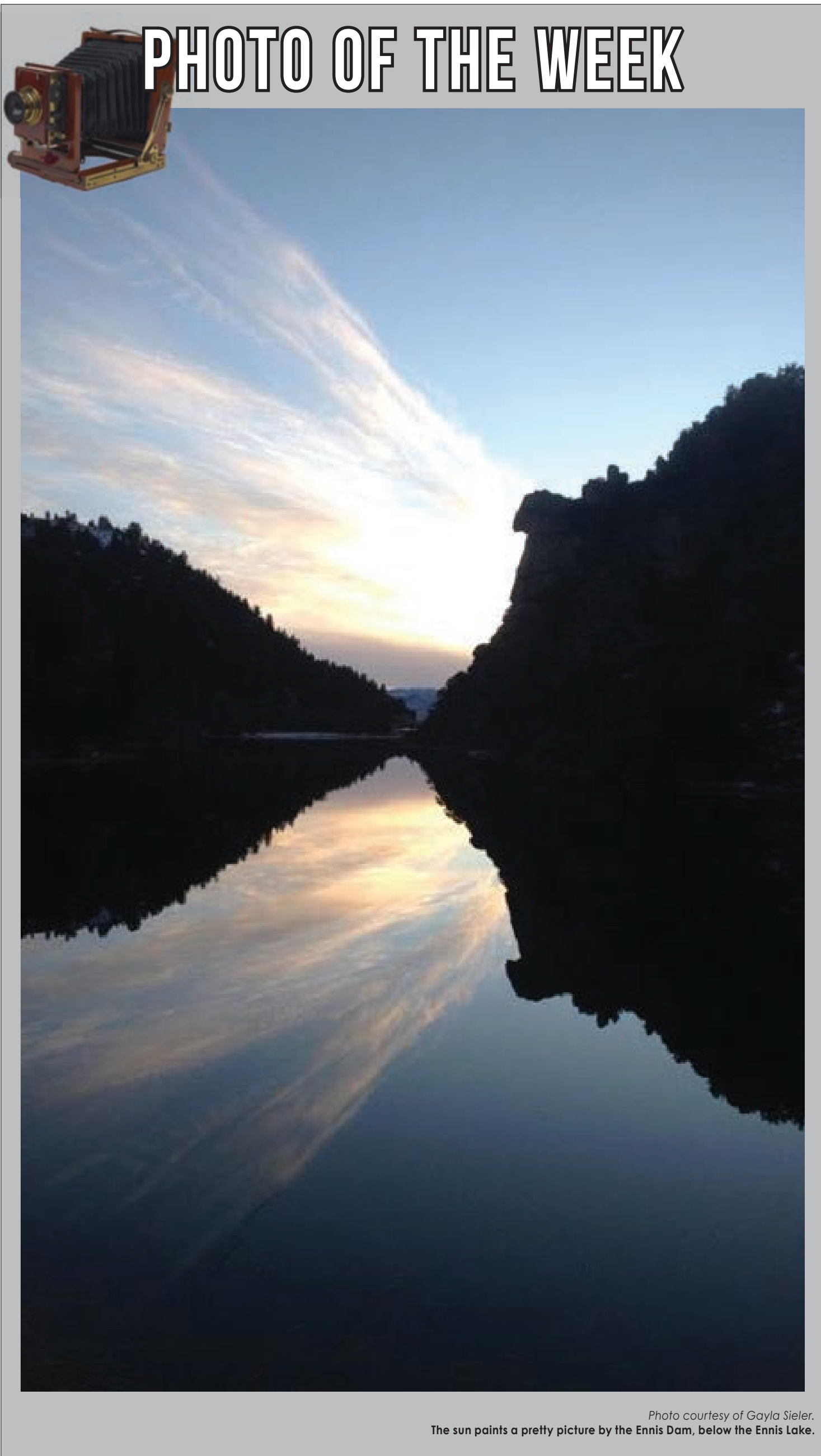


PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Photo courtesy of Gayla Steler. The sun paints a pretty picture by the Ennis Dam, below the Ennis Lake.

Nancy and I would like to thank everyone who attended my retirement party. Thanks to those of you who were unable to attend the retirement party but called or sent a card wishing us a happy retirement. Thanks for the wonderful gifts. It was an honor and a pleasure serving as your sheriff for 12 years. Nancy and I are blessed to have such wonderful friends.

David Schenk
MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF RETIRED

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4 PAWS RESCUE PET OF THE WEEK



AJAX

Hey there, you with love on your mind. Yep, I'm talking to you. Here I am. I need love and have lots and lots to give to you. I like to talk to you, but I like being held and petted and loved up on even more. Why am I here? There was a fire at the house and after it, the people moved out and left me and the rest of the gang (eight more) to fend for ourselves. Well, someone left the door open and we got out and some nice folks felt sorry for us, as we had no food or water. They caught us and brought us to the rescue. Now we are healthy, well fed (they make yummy treats) and watered. All caught up on shots, tests, spayed and the whole works. So, please come and adopt me. Lovingly, Ajax

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STUDENT OF THE WEEK ALDER



Soft spoken second grader, **Molly Gilman**, has been chosen by the Alder School as the Student of the Week. One of the first things you will notice about Molly is her contagious smile. Molly is a very talented student. She enjoys reading and writing, and her typing skills are wonderful. Not only is she very kind, polite, and helpful but she is also very creative. She enjoys making a variety of arts and crafts items, which she generously shares. The Alder School would like to congratulate Molly on her accomplishments.

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MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

Thursday



Partly cloudy. Warmer. Highs 35 to 45.

Friday



Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow showers. Highs 40 to 50.

Saturday



Partly cloudy. Highs 40 to 50. Lows 20 to 30.

Sunday



Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow showers. Highs 40 to 50.

Monday



Partly cloudy. Lows 20 to 30. Highs 45 to 55.

Quote of the Week:

“Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow.”

Helen Keller

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Kurtis Koenig/The Madisonian
Britt Cooper charges through the lane.

ON TO STATE



Kurtis Koenig/The Madisonian
Kailee Oliverson rises for the 15 foot jumper.

Twin Bridges Lady Falcons advance

Kurtis Koenig
THE MADISONIAN
k.koenig@madisoniannews.com

It all came down to a head-to-head matchup in the big gym in Churchill. All season long the ladies from Twin Bridges and Harrison have battled it out on the hardwood, but Monday night would determine which basketball team would be practicing on Tuesday in preparation for the state tournament and which team would be turning in their gear.

After a neck-and-neck battle in the Western C divisional challenge game, the Lady Falcons arose victorious.

Harrison jumped out on top early with a 3-0 lead, which they held onto until six and half minutes rolled off the clock. Brooke Schandelmeier got the Falcons on the board at 1:29 with a shot from the key.

On the next possession, Kailee Oliverson snagged an offensive board and put it back up, scoring the hoop and drawing the harm. She missed her shot at a three point play, but the bucket gave the Lady Falcons the lead.

As the first quarter drew to a close, Britt Cooper ripped a pass to Alecia Panagakis who put down a layup, giving a 5-4 edge to the Lady 'Cats at the end of quarter one.

The second period played out very similar to the first.

Cooper struck first one minute in on a nifty drive through the key to extend Harrison's lead and spark a 9-0 Wildcat run. It was the first of many dives through the key by Cooper en route to her 12 point performance.

Teammate Panagakis tore a rebound down and put up a bucket to build on the Lady 'Cat run.

Harrison's defense was clicking and they forced three consecutive turnovers.

The Falcons switched gears and jumped into a 1-3-1 zone, which slowed the Wildcat attack. Harrison led 12-4 at this point.

Schandelmeier would break the Harrison streak for the second time with the chance at a three point play four minutes into the quarter. On the next possession she put up another

deuce on an inbound play to make it a four point game.

Oliverson picked a pocket and took the ball on a two point ride to make it a two point game, which started a back-and-forth scoring spree that encompassed the final two minutes of the half.

Harrison held on to a 16-14 lead at the half.

That is when things changed for the Falcons.

"At halftime (head coach Rob Lott) told us what we needed to do," said Falcon Julia Cox. "We needed to use our post players more."

One of those post players was Oliverson.

Oliverson netted a game high 16 points and ripped nine boards and her teammates recognized her work.

"(Oliverson and Megan Martin) did amazing tonight," noted Cox. "They really worked their butts off."

The Lady Falcons began to patiently work the ball around the perimeter, looking for Oliverson at the high post and Martin cycling underneath Harrison's 2-3 zone. In the third period Oliverson made the 'Cats pay inside the paint while Falcon speedsters made money in the transition game.

"(Lott) told us to get our heads together," remarked Oliverson. "We needed to show them that we wanted this game more."

One thing that was noticeably missing from the game was the historically dangerous Falcon press.

"We watched the film of when we lost to [Harrison]," said Cox, "they cherry picked us the whole time."

In an attempt to avoid the crisp and accurate passing and the solid speed and ball control of the Lady Wildcats, Twin Bridges elected to drop back into their zone defense.

"It was weird being back, we love to press," said Cox, "but it worked for us tonight."

The defensive strategy paid off as the Falcons held the Wildcats to only four points in the third period.

Though the Wildcats led at the half, with 5:30 remaining in the final quarter, RaeAnne Bendon, another freshman standout for the Lady Falcons, stroked a pair

of free-throws to give Twin Bridges a 10 point cushion.

"How awesome was that?" exclaimed head coach Rob Lott? "The crowd was going wild, a freshman sits there and makes those free-throws."

Lott's excitement was well deserved. His team is comprised of seven underclassmen and they all contribute. Eleven of his 13 players registered a statistic and eight of them scored.

In the fourth quarter, the two freshman scored half the points to elevate the Lady Falcons.

Wildcat Addie Nesbit put in a layup with 5:20 remaining to end the Falcons' 6-0 run and Panagakis's three-ball from way downtown two plays later sparked a 5-0 Wildcat run.

For nearly two minutes, neither team could find a bucket despite numerous turnovers and scrambles for the ball.

With less than a minute and a half remaining, Martin popped in a free-throw to break the scoring drought and give the Falcons a five point lead.

Cooper threaded a three-pointer to cut that lead to two with 50 seconds remaining.

Nine seconds remained when Martin reported to the charity stripe to shoot 1-1.

"I could have blown our chance at state," she said. "The pressure was on me, but I knew my team believed in me. I knew I had to do it."

She drilled the first, making it a three-point ball game.

The Wildcats put the ball into the hands of their rain-maker, Cooper, who had a solid look at a three as the clock expired, but it rattled out.

Game over.

"We stayed together as a team," Martin noted. "We got down early, but we never gave up. Teamwork was outstanding."

The Lady Falcons advance to the state tournament in Missoula this weekend. They are slated to play the Park City Lady Panthers at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday.
Twin Bridges 4 10 12 12 - 38
Harrison 5 11 4 15 - 35



Kurtis Koenig/The Madisonian
Taya DeFrance is swarmed on the rebound.

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How to make dinnertime a priority for your family

Submitted by StatePoint

Do you have dinner with your kids? It is become almost a luxury today, with our crammed schedules. And yet, numerous studies show that no other hour in your children's day will deliver as many emotional and psychological benefits as the one spent unwinding and connecting over food and conversation.

"A nightly commitment to family dinners can be transformative," said Anne K. Fishel, Ph.D., therapist, cofounder of Family Dinner Project and author.

Amongst finicky eaters, defiant teens and the lure of fast food, how can home cooking and family dinner be your household's priority?

Fishel shares strategies for busy parents to overcome family dinnertime hurdles. Here she shares a few

parenting insights:

Meaningful conversation

A family meal is an excellent opportunity to connect with your children. Foster dinner conversation by making the family table a technology-free zone. You may find that parents have a harder time than kids turning off their gadgets.

Throughout your day, collect stories that might amuse your children, such as something mischievous the dog did. Starting by telling a story yourself can get the conversation rolling.

Ask questions that demonstrate you have been paying attention. For example, "I know that today was your first art class. What was it like?"

To deepen conversation, turn to daily media content. For example, elections can prompt discussions about how democracy works.

Scandals can provide fodder for talk about truth-telling.

Trying new things

Do not underestimate your child's taste buds. The idea that young children and adults must eat different foods might be a myth created by food manufacturers and marketers. Your child might like chicken piccata as much as chicken fingers.

Entice picky eaters by modeling adventurous eating. Eat the new food with gusto and then ask, "Would you like to taste it? Can you describe the taste?" This focuses your child's attention on the food, rather than on rejecting it.

Avoid letting food become a power struggle. If your child refuses a particular meal, stay calm and offer an alternative such as a peanut butter and jelly sandwich – nothing that makes much

extra work for you.

Have fun

Ask kids to help with meal preparation. Spinning salad greens and setting the timer are some of the many things young children can do. For older kids, do a role reversal one night a week and have them do the cooking.

It can be fun to re-create meals kids have seen advertised on T.V. or eaten in restaurants. For example, most supermarkets offer ready-made pizza dough. Combined with tomato sauce from a jar, it is simple to make pizza at home.

Let teens choose music to listen to during dinner. On other nights, play music you listened to as a teenager.

Family dinner offers more than just nutrition. Food may bring everyone to the table, but it is the fun and conversation that will keep them there.

Create a healthy ecosystem in your own yard

Submitted by StatePoint

This spring season, help promote a healthy ecosystem by learning to identify and control damaging plants and insects in your yard.

Information about common invasive species and backyard invaders is now being offered by Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment:

Invasive plants

Invasive weeds can out-compete native species, changing the local ecosystem. Many varieties, first introduced as flora to plant in gardens, can be confused with similar, native varieties. Here are two common damaging ones to watch out for:

- Purple Loosestrife, native to Europe and Asia, is found in most states. One plant can produce more than two million seeds annually.
- Native to China, the Tree-of-Heaven was widely planted as an ornamental plant for many years and is often confused with other trees having similar leaves, such as black walnut, butternut, and most sumac.

Invasive insects

Invasive insects can also have a severe negative impact on native species by out-competing them for food and resources. Many also cause and carry disease and prey on native species. Two common ones to look out for include:

- Emerald Ash Borer,

native to Asia, is prominently found across the Northeast, Midwest and Southeastern United States. The larvae do the most damage, killing ash trees by feeding on the inner bark.

- Zebra Mussel, native to lakes in southern Russia, is found in hundreds of waterways throughout the United States. The species commonly clog water intakes, damage boats and can cause cuts and scrapes if they grow on rocks, swim rafts and ladders.

Backyard pests

Did you know native plants and insects can cause damage too?

- Ticks can transmit Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Left untreated, Lyme disease infects the joints, heart and nervous system. After time spent outdoors, check for ticks, especially in and around your ears, inside your belly button, behind your knees, around your waist, on your scalp and in your hair.
- Mosquitoes can carry West Nile Virus. While most people may show few symptoms, 20 percent of people develop a fever along with headaches, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea or rash, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Follow the "five Ds" to protect yourself: Drain standing water; stay indoors at dusk and dawn;

dress in long-sleeves and pants; and use deet-based mosquito repellent.

- Poison ivy, poison oak and poison sumac can lurk in backyards. Almost 85 percent of people develop a rash when they come into contact with these weeds.

Control poisonous weeds long-term by carefully digging out the plants while wearing waterproof gloves or treating with a pesticide.

Defend your local

ecosystem by identifying exotic plants in your garden or yard. Spot invasive weeds and insects in your area? Let your county extension office know, which may have a monitoring and management program in place.

By being aware of invasive species and other pests in your area, you can help support native species and a healthy ecosystem in your own backyard and neighborhood.



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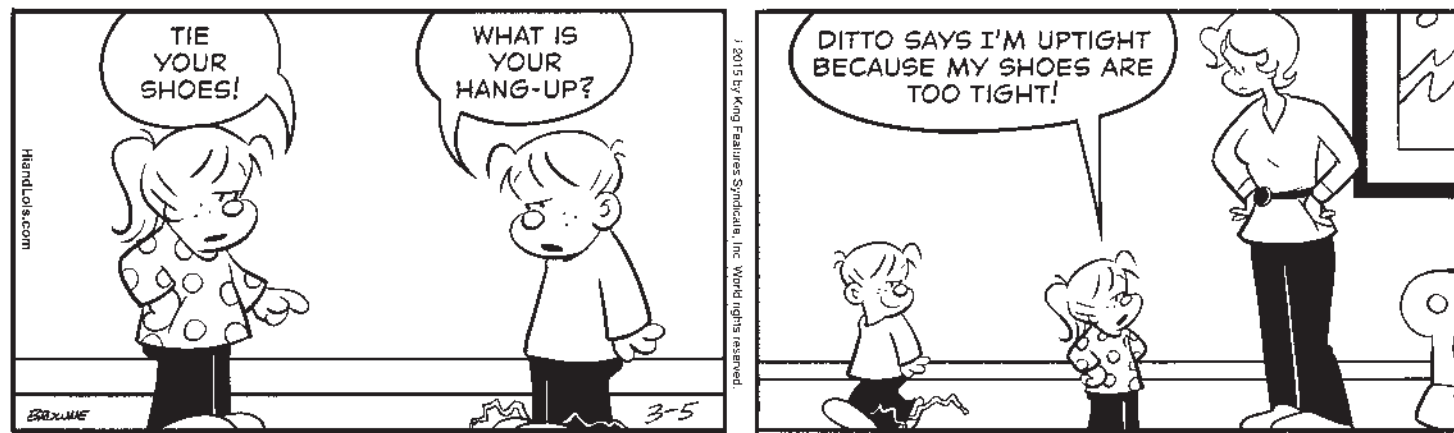
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COMICS & PUZZLES

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MARVIN



RHYMES



CRYPTOQUIP

B G D B K T Q V W U E B H R D
A T W Q A U L Q . A T B G H ' W
R U X C D Z Z Q R U B B U U A D L . V ' L
W D Q G H ' W E D V X - B U - C H L L Z V R K .

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G=H

Just a Pinch

Sharing Hometown Recipes, Cooking Tips and Coupons
By Janet Tharpe

Kid Tested & Approved Chocolate Peanut Butter Pie

"This is quick and easy!"



Our favorite chocolate and peanut butter cookies are only for sale one time a year. But, if you keep Gary Hancq's Chocolate Pie with Peanut Butter Crust recipe on hand, you can enjoy your favorite cookie all year around! This is a SUPER easy recipe—perfect for kids to jump in on and lend a hand

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

www.justapinch.com/chocolatepie

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

- Janet

Chocolate Pie with Peanut Butter Crust

What You Need

- 3 c crispy rice cereal
 - 1 1/2 c peanut butter, smooth
 - 2 pkg (small) instant chocolate pudding or 1 large box
 - Milk per package instructions (Note: you will use only 2/3 of recommended milk)
 - Whipped topping or whipped cream, optional
- Press and line a pie plate with mixture.
 - Bake crust at 325 degrees for 30 minutes to firm up crust. Then let crust cool.
 - Mix chocolate pudding per directions but use just 2/3 of recommended milk (this makes the pie firmer). Place in refrigerator to firm and chill.
 - When crust has cooled, add cooled pudding mixture. Chill in refrigerator until time to serve.
 - When served, add whipped topping and shaved chocolate if you choose.

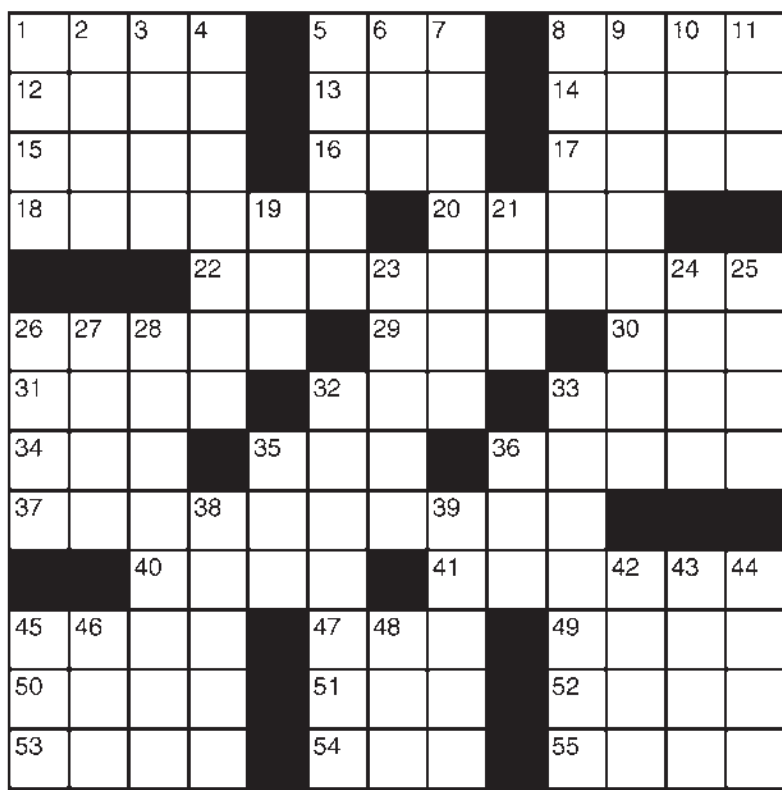
Directions

- Preheat oven to 325 deg.
- In large bowl mash crispy rice cereal to medium-fine.
- Then add peanut butter. Mix and incorporate well.

Submitted by: Gary Hancq, Port Byron, IL (pop. 1,647)
www.justapinch.com/chocolatepie

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer



ACROSS

- 1 Rhyming tributes
- 5 — de deux
- 8 Satiated
- 12 Mentor
- 13 Mythical beast
- 14 Possess
- 15 Hideaway
- 16 Harry's successor
- 17 Terrible fellow?
- 18 Football team
- 20 Baseball team
- 22 Placing first, second or third
- 26 Jobs in technology?
- 29 Mound stat
- 30 Decorate Easter eggs
- 31 Dorothy's destination
- 32 Soar
- 33 Warmth
- 34 Acapulco gold?
- 35 Benicio — Toro
- 36 Language of Iran
- 37 Exactly right
- 40 "The Music Man" locale
- 41 Make bubbly
- 45 Isinglass
- 47 Back talk
- 49 Concept
- 50 Stench
- 51 Lamb's mama
- 52 Pub missile
- 53 Frogs' hangout
- 54 "Mayday!"
- 55 Messes up

DOWN

- 1 Look lecherously
- 2 Two-way
- 3 One of HOMES
- 4 Last
- 5 Hunting dogs do
- 6 Noah's boat
- 7 Landscapes
- 8 Pants material
- 9 Pale purple
- 10 Eggs
- 11 Longing
- 19 Compass dir.
- 21 "— Little Teapot"
- 23 Greeting
- 24 Nestling hawk
- 25 Himalayan legend
- 26 "Scat!"
- 27 Ripped
- 28 Smiley in an email, e.g.
- 32 Cows and sows
- 33 Rural outing
- 35 Morning moisture
- 36 Doctor's due
- 38 Stockpile
- 39 Scruffs
- 42 Hebrew month
- 43 Yukon, for ex.
- 44 Corrodes
- 45 Swab the deck
- 46 Altar affirmative
- 48 — Jima

All puzzle answers on B7

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PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON

HUGH A. LESLIE and MILDRED ARLENE LESLIE, Plaintiffs, vs. JOHN PORTER NELSON II, and/or his Heirs and Devises, and ESTELLE FAYE NELSON STOCKMAN, and/or her Heirs and Devises, and all other 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 to Quiet Title, adverse to the Plaintiffs' ownership or any cloud upon the Plaintiffs' title thereto, whether such claim or possible claim be present or contingent.

Defendants.
Cause No. DV-29-2014-74

Memorandum
The following persons are said to claim an interest in or lien upon said property adverse to plaintiff:

JOHN PORTER NELSON II, and/or his Heirs and Devises, of 6679 Twin Oaks, Paradise, CA 95969 and ESTELLE FAYE NELSON STOCKMAN, and/or her Heirs and Devises, of 909 East 1st Street, Long Beach, CA 90802
Dated: January 21, 2015
Karen McMullin
Attorney for Plaintiffs
(Pub. Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12 2015) km MNAJLX

IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON

HUGH A. LESLIE and MILDRED ARLENE LESLIE, Plaintiffs,

vs. JOHN PORTER NELSON II, and/or his Heirs and Devises, and ESTELLE FAYE NELSON STOCKMAN, and/or her Heirs and Devises, and all other 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 to Quiet Title, adverse to the Plaintiffs' ownership or any cloud upon the Plaintiffs' title thereto, whether such claim or possible claim be present or contingent.

Defendants.
Cause No. DV-29-2014-74

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
Filing date: January 30, 2015
GREETINGS FROM THE STATE OF MONTANA To: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint to Quiet Title in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is served upon you, and to file your answer and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiffs' attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint to Quiet Title. This action is brought for the purpose of quieting title in the Plaintiffs to land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows:

A parcel of land 6' by 50' lying south of Lot 17, Block 2 of the Original Townsite of Ennis, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning as an initial point at the southwest corner of said Lot 17 in Block 2, thence six feet due south to the southwest corner of the lot hereby described; thence due west fifty feet to the southeast corner; thence due north six feet to the northeast corner of the lot hereby described; thence due west fifty feet to the point of beginning, describing a remainder tract created by Book 105, page 615 which real property is contained within: Lot Eight (8), Block Two (2) of the Ennis Addition to the Ennis Townsite of Madison County, Montana; and a parcel of land 50 feet x 144 feet South of Lot Seventeen (17), Block Two (2) of the Original Townsite of Ennis, described as follows:

Beginning at an initial point at the Southwest corner of Lot 17 in Block 2 of the Original Townsite of Ennis in said County thence six feet due south to the northwest corner and point or place of beginning of the lot or tract hereby conveyed, thence due South 144 feet to the Southwest corner of the lot or tract hereby conveyed, thence due east fifty feet to the southeast corner of the lot or tract hereby conveyed, thence due north 144 feet to a point and the northeast corner of the lot or tract hereby conveyed, thence fifty feet due west to the place of beginning. Said tract or lot being 144 feet in length, north and south, and 50 feet in width, east and west, and the north end of said tract being six feet south of the south end of Lot Seventeen, Block Two Original Townsite of Ennis, and as further shown and described on Amended Plat recorded December 2, 2014 in Book 2 of Plats, page 318, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Madison County, Montana, as specified in said Complaint to quiet title, adverse to Plaintiffs' ownership or any cloud deriving therefrom described in the Complaint upon Plaintiffs' title thereto, whether such claim or possible claim be present or contingent.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court this 2 day of February, 2015
Clerk of Court
by Karen J. Miller
CLERK OF COURT
Micah Meyers

DEPUTY CLERK
Karen McMullin
Attorney for Plaintiffs
Post Office Box 55
Ennis, Montana 59729
Telephone: (406) 682-7878
(Pub. Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12 2015) km MNAJLX

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY BARTON, Deceased.

Probate No: DP-29-15-4
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to Elizabeth Ann Qualls, Personal Representative, c/o Krueer Law Firm, P.C., P.O. Box 718, Sheridan, MT 59749, return receipt requested or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. Dated this 12th day of February, 2015 I declare under penalty of 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 KRUEER
Attorney for Personal Representative
(Pub. February 19, 26, March 5, 2015) sk MNAJLX

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GARY D. NELSON, Deceased.

Probate No: DP-15-02
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months (4) after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to Frank G. Nelson, return receipt requested, c/o Worden Thane P.C., P.O. Box 4747, Missoula, Montana 59806, return receipt requested or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. Dated this 2nd day of January, 2015
WORDEN THANE PC
Attorneys for Personal Representative
//s/ WILLIAM E. MCCARTHY
Attorneys for Personal Representative
(Pub. February 19, 26, March 5, 2015) wt MNAJLX

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE OF MINOR CHILD

MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY
Probate No. DV-29-2015-3
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF

Gabrielle Rose Hansen-Holman
Child's Full Name Now
Morgan Gruby
Petitioner

THIS IS NOTICE THAT PETITIONER has asked the District Court for a change of name from Gabrielle Rose Hansen-Holman TO Gabrielle Rose Gruby
This hearing will be on April 6, 2015 At 11:30 a.m.
The hearing will be at the Courthouse in Madison County
KAREN MILLER
/s/ Karen Miller
Clerk of District Court
Madison County
(Pub. Feb. 26, Mar. 5, 12, 19) mg MNAJLX

PUBLIC NOTICE

The term of one trustee of Alder School District No. 2 will be up for election this year. Anyone qualified and interested in running for this position, may pick up a nominating petition in the Alder School office. The petitions

must be turned into the Alder School office prior to 4:00 pm, March 26, 2015 not less than forty (40) days before the election on May 5, 2015.
(Pub. Feb. 26, Mar. 5, 12, 19) as MNAJLX

NOTICE

The terms of three (3) trustees of Sheridan School District No. 5 will expire this year: two (2) from Sheridan, and one (1) from Alder. Trustees are elected for three year terms. Anyone qualified and interested in running for these positions may pick up a nominating petition in the elementary school office. The petitions must be turned into the elementary school office prior to 4:00 p.m. Thursday, March 26, 2015, not less than forty (40) days before the election on May 5, 2015.
(Pub. Mar. 5, 12, 2015) ss MNAJLX

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE - MADISON COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

The Madison County Planning Board will hold a public hearing on the draft Madison County Subdivision Regulations at 6:15 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2015, in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Madison County Annex, 205 N. Broadway, Virginia City, Montana. The Madison County Subdivision Regulations were last adopted in 2006, and amended in 2008. After considering public recommendations and suggestions on the draft subdivision regulations, the Planning Board will recommend appropriate action be taken by the Madison County Commissioners.

Copies of the document are available at the following locations:
Madison County Commissioners Office & Madison County Planning Office, 205 N. Broadway, Virginia City,
Madison County Courthouse, 100 W. Wallace, Virginia City;
Thompson-Hickman County Library, 217 Idaho Street, Virginia City;
Madison Valley Library, 210 East Main Street, Ennis;
Sheridan Public Library, 109 East Hamilton, Sheridan;
Twin Bridges Public Library, 206 South Main, Twin Bridges;
Big Sky Fire Department, 650 Rainbow Trout Run, Big Sky; and
Big Sky Owners Association, 145 Center Lane, Unit J, Big Sky.
Written comments should be received by 3:00pm on March 30, 2015 and may be sent to the Madison County Planning Board at P.O. Box 278, Virginia City, Montana 59755 (mail); (406) 843-5299 (fax); or planb@madison.

mt.gov (email). Oral or written comments may also be given at the public hearing.
John Fountain, President, Madison County Planning Board
(Pub. Mar. 5, 12, 2015) mcpb MNAJLX

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF MADISON IN RE ESTATE OF: LONNIE CHANEY HENDERSON, also known as LONNIE C. HENDERSON, Deceased
Cause No. DP-29-2015-6
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 GAE ANN F. HENDERSON-McHALE, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 2390 C. Las Posas Road, #441, Camarillo, CA 93010, or filed with the Clerk of the above-titled Court.
Dated: February 10, 2015
//s/ GAE ANN F. HENDERSON-McHALE
Personal Representative
GAE ANN F. HENDERSON-McHALE, being first duly sworn, upon oath, deposes and says:

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/ GAE ANN F. HENDERSON-McHALE
Personal Representative
State of California / County of Ventura
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 10th day of February, 2015 by GAE ANN F. HENDERSON-McHALE, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person who appeared before me.
11511 Bhalinder Singh Sindhy
Commission # 1924754.
Notary Public-California
Ventura County
My commission expires March 6, 2015
Personal Representative's Attorney:
Karen McMullin
Post Office Box 55
Ennis, MT 59729
Telephone: (406) 682-7878
(Pub. March 5, 12, 19, 2015) km

Madison Valley Lenten Breakfast Schedule

Trinity Episcopal Church, Jeffers - March 4
Madison Valley Baptist Church, Ennis - March 11
St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Ennis - March 18
Assembly of God Church, Ennis - March 25
Meal Served Each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church -
Ash Wednesday Service 6 p.m. soup/supper;
Service at 7 p.m. Wednesday February 18th
Lent Services soup/supper 6 p.m.
Service 7 p.m. Wednesday Evenings

Ruby Valley Lenten Breakfast Schedule

Breakfast is served at 7 a.m., all are welcome!
Come join in with the churches of the Ruby Valley for good food, fellowship and a Lenten Message.

Wednesday, March 4 - Dayspring Church Hwy 287 in Sheridan
Wednesday, March 11 - New Beginnings Church in Sheridan
Wednesday, March 18 - Notre Dame Catholic Church in Twin
Wednesday, March 25 - St. Mary's Catholic Church in Laurin



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SHERIDAN

School Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 10
7 p.m.
Media Tech Center
Charles B. Murray Building

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ENNIS MEALS ON WHEELS

TUESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
11:30 AM - 1 PM
MADISON VALLEY MANOR

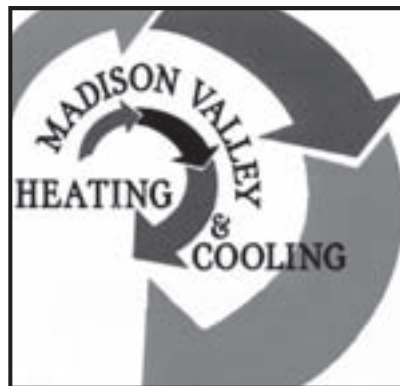
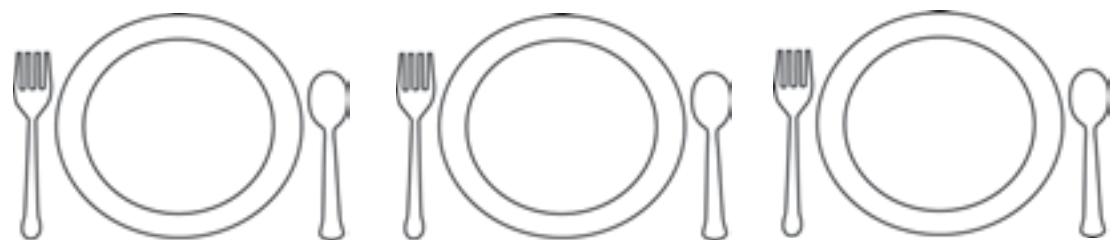
WEDNESDAY, MAR 4:
BEEF STEW W/POTATOES & CARROTS, FRESH FRUIT

THURSDAY, MAR 5:
PULLED PORK, BAKED BEANS, PEA SALAD, ICE CREAM & BANANA

FRIDAY, MAR 6:
CUBE STEAK, BAKED POTATO, CAULIFLOWER, CRANBERRY COFFEE CAKE

TUESDAY, MAR 10:
BRISKET, BAKED BEANS, ZUCCHINI, CRANBERRY SCONE

WEDNESDAY, MAR 11:
CRAB CAKES, RICE PILAF, MIXED VEGGIE, APPLE PIE



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Ruby Valley Baptist Church
Tony Shaw, Pastor
842-7688

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

One block behind IGA, Sheridan



Find Fellowship With Us

Rocky Mountain Baptist Church
682-4949

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

606 Comley Way, Ennis
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Dayspring Church
Worship 10:00 a.m.
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Joel Trenkle/Pastor
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Between Sheridan & Twin Bridges

HARRISON COMMUNITY CHURCH
Harrison, Montana
Adult Bible Study ~ 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Church Services ~ 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Joe Miller
Come Worship & Sing Praises To Our God. Spread the Word!

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Sheridan Ward - Visitors Welcome
Sacrament Meeting
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School
11:20 a.m.
R S & Priesthood
12:10 p.m.
Mutual (Youth Group)
Weds. 7:00p.m.
3560 | MT State Hwy 287
Sheridan 842-5860
Bishop Dustin 684-5255



Liturgy Schedule
St. Patrick, Ennis
Sunday ~ 10:30 a.m.

St. Mary, Laurin
Sunday ~ 8:30 a.m.
Deacon Andy Dorrington,
Pastoral Administrator ~ 842-5588

Madison Valley Presbyterian Church
WORSHIP
September - April ~ 11 a.m.
May - August ~ 9 a.m.
Everyone Welcome
Fully Accessible
Rev. Jean M. Johnson
682-4355 ~ Ennis
Corner of S. Charles & W. Hugel



Phil 2:16
Holding forth the word of life:
Dr. Ray Teston
Pastor
Sunday School ~ 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ~ 11:00 a.m.

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

Ruby Valley United Methodist Parish
Invites You To Worship With Us
Pastor Paul Stearns
Office: (406)842-5934
Home: (406)842-7732
Church of the Valley Twin Bridges
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Youth Group Weds at 6:30 pm
Bethel UMC Sheridan
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Youth Group Sunday evenings
Ready Set Grow Preschool
Contact Kaycee Gilman 842-5311

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
The Church of Word and Sacrament
Visitors Welcome
Pastor Ken Stensrud
Lenten Services starting Feb. 18 at 7 pm
• Sunday Service 9:00 am
• Bible Study 10:15 am
• Sunday School 10:15 am
Lent Services soup/supper 6 p.m.
Corner of Madison and Arnette St.
Ennis, Montana 406-682-4920

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Ennis Branch
Sacrament Meeting
10:00 a.m.
Sunday School
11:20 a.m.
R S & Priesthood
12:10 p.m.
Family History Center
682-4911, 682-7415, 682-3614
Pres. Thompson 682-7415
133 MT Hwy 287

Christian Science Society
Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m.
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Each week a Bible lesson full of healing Christian concepts is read aloud in our Sunday service.
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NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Your Local Assembly of God Church
114 N. Main, Sheridan
842-5845
Pastor Lonnie Horn

Sunday Service
10:30 a.m. (Children's Ministry)
Wednesday (Kids/Youth)
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Kid's Club (3 yrs-4th grade)
Pre-Teen Youth Group (5th-6th grade)
Youth Group (7th-12th grade)
Ruby Valley Food Pantry
Saturdays: 10:00 a.m.-Noon
We are a church dedicated to serving this valley!

THE BAHAI FAITH
Religious fanaticism and hatred are a world-devouring fire, whose violence none can quench. The Hand of Divine power can, alone, deliver mankind from this desolating affliction.
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www.baha'i.org

ENNIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Love God, Love People
SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE
Bible Study 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Children's Church 10:45
Wednesday Youth Group 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.
402 Madison Ave - Ennis, MT
682-4197

Madison County Episcopal Churches
In full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Join Us for Sunday Worship!
Trinity Jeffers/Ennis
St. Paul's Virginia City
Christ Church Sheridan
Sunday
11:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
www.rvec.org
Prayer requests:
682-4788 843-5296 842-7713

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In Association with The Conservative Baptists of America
SUNDAY SERVICES
Service at Alder School at 10 am with Sunday School following.
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Open Question Forum
Wearing and Sharing THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD
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Pastor Tom Luksha

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AREA SENIOR MEALS

SENIOR MEALS, VIRGINIA CITY
Senior meals now being served in Virginia City for citizens 60 and over every Tuesday and Thursday at the VC Creamery for a nominal fee of \$3. Lunch is served 11:30 a.m. to noon.

MEALS FOR SENIORS, TWIN BRIDGES
The TBS&CC provides meals for seniors every Tuesday and Friday at 11:30 a.m. at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Twin Bridges for seniors 60 years and up. (Spouse and caregivers are invited.) Donations for meals are appreciated.

RUBY VALLEY FOOD PANTRY, SHERIDAN
Open Saturdays from 10 a.m. - noon. Located at 114 N. Main St. in New Beginnings. Serving the Ruby Valley from Silver Star to Virginia City. Contact Doris at 842-7161 or Wannetta at 842-5783 for more information.

MEALS ON WHEELS, SHERIDAN
The Sheridan Senior Center offers meals for seniors 60 years and over Monday - Friday. Seniors may choose to eat at the senior center, family style for \$3.50 or have their meal delivered for \$4.00. Delivered meals are within the city limits of Sheridan and should be called in by 10 a.m. Call Shirley Sand at 842-5966.



Cryptoquip Answer:

THAT GUY IS OFTEN A BUSYBODY. BUT HE'S NORMALLY NOT TOO BAD. I'D SAY HE'S FAIR-TO-MEDDLING.

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

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

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

ENNIS ALANON
Monday ~ 10:45 a.m.
Basement of Madison Valley Presbyterian Church, Ennis
Hugel & Charles
CALL 682-5097 or 682-7023

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

Vennis Over The Hill Unity Group
Faced with a drinking problem?
Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help.
SUZAN - 10 a.m., No Smoking,
Virginia City Library
MON. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking
WED. - 7:30 p.m., Trinity Church in Jeffers
FRI. - Open, 7:30 p.m., Basement of M.V. Presbyterian Church, No Smoking
682-3490, 682-7023 Ennis
843-5352 Virginia City

Celebrate Recovery
Meets every Saturday at 6 p.m. & starts with a meal.
DAYSRING MISSION
3648 Hwy 287, Sheridan
596-0707

Ruby Valley FFA travels to competitions across Montana

Submitted by Janie Smart
RUBY VALLEY FFA

Two weeks ago the Ruby Valley FFA journeyed to Melstone, Mont., for mechanics and livestock contests. A senior mechanics team of Colter Kenworthy, Charlie Smart, Caleb Bowey and Cam Haag attended. Smart placed

second, Haag placed fourth and Kenworthy placed 12th. The team overall placed second. The junior team consisting of Ben Larson, Zane Bowey and Kenny Foster placed seventh overall. A livestock team of Sam Wood, Juan Pablo, Janie Smart and Cady Guinnane also competed. The team also placed seventh overall,

with Wood placing 12th. This past weekend the FFA took a sales team to Harlowton for the district sales competition. The team of C. Smart, Nick Haag, Bowey, Kenworthy and Pablo placed fifth overall and will advance to the state competition in March. N. Haag placed third and C. Smart placed fourth overall.



DO NOT LITTER Respect public lands

Submitted by Andrea Jones
MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE
AND PARKS

Whether state or federally managed ground, it is important to keep in mind that public lands belong to everyone. That is why Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is asking people who use these lands to pick up after themselves and leave no trace.

FWP wardens and site caretakers are noticing an increase in litter, especially by those using public land for shooting firearms. Spent shell casings and makeshift targets

(ranging from bottles to old television sets) are unfortunate leftovers of a day of practice.

Warden Rick Schmauch sees this problem when patrolling his area around Dillon and hopes people will take the time to retrieve their items.

“Not only are we talking about an eyesore and a lack of consideration, but much of what’s left behind can be hazardous – glass, rusted metal, propane canisters, you name it,” said Schmauch.

Warden Regan Dean of the Butte area says it does not stop at shooting practice.

“Unfortunately, some folks go out of their way to dump their garbage on public land. It’s not fair for those who play by the rules. I’ve come across several wasted deer carcasses, old tires and truck seats and the list goes on,” said Dean.

There are rules to protect public lands from littering. In fact, persons found guilty of littering are subject to a fine, and under certain circumstances may lose their privileges to hunt and fish.

If you see someone littering on public land, you may report it to 800-TIP-MONT.

FWP 2015 license year

Submitted by Tom Palmer
MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE
AND PARKS

Montana’s 2015 hunting and fishing licenses – including conservation, fishing, spring black bear and turkey, upland game bird, deer and elk hunting licenses – are available now at all

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks offices and license providers.

March 1 began the new 2015 license year for Montana hunters and anglers. The new license year is especially important for early-season anglers, and for those who enjoy ice fishing.

Resident deer and elk permit applications and information –

and nonresident big game, deer and elk combination licenses and permit applications – are also available now. The application deadline is March 16.

May 1 is the deadline to apply for moose, sheep, goat and bison licenses and June 1 for antlerless deer B and elk B licenses and antelope and antelope B licenses.

MADISON VALLEY AQUATIC CENTER

BROOKIES

SWIM PROGRAM

Thanks to the generous support of our community sponsors MVAAC is able to provide swim lessons at the modest fee of \$100 per child!

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

6 swim lessons at The Ridge in Bozeman
Lunch and snacks
A lifetime of water safety knowledge!

WHO CAN SIGN UP?

Open to all Madison Valley school and homeschooled children; grades 1-3
Only the first 25 to sign up will be entered into the program

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

\$100 for 6 weeks of lessons due on March 13th

WHEN ARE THE LESSONS?

Every Saturday from April 11 - May 16
Leave Ennis at 9:30 am and return at 2:45 pm (transportation provided)

Madison Valley Aquatic Center is a privately funded non-profit organization.

Questions?
Contact Carrie Welch
carrie@3rivers.net
406-682-7974

SACAJAWEA HOTEL

SUNDAY BRUNCH

MARCH 8TH

Reservations Recommended

\$27.95 per adult
\$14.95 children
\$19.95 hotel guests

Experience a Sunday morning like never before. On March 8 come in for a relaxing brunch in the restaurant. We’ve got a taste for every craving.
Sundays 9 am - 1 pm.

Join us for Comedy Night!
Friday, March 20 from 8 - 9 pm.
Brian Kuntz will be hosting “Getting Weird Comedy” with performances from Aaron Juhl and Thomas Blake.

MARCH BANDS

6th: Diamond Rock & Soul • 7th: GT Hurley Band • 11th: Sunrise Karaoke
12th: Dirt Farmers • 20th: Full Throttle • 21st: Milton Menasco & the Big Fiasco
27th: Sunrise Karaoke • 28th: Sugar Daddies

5 North Main Street | Three Forks, Montana
406.285.6515 | www.sacajaweahotel.com

Expecting?

Dr. Maura Davenport at
Madison Valley Medical Center
is now offering pre-natal care
for the expectant mother!

We will work with your OB to ensure proper treatment, progress and care.

Call 406.682.4223
to schedule an appointment!
8:30 am to 5:00 pm

MADISON VALLEY
MEDICAL CENTER



Photo courtesy of Eileen White

Kilian Cunniff, premed at Carroll College, Dr. Tom Bartoletti and Kristen White, pre-med at Gustavus Adolphus College, work with patients.

Montana Dental Outreach journeys to Ecuador

Submitted by Eileen White

Dr. Tom Bartoletti recently headed a group of pre-medical and pre-dental students on a nine day dental care expedition to Penipe, Ecuador. Five students from Carroll College, one from University of Great Falls and one from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn.; professor Dr. Jack Oberweiser from Carroll College; dental hygienist Sue Williams from McAllister; former Ennis physical therapist Lorena Pettit; and Dr. Stephen Walters, oral surgeon from Butte, rounded out the volunteers. An early morning takeoff from Billings carried them to their eventual landing spot in Quito, Ecuador, where the group loaded duffel bags full of dental equipment onto a bus for a five hour long bus trip to Penipe. Accommodations in the small village were graciously

provided by an order of nuns who have dedicated their lives to serving the poor. These Sisters of Charity in the Franciscan Order run an orphanage there. Upon arrival that first morning, each student helped with breakfast for the orphaned children, many of whom have disabilities and cannot feed themselves and require assistance for many daily living tasks.

The group set up dental equipment and treatment stations that afternoon in the small medical clinic adjacent to the convent and spent the following days providing and assisting with dental procedures, dental cleanings and polishings and treating cavities. Each volunteer was responsible for bringing nearly 100 toothbrushes apiece to be given to the patients they saw. Many of those seeking treatment had never had a

toothbrush and by the end of the week, the stockpile of toothbrushes was depleted. Many of the young patients suffered from bottle mouth, a condition that causes severe decay from the children having been put to bed with a bottle, often with a sugary juice as the liquid. Bartoletti, Walters and the hygienists made every effort to improve dental hygiene education to minimize this common practice, emphasizing to the parents who brought their children for the free dental care that they have a second chance with adult teeth, through better dental practices. No person, adult or child, was turned away from the dental clinic.

The days spent in Penipe were chock full with an early breakfast then a nearly 12 hour day at the clinic. Sunday morning the entire group was invited to attend mass at the small chapel at the convent.

One evening they joined in celebrating a combined birthday party for two of the nuns and one of the children who share the same birthday. This celebration entailed a trip by car down to the village bakery and the purchase of three birthday cakes and "magic" candles that relit after being blown out, much to the delight of the children in the orphanage. The week was rewarding for each of the participants, who funded their own expenses to participate. Montana Dental Outreach was started by Bartoletti. Each trip is a unique opportunity for the volunteers to make a difference in the underserved areas of world, to enrich the lives of those who receive care as well as the lives of those who volunteer and to inspire up and coming medical students from Montana as they complete their fields of study.



Don and Bonnie Moran of Ennis celebrated their 50th Anniversary on Feb .10, 2015.



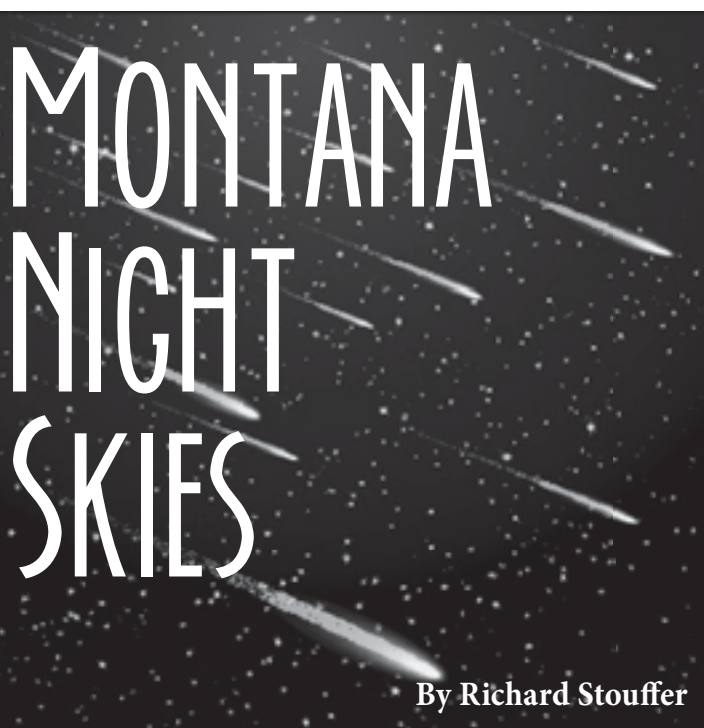
JV FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET

April 9, 2015
Cardwell Pavilion

- 6 pm - Cocktails by Gold Mine Lounge
- 7 pm - Prime Rib Dinner catered by Red Apron Catering
- Cost - \$35/ticket OR upgrade to "Big Shooters" for an additional \$100 (total \$135)

Pre Event Raffle Tickets are also being sold. Help support local 4-H groups, Shooting Sports, Hunter Safety, Grants for the kids & more! Be a Sponsor!

ONLY 150 TICKETS SOLD! Tickets available by contacting:
Ron Howser (565-0099), Patty Howser (490-9738), Bill Gillespie (491-2918), Ron Rowe (490-9256), Kipp Huckaba (287-3347), Jonahus Howser (565-6555), Hervey Perez (593-1598), Joe Gunter (287-3660), Farley Hicks (491-6150)



MONTANA NIGHT SKIES

By Richard Stouffer

The Montana evening sky is dominated by the two brightest planets, Venus and Jupiter, with Mars appearing an ever-growing distance below Venus as the month progresses. Long after Venus and Mars set, Jupiter is joined in the night

sky by the ringed planet Saturn. As darkness falls, look for brilliant Venus high up in the western sky. Once the sky darkens further, look about four degrees below Venus to find the much fainter Mars. The distance between Mars

and Venus grows significantly during the month following their close approach in late February. Mars sets about 8:30 p.m. and Venus sets about 20 minutes later as the month opens. Then by the end of the month, Mars sets about 9:30 p.m., but Venus doesn't set until about 90 minutes after that, as its setting time approaches the middle of the night. On the other side of the night sky, as darkness falls, look for the giant planet Jupiter shining brightly high up in the eastern sky as the month begins and close to overhead as darkness falls by the end of the month. Just to the left of Jupiter, look for the question mark shape of the head of the constellation Leo, the lion. As the month progresses, the gap between Jupiter and Venus shrinks considerably as these two planets make their way to a very close approach in late June. Once Venus sets, Jupiter dominates the night sky until it sets in the early morning hours just before sunrise. As the night progresses, Jupiter is joined by Saturn, which rises about 1:30 a.m. as the

month begins and about 12:30 a.m. as the month comes to a close. Saturn is located just above the three stars forming the claws of the scorpion in the constellation Scorpius.

Look for the Moon to the right of Jupiter on March 2 and to the upper right of Regulus, the brightest star in the constellation Leo, on March 3. The Moon is full on March 5. The Moon is found to the upper left of Saturn on March 12 and to the lower left of Mars on March 21. On the evening of March 22, the Moon makes a dramatic pairing with Venus. The Moon is well to the right of Jupiter on March 29 and near Regulus the next two nights.

The Sun arrives at the vernal equinox at 4:45 p.m. on March 20, when the Sun heads north across the celestial equator and spring begins in the northern hemisphere.

For meteor shower watchers, there are no major meteor showers this month. However, a sporadic meteor can flash across the sky at any time. From a dark site, meteors typically can be seen at a rate of about five meteors per hour.

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SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

<p>Ennis <i>Both breakfast and lunch served with 8 oz milk.</i></p> <p><u>WED MARCH 4</u> Cinnamon roll Tacos</p> <p><u>THURS MARCH 5</u> Ham & Cheese omelette Grilled cheese</p> <p><u>FRI MARCH 6</u> Pancake Pizza</p> <p><u>MON MARCH 9</u> NO SCHOOL</p> <p><u>TUES MARCH 10</u> Waffle Chicken strips</p> <p>Twin Bridges <i>All lunch menus include salad bar, fruit, cold milk. All breakfast menus include toast, fruit, milk and juice.</i></p> <p><u>WED MARCH 4</u> Pancakes Mexican rice bowl</p>	<p><u>THURS MARCH 5</u> Cereal, granola Brunch for lunch</p> <p><u>FRI MARCH 6</u> Cheese omelette Sub sandwich</p> <p><u>MON MARCH 9</u> Waffles Pizza</p> <p><u>TUES MARCH 10</u> Cereal Corned beef</p> <p>Harrison <i>Both breakfast and lunch served with 8 oz milk.</i></p> <p><u>WED MARCH 4</u> Waffles Spaghetti</p> <p><u>THURS MARCH 5</u> Yogurt Grilled cheese</p> <p><u>FRI MARCH 6</u> Breakfast Baked potato bar</p>	<p><u>MON MARCH 9</u> French toast Corn dogs</p> <p><u>TUES MARCH 10</u> Bagels Taco Tuesday</p> <p>Sheridan <i>Both breakfast and lunch served with 8 oz milk.</i></p> <p><u>WED MARCH 4</u> French toast Sweet and sour pork</p> <p><u>THURS MARCH 5</u> Pancakes Sliced ham</p> <p><u>FRI MARCH 6</u> NO SCHOOL</p> <p><u>MON MARCH 9</u> French toast Italian sausage</p> <p><u>TUES MARCH 10</u> Fresh eggs Taco/Nacho bar</p>
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OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

B10 Thursday, March 5, 2015

GO TO outpostevents.net FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS

THURSDAY MARCH 5

Business After Hours, Ennis

Business After Hours will be hosted by Whispering Willow Skin and Body Care from 5 to 7 p.m. A great networking event!

SATURDAY MARCH 7

Speaker, Ennis

Autism: a Spectrum of Disease. Claire Leonard will lead a discussion of the spectrum of autism. This will be a round table discussion with facts on autism presented. Leonard has worked with autism patients nationwide. 11 a.m. at Madison Valley Public Library.

March Madness Pinochle, Cameron

Once again the Cameron Community Club is sponsoring the Pinochle card parties at the Bear Creek Schoolhouse. If you're getting cabin fever, it's a good place to go for some fun, food, and friendship. There is no charge, but donations are welcome. The parties are scheduled for every Saturday in March at 7 p.m. The last Saturday includes a potluck supper starting at 6 p.m.

TUESDAY MARCH 10

Madison Meadows Golf Course Board Meeting, Ennis

The Madison Meadow

Golf Course monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10 March at 6 p.m. in the golf course clubhouse.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 11

Winter Workshop: Forage Valuation, Ennis
Basement conference room of the First Madison Valley Bank March 11 from 12 - 2 p.m. We are pleased to welcome Dr. Emily Glunk, forage specialist with MSU Extension. Emily will cover the hows and whys of forage sampling and testing, to give your livestock the nutrition they depend on and to keep them healthy. RSVP by noon March 9 to sunni@madisoncd.org or 682-3181.

SATURDAY MARCH 14

Cake Walk, Virginia City

The entire family is sure to have a ball at the annual Virginia City cake walk. This is one of the best family fun events of the year! In fact, it's so much fun that you'll forget that you are raising money for the Virginia City Rural Fire Department. There will be cakes galore, a cash bar, cupcakes for the little ones, and a DJ spinning classic tunes all at the Elk's Lodge in Virginia City on Saturday at 6 p.m.

Jessie Close to Speak, Ennis

11 a.m., Madison Valley Public Library. Jessie Close will speak about

her book "Resilience: Two sisters and the story of a mental illness." She will discuss the book and her struggles with bipolar disorder.

MONDAY MARCH 16

NCAA Calcutta, Twin Bridges

The Twin Bridges Community Association announces its annual NCAA Calcutta. This fun and quick auction of the 64 final teams will take place at the Lost Cabin Bar. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the auction starts promptly at 6:15 p.m. Snacks will be provided and 50/50 tickets will also be sold.

TUESDAY MARCH 17

MVHA Annual Irish Stew Dinner, Ennis

Madison Valley History Association's annual fundraiser. Join in the fun with an Irish stew dinner on William Ennis' birthday. 5 - 7 p.m. at Ennis school cafeteria.

THURSDAY MARCH 19

Old Timer's Concert, Sheridan

The 41st annual Old Timer's concert will appear on the vintage stage of Sheridan's high school at 6:30 p.m., with the flair of country, gospel, bluegrass and just plain old-fashioned, fun music. Intermission includes a pie and cake auction to benefit the Sheridan Music Department. Students bake their best and guests bid, buy and enjoy.

MARCH 27-30

Cheesemaking workshop, Laurin

If you are an aspiring cheesemaker or simply interested in learning more about cheesemaking from the ground up - this one's for you. For more information contact Poor Orphan at 842-7100.

THURSDAY APRIL 2

Business After Hours, Ennis

Business After Hours will be hosted by The Agency Insurance Division from 5 to 7 p.m. BAH is a great networking event!

FRIDAY APRIL 11

WordSongs: Bringing Poetry to Life, Ennis

1 p.m. at Madison Valley Library. April is National Poetry Month and this program helps celebrate poetry. The presenter is Dave Casserio, a former literature professor at MSU, Billings. This program is a dramatic, high-energy, interactive, and intimate performance of poetry and music designed to invigorate and re-ignite the passion and interest for poetry. The duo draws from contemporary and past poets and poetry of diverse cultures and subject matter, period and themes, and fuses them with the music of jazz, blues, classical and folk traditions. The presentation is followed by audience question and answer and discussion. This program is brought to you by

the Friends of Madison Valley Public Library from Humanities Montana.

SATURDAY APRIL 12

Gardening Clinic, Alder

1 p.m. free gardening 101 clinic at High Country Irrigation, Landscaping and Nursery's location in Alder. 2258 MT HWY 287, Alder, MT

FRIDAY APRIL 17

Tax Relief Gathering, Sheridan

Come join the Friends of the Sheridan Library for our annual Tax Relief Gathering from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. There will be a selection of wines for tasting, an array of foods and appetizers and music provided by the Silver Bow String Quartet. Please call 596-7397 for more information.

SATURDAY APRIL 18

Madison and Ruby Valley conservation districts banquet, Virginia City

5:30 p.m., Virginia City Elks Lodge. Celebrate the 2015 Stewardship Award winners, and

the amazing natural resources of our area! Enjoy a great dinner by the Shovel and Spoon and dance the night away with Little Jane & the Pistol Whips! Call 682-3181 or 842-5741 for tickets or more information.

SATURDAY APRIL 25

Poet Laureate presentation, Virginia City

The Elling House Arts & Humanities Center in Virginia City is very pleased to host Tami Haaland, Montana's Poet Laureate, who will be presenting a workshop program for Madison County students 4 p.m. Each of the county high schools has been invited to send selected students to attend, along with home-schooled students. The workshop will provide students to have an introduction to poetry and poetry writing skills presented by one of America's most respected poets.



REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

Commissioner's Meeting, Virginia City
Madison Co. Commissioners meet every Monday, unless noted, public welcome. 9:30 a.m. Annex Building

TUESDAYS

Fly-tying Roundtable, Ennis
Come one, come all. Tuesday nights 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Ray Plante's cabinet shop at 113 Antelope Meadows.

Lego Club, Ennis
Come to the Madison Valley Public Library to join, build and create every Tuesday after school until 5 p.m.

Madison County Mental Health Local Advisory Council, Virginia City
Meeting the first Tuesday of each month from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. in County Commissioner's conference room in Broadway Annex.

Children's Story & Craft Time, Virginia City
Every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Thompson Hickman Library.

WEDNESDAYS

Open Table Tennis, Pony 7 - 9 p.m.
For all ages and skill levels - Two Tables At the Pony School Info @ 685-3481

TOPS, Ennis
Weekly weigh-in, 9:00 a.m. Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

MVMC in downstairs conference room. Jeanne, 682-3299

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

Grief Support Group, Ennis

Everyone welcome. Meets every Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. Madison Valley Baptist Church

THURSDAYS

MV Women's Club FIRST THURS OF EA. MONTH
Regular monthly meeting noon at the Madison Valley Baptist Church on 287 N.

MV Manor Auxiliary Meeting, Ennis SECOND THURS OF EA. MONTH
1 p.m., Madison Valley Manor SunRoom

FRIDAYS

Story Time, Ennis
Pre-K to Grade 2, 11 a.m. Madison Valley Public Library. 682-7244.

Live Music, Ennis
Willie's Distillery hosts live music in the tasting room, 5:30 p.m.. See the weekly ad on this page for performers.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY

Live Music - Norris
7 p.m. See the weekly ad on this page for weekly performers.

SHERIDAN SCHOOLS ADULT EDUCATION

BASIC SELF DEFENSE

MARCH 14, 9AM - NOON
IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
A minimum of 5 participants required.

To register for a class call Emily at 842-5302.

WILLIE'S DISTILLERY UPCOMING EVENTS:

312 E MAIN STREET, ENNIS 406-682-6117
WWW.WILLIESDISTILLERY.COM

THURSDAYS ARE NOW 2 STAMP THURSDAY
COME IN AND GET 2 STAMPS ON YOUR LOYALTY CARDS WITH EVERY DRINK PURCHASE
SATURDAYS ARE LADIES NIGHT
at WILLIE'S 5:30 - 7:30 PM • \$2.00 OFF ALL COCKTAILS

LIVE MUSIC
FRIDAY MARCH 6TH: QUENBY
FRIDAY MARCH 13TH: RICKETTY CHIX
SATURDAY MARCH 14TH: THE JACK CREEK COYLES
FOR A ST PADDY'S DAY CELEBRATION
FRIDAY MARCH 20TH: DAN DUBUQUE

Come join the fun, listen to some great music from 5:30 - 7:30 and enjoy spirits with a western flavor!

workshop | **CHEESE MAKING** | march 27-30, 2015
with Michael Kalish

3 cheeses } FONTINA | TALEGGIO | FROMAGE BLANC
3 days } Saturday Sunday Monday

POOR ORPHAN CREAMERY - LAURIN, MONTANA

Reservations can be made 3 ways:

ONLINE @ : cheeseworkshop.brownpapertickets.com
EMAIL @ : pocreamery@gmail.com
PHONE @ : 406 | 842-7100

Cost is \$400/per person - Early Bird reservations \$350 by March 5, 2015
Workshop includes all materials, tutorials, hands-on cheesemaking process and protocol, course notebook, and meals.

If you are an aspiring cheesemaker or simply interested in learning more about cheesemaking from the ground up - this one's for you. For more info - contact Poor Orphan @ 406-842-7100

NORRIS HOT SPRINGS

MUSIC THIS WEEKEND:
Fri 3/6 - Paul Lee Kupfer
Americana Roots
Sat 3/7 - Ian Thomas
American Roots
Sun 3/8 Limerick
Celtic/American Folk

HOURS:
Pool & Cafe (September - May)
noon - 10 sat-sun
4-10 thurs-fri-mon

norrishotsprings.com
406.685.3303

THE SHOVEL AND SPOON

Sing for your supper!

Tues and Thurs
Please visit our website for details
108 N. Main • Sheridan
842-7999
theshovelandspoon.com

MADISON THEATRE

682-4023
115 Main St., Ennis, MT

Friday-Sunday, March 6-8

BLACK OR WHITE (PG-13)
Friday & Saturday 7:15 pm Matinee Sunday 4:00 pm

Coming Soon -
THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER (PG)
MCFARLAND USA (PG)

Evenings: Adults \$8 • Children (12 & under) \$6 Show time at 7:15 pm,
Box Office opens at 6:30 pm

Find us on at Madisontheatreennis.com www.ennismovies.com