

# The Madisonian.

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

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## CAROLING AROUND TOWN



Erin Leonard/The Madisonian

Students from the Ennis Community Children's School jingle their way around downtown Ennis on Dec. 21, spreading holiday joy with songs.

PHOTOS CONTINUED ON A2

### Robertson accepts coaching position with Bobcats Sheridan High School graduate moves from job at UM - Western to MSU

Abigail Dennis  
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Last Thursday, University of Montana - Western's head football coach, BJ Robertson, accepted a coaching position with the Montana State University's football team. "I'll be assistant coach and director of high school relations," Robertson said. "I'll be helping with special teams." Robertson has been the Bulldog's head coach for the past three years and says he will be "forever indebted to Western." Robertson grew up in the Ruby Valley - more specifically, Sheridan. "I graduated in 1993," he said. "I played football for the Panthers under coach (Rob) Lott." After high school, Robertson

attended college at Western and played Bulldog football for two years under coach Bob Beers. "Then he left and, after that, it was the end of my college football career as far as playing," Robertson said. "Then I got into teaching and coaching." Robertson graduated from Western in 1998 with a teaching degree in business and physical education. After that, he got a job in Rapelje and spent three years teaching in the small Montana town and coaching football. Robertson decided the future lay somewhere where the students were as passionate about football as he was - though his Rapelje students were "great," they had dreams other than football. "I needed to go somewhere where I could work with guys who were on the same level of passion," he said. "I sent

applications everywhere." Rockford College in Illinois reached out to Robertson after receiving his resume and he moved to Illinois in 2001 in time for football season. While at Rockford, Robertson earned his masters in teaching and spent a total of five years coaching. "I enjoyed it, but I was missing Montana," Robertson said. On his way back to Montana, Robertson coached in Oregon for one season before he heard from Brian Armstrong, a former Bulldog teammate. "Long story short, he was getting hired at Rocky Mountain College as an assistant," Robertson said. "And another position was open there. (Armstrong) was elevated to head coach and I worked for him for six years." Then, an opening popped up at Western and Robertson knew he had to apply.

"I was second in the interview and I was bummed," he said. "I thought, there goes my shot at coaching at my alma mater. Then two months later my dad passed away and I ended up being glad I didn't get it. I would have done a disservice to my job or my family." Two years later, the job opened up again and everything fell into place. "That was three years ago," he said. "It was my dream to coach at my alma mater and be close to home." Robertson said he will miss Western, but he is excited about the future. "As a little kid I wanted to be a Bobcat," Robertson said. "I'm glad to be close to home. My mom still lives in Sheridan ... It's an awesome community, valley and county for that matter."

### SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTS NEW PRESIDENT; FILLS VACANT SEAT

Caitlin Avey  
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The Sheridan Town Council held their December meeting on Monday the 14th and appointed Robert Stump as the council president and Mike Walter to the vacant council seat. Council members also discussed a grant to be used toward a preliminary engineering report by Great West Engineering to evaluate the town's water system.

#### New council seats

Council members considered three candidates before they unanimously voted Mike Walter into the open seat, where

Mayor Tom Shaffer thinks he will be an asset to the town. "I think he'll be a great - he's a smart young man and wants to be very involved in the town," Shaffer said. The seat on the council opened up when former councilmember Nick Pairitz moved out of state and had to resign. "I just wanted to help the community out," said Walter. "I've always had an interest in helping out Sheridan ... I really like Mayor Shaffer and it seems like the council is moving in the right direction." Born and raised in Sheridan, Walter attend the University of Montana - Western, where

Turn to SHERIDAN on pg. 2



Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian  
Mike Walter is excited to join the Sheridan Town Council.

### Manor updates MVM MOVES FORWARD WITH INTERIOR REHABILITATION PROJECT

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At the end of last week, the Madison Valley Manor wrapped up phase one of a construction project on the interior of the building. "We're excited to have this going," said Darcel Cook, MVM administrator. When completed, the project will give the facility an entirely new interior. According to Cook, the project will renovate the manor, updating resident rooms and installing new ceilings and floors, among other things. "Thanks to some donations, we've been able to add a few things to the plan that weren't in the original bid," she said. "For example, we were going to just paint the walls because

we didn't have the budget for texturing ... But we were able to have them do a really nice texture to make it all consistent." Part of the project funding is through a Community Development Block Grant for \$450,000. Cook said the manor also had \$400,000 set aside in their budget for the remodel, and that community donations have added up to around \$100,000. "This (project) is a good way to let the residents of Madison County, who have been willing to assist the manor financially, see what we're doing with their money," said commissioner Jim Hart. "It's going to be beautiful when they are done." Upgrades In addition to new ceilings, walls and floors, Cook said the

redo is focusing on making the facility feel more like a home. "We'll have new lighting in the bathroom," Cook said. "New lighting over the vanities - a nice, home-like light ... New beds for the residents. We also ordered flat screen T.V.s that we are going to put on brackets on the walls." The sunroom, dining room and living room area will receive new furniture as well. "The residents are excited about it," Cook said. Phases The project consists of six phases, Cook explained. "We were, with our current population, able to move residents around so work can happen on six resident rooms

at a time," Cook said. "(The residents) know they aren't necessarily in their permanent rooms yet. Most have to move twice. The lucky ones are only moving once, but a few have to move three times." Though coordinating the residents creates some complications, Cook said it is worth it, a sentiment Hart agreed with. "(This is) absolutely a good thing," Hart said. "It will make it more of a home rather than an institution." Timeline Phase one took longer than expected, so Cook said the projected completion date of March will most likely be pushed back 30 days. "Hopefully we'll be all done by the end of April," she said.

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!  
We will be closing at 2 pm on Dec. 23 - normal hours next week!

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Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian  
 The Twin Bridges veterans-hosted dinner started out as a moose feed 57 years ago.



Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian  
 Doug Martin sifts through turkey stock before the dinner. Twenty-five turkeys were cooked by members of the community and dropped off at the school prior to the dinner.



Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian  
 Fourth grader Amanda Millhouse helps prepare take-away meals for citizens unable to attend the meal.

Saturday, Dec. 19 the United Veterans of Twin Bridges hosted their 57th annual dinner and raffle to help fund for their veterans activities in Twin Bridges. Twenty-five turkeys were cooked throughout the community and served with all the fixings to around 250 guests, according to Doug Martin. The group also prepared close to 100 takeout meals, which were delivered to residents who were unable to come to the dinner.

**SHERIDAN from pg. 1**

he studied business for a while before realizing he wanted to come back to the Ruby Valley. After pursuing retail jobs and learning the ins and outs of a business, Walter gained some hands on training and took over Walter's IGA.

"I always knew I wanted to come back and take over the family business," he said. As for his new position on the council, Walter said he is not much of a politician but is excited to learn how the town operates and get out of his shell.

"It's been a lifelong goal to help the community and help to make changes," he said. "I have a lot of ideas but I first want to learn how things work."

One of his main goals, however, is to help rejuvenate downtown.

"I'd like to see more businesses come in and I want to help the town

grow," Walter said.

Robert Stump joined the council earlier this summer, taking over Tom Shaffer's seat after he moved into the interim mayor position, and has now been appointed to council president.

"Tom approached me and asked if I was interested in being president... I'm probably the most available," said Stump.

Stump's new position means he runs town meetings, should the mayor be absent, and he added that he was encouraged by the voter turnout during the election to accept the position.

Stump also said working with the city has given him a new outlook.

"I've enjoyed being on the council - it gives you a whole different perspective to see how the town runs and the business side has been fascinating," Stump said.

Shaffer believes Stump will be a good fit for the council.

"He wants to be involved with the town and the council and I think he'll be great," he said.

**Other town news**

Right now, the council's focus is turned to the town's water system.

According to Shaffer, the town received a \$15,000 grant from the Department of Commerce that requires a 50 percent match from the town, and a \$5,000 grant from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to be used toward meeting that \$15,000 match. The money will be used to complete a preliminary engineering report of the town's water system.

"You have to have a PER before you can apply for any further grants," said Shaffer.

"Once we get (the PER) we can determine where we want to go from there," added Stump. The PER, which will be done

by Great West Engineering, will be analyzing deficiencies as well as prioritizing projects and must be completed this winter.

Fred Phillips with Great West Engineering said doing a PER is the first step in contemplating the need for any project and the last time Sheridan did a PER was in 2004.

"We know what's there and we have a good feeling of where the needs will be," said Phillips, adding that evaluating new data in the water use for the community will be one of the main reports.

"The PER process is rolling and we'll hold a meeting with the town in January to report back," said Phillips.

Phillips said he was impressed with the improvements the town has done and thinks this will be the last utilities project Sheridan will have to complete for awhile.

"They've done a great job," he said.

# Hands in the dirt

## Twin Bridges ag teacher works toward establishing a school farm

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Last month, Twin Bridges ag education instructor Colton Hellwinkel attended the Madison County Fair Board meeting to start a discussion about a potential school farm at the fairgrounds.

"We asked for approval for a school farm that would double as a community garden for Twin Bridges and surrounding areas," Hellwinkel said. "They have preliminarily approved 2.5 acres for it."

Hellwinkel teaches six ag-related classes a day in Twin Bridges, but said he hopes the farm would encompass more than his courses.

"We'd like the elementary to use it too," he said. "Then the community could use it during the best growing season - summer - when school is out."

Hellwinkel used to work in Red Lodge, and his ag classes were held at the fairgrounds there - he said incorporating hands-on farm work into school curriculum is common across the state.

"We looked at quite a few

locations," he said. "The fairgrounds is close, it will work."

The fair board approached the Madison County commissioners for approval on leasing some land to the school and all three commissioners - Jim Hart, Dave Schulz and Ron Nye - approved the plan.

"It's a great idea," said Hart. "Rural Montana has slowly gone away from paying attention to agriculture and skilled labor. This proposal to create a garden and farm, in my mind, is a great education opportunity for the younger generation. It will help them remember what helped cre-

ate Montana in the first place."

Hellwinkel said he would like to work up a lease with the fair board by the end of January and start working on designing the space.

"We want to incorporate the classes," he said. "So far the kids are excited about it. They seem pretty pumped."

Ideally, Hellwinkel would like the farm to be sustainable.

"We want to get it to be a sustainable ag facility, completely off the grid," he said. "With a greenhouse, and some environmental engineering projects to get it there."



Erin Leonard/The Madisonian  
 The carolers continue spreading joy.

# MORE NEWS:

## STAMP OF APPROVAL

Harrison senior applying to West Point gets nomination from Sen. Daines

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Chas Buus, a senior at Harrison High School, has known since the third grade he wanted to be an Army officer.

"My family is pretty traditional and I've really been drawn to the military through tradition and serving my country," Buus said. "I knew I wanted to be an officer and I thought the best way to do that was through the Military Academy at West Point."

Applying to West Point

is a challenge, and having a congressional nomination can help put you on top – it is a critical step for those seeking admission to any of the nation's military academies.

Earlier this month, Senator Steve Daines nominated 19 Montana students applying for enrollment, and Buus was one of them.

"It's an honor and a privilege to nominate these outstanding young Montanans to compete for an appointment to one of our nation's military academies," Daines said in a press release. "I commend these hardworking

students for their commitment to continuing Montana's strong legacy of service and wish them the best as they continue in this extremely competitive process."

While he waits to hear back from West Point, Buus is staying active in his school, around the community and at his local church.

He is a three sport athlete for the Wildcats, playing football, basketball and track, and is the vice president of his 4-H club, the Cameron Longhorns, where he earned two purple ribbons for his market swine during the Madison County fair.

Buus is also a Eucharistic minister for his local church where he helps to administer the sacraments of Holy Communion.

"My family is very religious and I've been going (to the church) since I was very young," said Buus. "After confirmation I knew I wanted to help out and serve the church."

While he still has a lot left to accomplish in his senior year, it is safe to say that Buus and his family are excited to see what the next chapter brings.

"Now I'm just waiting to hear back (about my application)," Buus said.



Photo courtesy Harrison Schools  
**Chas Buus, a senior,** stays active in school sports, community activities and his church while he waits to hear about his West Point application.

## BIG HOLE and BEAVERHEAD FWP RECOMMENDS SMALL CHANGE TO RECREATION RULES

Abigail Dennis/The Madisonian  
The Big Hole River near Twin Bridges.



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Every five years, the recreation rules for the Big Hole and Beaverhead rivers are reviewed to assess their effectiveness, according to a press release from Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Since the last time the rules were made effective was in 2010, FWP is currently in the midst of that five year review process, according to Cheryl Morris, FWP river ranger.

"The majority of the public wanted the rules to be left the way they are," Morris said, referring to public comment

she received about the recreation plan. "There was one thing well supported by the outfitters, so we are recommending that as a change."

The change Morris referred to is that if an outfitter sells their permit for guiding on the river, they are not allowed to reapply for those days.

"That (recommendation) came out of a scoping meeting," Morris said.

### The background

In 1999, the Beaverhead and Big Hole rivers were facing the issue of overcrowding, and the Fish and Wildlife Commission implemented rules that

included restrictions on float outfitting and non-resident float fishing on certain days of the week for specified sections of the rivers. The rules also limit the number of boats that may be launched per day at official access sites – those rules are still in effect, and are the subject of this year's review process.

"First we weren't recommending any changes to (the Fish and Wildlife Commission)," Morris said. "But after the public scoping we added in the recommendation that anyone who sells their permit isn't allowed to reapply for those days – after the New Year it will go out for an-

other round of public comment."

After that 30 days of scoping, the FWP considers the public comments they receive and pass them along to the commissioner with their recommendations.

"Higher volume of use means greater incidents of conflicts on and around our rivers," Morris explained. "This year I had people fighting about campsites. Or wade fishermen who think boats are invading on their space, things like that. (Recreation plans) help us manage the rivers in ways to reduce those conflicts."

## DISTRICT COURT ROUND UP

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### McDonald found guilty

On Dec. 15, following a two-day trial, an 11-person jury found Drew Dyer

McDonald guilty of assault with a weapon at the Madison County Courthouse.

"Since it was a felony, he wasn't sentenced right then," said Madison County Attorney Chris Christensen. "There will be a presentence investiga-

tion and a sentencing date will be set after that gets done."

McDonald first appeared at the Madison County Courthouse before Judge Loren Tucker on June 22, and pleaded not guilty to felony assault with a weapon. The state, represented

by Christensen, brought the charge against McDonald following an April 27, 2015, incident, where McDonald allegedly "purposely or knowingly brandished a weapon or what reasonably appeared to be a weapon, thereby causing (the

victims) reasonable apprehension of serious bodily injury," according to court documents.

Christensen said the state called witnesses from the sheriff's office and the victims. The defense called three character witnesses and

McDonald to the stand.

"The character witnesses were testifying about how truthful and honest (McDonald) was and how he was safe with firearms," Christensen said.

A sentencing date will be set when after the PSI is completed.

# TRADITIONS

A look at how *The Madisonian's* staff celebrates the season

### Hi readers,

Whether you celebrate Christmas or Chanukah, another holiday or nothing at all, this time of the year is full of traditions.

That's why I asked our staff – Erin, Susanne and Caitlin – to each write a short paragraph about how they celebrate the season with their friends and families. Here's what they had to say.

### Erin:

My Christmas traditions aren't really unique, I don't think, but they are taken VERY seriously. Thankfully, my husband was on board with the process for Christmas Eve and Christmas morning – and had similar traditions himself, which was good because that could have posed a problem. Like I said, what we do isn't unique. When it comes to Christmas Eve my parents, siblings and I always used to have chili and cornbread for dinner and watch "A Christmas Story" then "It's a Wonderful Life." This happened after we opened one gift each. And it was always Christmas pajamas.

With my own family, we don't do the chili, but we do open the gift, and I insist it's pajamas. If all are willing I like to watch "A Christmas Story," I mean, it's the best. As for Christmas Day – we all wake up and then open our stockings. Slowly. We make a breakfast casserole and I make the kids drool over the gifts under the tree (I like to hide ALL of the kid's gifts and save them for the big morning) while we chow. Then – now this is VERY important – someone plays Santa and we open each

gift one at a time, one person at a time. It may sound long and drawn out, but it's always appreciated. I mean diving in all at once isn't for me. Or my family. We like to savor it, appreciate each gift. After we collapse from exhaustion and take a nap, we then head to my parent's house for our annual family gathering and eat prime rib dinner. I don't like prime rib, but I love the laughs and togetherness. Merry Christmas to all of Madison County!

### Susanne:

Traditions are pretty loose around our house. There are no small children in my family – so, when we spend a

holiday in Montana, it's always about food ... and drink.

There is an interesting collision of cultures at our table and the menu typically includes some variation on the following: My husband Matt, a fine southern gentleman from Alabama, makes his mother's famous southern chicken and dressing. I have a hunch this is where the southern phrase "so good it makes you want to slap your mama" came from, as I begrudgingly gain about five pounds on this dish every year. Oh well.

My cousin Meg's husband is Japanese and makes a huge plate of perfectly crafted sushi. My mother makes a prime

rib with mashed potatoes and gravy. Meg and I make our grandmother's chocolate roll (okay... we make two so we can eat leftovers day-after-day until we get sick of it. Might also have something to do with those five pounds.) Meg, who lived much of her life in Germany, makes enough Gluhwein, German mulled wine, to handle a group three times our size.

So, clearly, the menu doesn't make much sense. But, we couldn't have more fun preparing and enjoying it all as a family. I just wish we could do it more than once a year.

### Caitlin:

My family very recently

started our Christmas Eve tradition – maybe within the last five years or so. Every year, we all get dressed up and have appetizers before attending a late church service. My mom makes everyone a delicious cup of hot-buttered rum (now that everyone is of age) and we sit around the table, eating our finger food and listening to music. Sometimes we listen to Christmas music, but more often than not we listen to old 60s, 70s and 80s power ballads ... it just happened one Christmas and seems to have stuck. After the candlelight service, we drive around the neighborhood and look at all the lights and decorations.

On Christmas morning we sip our coffee and munch on a butter braid (like a big cinnamon roll) before we sit around the tree and exchange gifts.

While the Avey tradition might seem a little odd, it is full of laughter and love and is something I look forward to every year!

### Me:

I love traditions and I really love family time. My parents were never into a big Christmas as I was growing up – we didn't have a Christmas tree, but one year my mom let me decorate her huge cactus ... Ouch!

Anyway, I got a healthy dose of holiday spirit at my grandparent's house. Early in December I would spend an entire day with Gran and Gramps, decorating their house and turning it into a sparkling winter wonderland. Gran and I spent Christmas Eve in the kitchen, up to our elbows in dough for homemade rolls. And on Christmas, we always had a big dinner. Ham, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn, rolls, fresh veggies and more. After we stuffed ourselves, we retreated to the living room and I opened gifts from my grandparents and we all relaxed in each other's company.

This year, I don't get to go home. I'll miss my family and our holiday traditions, but I'm also excited to start some new ones with my Montana family this week.

So, from all of us at *The Madisonian*, have a lovely holiday season!

Abigail



From l: Susanne, Erin, Abigail and Caitlin. We like to have fun.

# OPINION

## Private landowner trying to purchase public land

Dear Editor,

As a young man, I had the privilege of walking 500 miles across Montana, ambling through public and private lands alike, before the rise of "No Trespassing" signs. The right to roam was a time-honored Montana tradition that newcomers did not understand or honor when they bought land and locked neighbors out. Unfortun-

nately, for some newcomers, it is not enough to post their own land; they also want to commandeer our public lands. A billionaire from New York is attempting to gain ownership of an 80-acre parcel of state land that serves as a public floaters camp on the Jefferson River Canoe Trail. The campsite is known as Beaver Chew because Meriwether Lewis left a note for William Clark at the confluence

of the Big Hole and Beaverhead rivers, but a beaver cut it down and Clark led the canoes up the wrong fork, leading to a near fatal accident for one of the crew. The expedition camped at the confluence to dry out their gear. The campsite is just downstream. The site serves floaters coming down either river. The out-of-stater proposes to trade land on the Big Hole to solidify his hold on the Jef-

erson River waterfront. But public land is scarce along the Jefferson, and we cannot move the Lewis and Clark Trail. Despite our concerns, the billionaire is using his money and minions to attempt to ram the trade through anyway. The people of Montana should not let him get away with it.

Thomas J. Elpel  
Pony

## The Madisonian.

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## OBITUARIES

### Robert (Bob) Lee Birrer

March 23, 1922 - December 16, 2015



On Dec. 16, 2015, our Savior gathered up another great cowboy, Robert Lee Birrer. He was a loving father, brother, uncle, grandfather, great grandfather, companion, friend and member of the community.

Bob was born in Leetonia, Ohio, on March 23, 1922, due to a family emergency, which his mother was attending. He returned home to Norris where his parents John and Alice Stiver resided. When his dad John Stiver passed away he moved to Pony to live with his older sister Alice Davis where he first started taking an interest in horses.

He followed the miners to the top of the mine hill from the horse stable and when the miners turned the horses loose, he would mount one of the horses and ride it back to the stables. His mother later moved to Butte, taking Bob with her, where they ran a small grocery store during the depression. Bob learned his acts of compas-

sion because his mom could never turn down anyone that was hungry which caused her to lose the family grocery store.

She later married Frank P. Birrer. Frank Birrer adopted Bob and his sister Arlene. They moved to the Ramshorn Sawmill where Bob not only worked at the sawmill but also at the family ranch in Twin Bridges. He attended school in Sheridan. While attending school he worked for his room and board living at the Baker place up Mill Creek. During his years in high school Bob boxed and was a contender for the Rocky Mountain Golden Glove Champion. His summers consisted of working for various ranchers, breaking remount horses for Rich Richter and trailing bucking horses and bulls to some of the first Cowboy Turtle Association rodeos.

After graduating from high school Bob enlisted in the United States Marine Corps first division. He served over 33 months in the South Pacific partaking in four major campaigns. While in the Marine Corps, Bob continued his boxing. He was undefeated and even defeated the Australian champ.

Bob returned home to the Ruby Valley and went back to his passion, riding horses, and went to work for the Jumping Horse Ranch in the Madison Valley. He later moved to the Missouri Breaks riding rough

string. After a couple of years, he came home for Christmas when Earl English asked him to gather horses on the Gilbert Livestock Ranch. A two month job turned into the next 40 years in the Upper Ruby, which led to some of the best years of his life. Bob married Gwendolyn Lee Daley May 28, 1954, in Sheridan. Bob and Gwen built a life together in the Upper Ruby with their two sons Fred and Pete. While at the Snowcrest Ranch he was an active member of the Ruby Valley Grazing Association. During his time with the association there was never a bull that went without Bob's inspection to the summer grazing ranges. He worked countless hours setting up new rotations, fence lines, converting sheep allotments to cattle allotments and endless hours working with the forest service. He also served on the Southwest Stock Growers board. Through his dedication and hard work he received several awards for his stewardship of the land and livestock management. He was a lifelong member of the Catholic community of the Ruby Valley.

Bob's life was not measured by rewards but by the countless lives he touched. It did not matter what walk of life one came from, he never forgot them. Bob's passion to get the job done and never to be late was a work ethic that was hard to beat; he

led by example not by words.

He always took the time to check on those in need or who may have needed a helping hand or encouraging words. His heart was as big as the valley he loved.

Bob was preceded in death by wife (Gwendolyn), father (Frank), mother (Alice), brothers Billy Hallenberg and John Stiver, sisters Charlotte McCrea, Alice Davis, Arlene Doran, nieces Jo Ann Whitcomb and Georgia Briggeman, and Grandson Jimmy Birrer. He is survived by sons Fred (Dianne) of Butte and Pete (Cheryl) of Wells N.V.; Grandchildren Robby, Becky, Denny, Danny, Dave, Debbie, Jackie, Amy, Dustan and Matti; Nieces Sharon Gressle and Fern Reighard, 16 great grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; and a long-time loving friend and companion Dalena Kaatz.

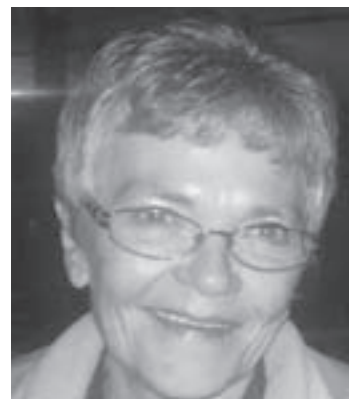
Vigil services and viewing were held at the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Laurin Tuesday Dec. 22 at 7 p.m. Funeral services will be held at the Sheridan High School Old Gym at 1 p.m. Dec. 23. Graveside services will follow at the Sheridan Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Ruby Valley Hospital, Tobacco Root Care Center, Barrett Hospital or St. Mary's Catholic Church.

As the Marines say, "Semper Fi" and may our paths cross again one day.

### Edyth "Edie" Nelson

October 29, 1947 - December 15, 2015



Edie Nelson was born Oct. 29, 1947, in Bozeman to Clyde and Stella Gibson, and passed away on Dec. 15, 2015, in Helena at St. Peters Hospital. Her family moved to Washington in 1950; Clyde was working as a barber and

Stella was a beautician. They started their business in their home. It was there that Edie met Gary Nelson. They became high school sweethearts and were married Nov. 1, 1969. Prior to marrying, Edie studied bookkeeping in Austin, Texas. Two daughters were born to them; Bobbi and Jody — one year and two days apart.

Edie and Gary later moved to Harrison where they fell in love with the country and the people. Edie dearly loved the people and enjoyed working at the general store they purchased. She met many lifelong friends in Harrison, friendships that were very dear to her heart.

Gary and Edie spent many

nights with dear friends dancing the night away. The family also enjoyed countless weekends out at Harrison Lake with friends. Edie spent years enjoying the bowling league, playing pinochle and doing cross stitch. Edie always cherished any time spent with family and friends. She always had a special place in her heart for her childhood classmates and schoolmates from Almira, Wash., along with many cousins that she had a special bond with.

In later years she was able to retire and traveled throughout the United States with Gary on the pipeline. There she met and became friends with many people whom she communicated with regularly.

Edie was preceded in death by her parents Clyde Gibson, Stella Gibson-Flansburg and her stepdad Gary Flansburg, along with her brother Dick Von Olnhausen.

Edie is survived by her loving husband of 46 years, Gary of Harrison; her brother Gary (Helen) of Denver, Colo.; daughters Bobbi (Tom) Peters of Spokane, Wash., and Jody (Mark) Qualley also of Spokane; granddaughters Morgan and Kylie Peters and Jaelynn Qualley. Cremation has taken place in the care of K&L Mortuary of Harrison. Memorial services were conducted on Dec. 19, 2015. A committal of the cremated remains will take place at a later date.

### David Milton Sorvig

July 11, 1929 - December 12, 2015



David Milton Sorvig, 86, of Mentor, Minn., formerly of St. Hilaire, Minn., died on Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015, at the Fair Meadow Nursing Home, Fertile. David was born on July 11, 1929, to Otto and Agnes (Halvorson) Sorvig in St. Paul, Minn. David graduated from the Crookston AC High School in 1947. He began working at Lawrence Best Electrical in Thief River Falls, Minn.

On Sept. 22, 1951, David was united in marriage to Joan Johnson in Thief River Falls. They began

farming in 1951 in the Thief River Falls area. David was drafted into the United States Army on April 20, 1954. While he was in the Army, he was stationed in New Jersey, Maryland and California. David was honorably discharged on April 19, 1956.

Returning to St. Hilaire, David purchased St. Hilaire Implement and started a tank manufacturing division. In 1959, David started St. Hilaire Supply, offering plumbing supplies to the region. As his boys grew up, they purchased the business allowing David to retire in 1975.

David moved to Oakhurst, Calif., where he began a thrift store and worked as a ski instructor and member of the volunteer search and rescue team. In 1981, David moved to Ennis where he met and married Claudia Mae Breshers on June 5, 1987, in Bozeman. They moved to Blue Springs, Mo., and he was employed by Augustine Medical as a mechanical engineer. To be closer to family, David and Claudia moved

to Maple Lake, Minn., where they settled into retirement life in 1991. On Jan. 2, 2015, David entered Pioneer Memorial Home, Erskine, Minn., and in May, he entered the Fair Meadow Nursing Home.

David was an active and willing leader and member of several organizations. He served as a Boy Scout leader, volunteer firefighter and member of the rotary club. At Redeemer Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls, he served as a longtime Sunday school teacher. While living on Maple Lake, David served at the Polk County Fair as a volunteer, with the Mentor American Legion, on the Maple Lake Association and Sundog Drifters Snowmobile Club. He was also an active member of Maple Bay Free Lutheran Church.

David truly enjoyed being active in the outdoors. Hunting, sailing, water and snow skiing, as well as golfing kept him busy.

He also was an accomplished woodworker and enjoyed travel adventures. David was a man of faith who cherished his family.

David is survived by his wife, Claudia Sorvig of Mentor; children: David P. (Sue Nelson) Sorvig, Williams, Minn., Joel (Lori) Sorvig, Thief River Falls, Timothy (Deanna) Sorvig, Thief River Falls, Gary (Shelby) Sorvig, St. Hilaire, and Bette Spaulding, Ennis; Step children: Deena Pederson, Ennis and Chris Dotson, Anaconda; 17 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; two sisters: Joann (Fred) Ostby, Pelham, Ala., and Evelyn (Don) Radzack, Brooklyn Park, Minn.; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, infant daughter Bette Jo Sorvig, infant baby John Mitchell Sorvig; two brothers, Ray and Robert; one sister Carol Lindsay; and one daughter-in-law, Frances Sorvig.

More Obituaries on A6

# & SPORTS:

## FALCONS AND MUSTANGS FACE OFF ON THE COURT



Caitlin Avey  
THE MADISONIAN  
news@madisoniannews.com

The Ennis Mustangs and the Twin Bridges Falcons faced off on Saturday, Dec. 19 for some cross-county action, keeping the crowd on their feet as point totals stayed close throughout both games.

### Boys basketball

The Falcons kept control of the scoreboard, keeping the Mustangs at bay. Ennis was able to get within two points during the game, but it was the tough Falcon defense that kept them from ever taking the lead.

“(The Falcon) defense is aggressive and they played very well,” said Ennis head coach Jared Smithson.

While both teams are physically strong and quick, the Falcons were able to stay one stride ahead. However, that did not stop Ennis junior Jake Knack from grabbing two steals in a row at the end of the third quarter, resulting in fast breaks and an easy four points for the Mustangs.

Ty Morgan acted big, using his 6 foot 5 inch frame to help the Mustang defense, and also went to work at the other end of the court.

The Falcons were led by guard Chace Guinnane who handled the ball well, but fouled out of the game toward the end of the fourth quarter, followed shortly by

junior Cooper Christensen. Twin Bridges defeated the Mustangs by six and headed to Shields Valley on Dec. 22. The Mustangs will face Manhattan Christian on Jan. 2.

Falcons	15	28	36	49
Mustangs	11	22	34	43

### Girls basketball

Following the boys game, the girls took the court and the contest was no different – Twin Bridges took the early lead. Sophomore Kailee Oliverson controlled the tip off and sent it to Madyson Beagley who was quick to take it to the hoop. Ennis was able to strike back, however, and left the Lady Falcons behind by two after the first quarter.

The Falcons took back control and were able to hold onto their lead through the rest of the game, never letting Ennis within two points.

The Lady Falcons ran a full court press throughout the game with the hope of rattling the Mustangs.

“That’s a deal of ours that we like to do,” said head Coach Rob Lott about the full court press. “(Ennis) is an awfully tall team and we felt if we let them play at their pace it would be a disadvantage to us.”

Ennis head coach Jordan Overstreet felt the pressure of the full court press but thought it was good for his players.

“I felt like their pressure

caused us a few problems early, but after we settled down we were able to break it and get some lay ups off it,” said Overstreet. “I think it was great for our team to get a full court press like that and get more comfortable breaking it.”

The Lady Mustangs finished with two players scoring in the double digits and had two players use all five personal fouls. Senior Caitlin Klatt finished with five fouls and 11 points, making three of six attempted free throws. Senior McKenzie Moen finished the game with 15 points, seven of which were from behind the free throw line, free throws, and four fouls.

On the Falcon side, Beagley was the leading scorer with 13 points, nine of which came from the three-point line. She finished the game with three fouls. Junior Mara Johnson used all of her fouls and ended three for four from the free throw line, while sophomore Kailee Oliverson finished the night with four fouls and seven points.

Though both teams played hard, the Lady Falcons were able to come out on top. They traveled to Shields Valley on Tuesday for their last game before Christmas break, and the Mustangs will see the Manhattan Christian Eagles on Jan. 2.

Lady Falcons	11	26	44	51
Lady Mustangs	13	24	40	48



All photos Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian

### Photos clockwise from top left:

Madyson Beagley (12) puts up a shot from behind the 3-point line.

Cole Crowley looks for a pass through Twin Bridges’ Tracen Eggers.

Tracen Eggers (1) drives down the court.

Jack Knack breaks through the Falcon defense to grab two points.



## OTHER COUNTY GAMES

Abigail Dennis  
THE MADISONIAN  
a.dennis@madisoniannews.com

### ENNIS

In addition to playing Twin Bridges, both the boys and girls basketball teams welcomed Lone Peak on Dec. 18.

The boys team beat the Big Horns, 76 – 44.

The Lady Mustangs also won, with a final score of 48 – 39.

### HARRISON

Both Wildcat teams played White Sulphur Springs on

Dec. 18 and then traveled to Lone Peak on Dec. 19.

The boys team fell to White Sulphur Springs, 40 – 57.

The next day, however, they beat Lone Peak, 49 – 44.

The Lady Wildcats beat the White Sulphur Springs Hornets, 46 – 32, but fell to the Big Horns, 37 – 43.

### SHERIDAN

The Panthers traveled to Lima on Dec. 17 where both the boys and girls teams faced off against the Bears. Then on Dec. 19, they welcomed West Yellowstone to the Ruby Valley.

The boys lost to Lima, 48 – 55 and West Yellowstone by the small margin of 45 – 48.

The Lady Panthers fell to Lima, 19 – 65, and two days later were unable to beat West Yellowstone, losing 26 – 41.

### TWIN BRIDGES

Before welcoming the Mustangs to Twin Bridges on Saturday, both the Falcons and Lady Falcons traveled to Gardiner on Dec. 18 to play the Bruins.

The boys team won, 61 – 49.

The Lady Falcons also won, 47 – 15.

Obituaries continued from A4

### Olive Smith January 7, 1929 - December 17, 2015



Olive Smith, age 86, peacefully passed away on Dec. 17, 2015, surrounded by her family, exactly three weeks before her 87th birthday and 60th wedding anniversary.

Olive Leaf George was born on Jan. 7, 1929, in Whitehall to Italian immigrants Guy and Lucille (Rianaldi) George. Olive grew up in the Whitehall/Waterloo area and graduated from Whitehall High School. She lived on the family ranch at Waterloo with her parents and four siblings.

The George family was very active and well known in the agriculture industry at the time. Together they cared for their beautifully landscaped yard and tried their hand at raising dairy cows, chickens, turkeys and potatoes. They found success with cattle, turkeys and their dairy products. The family was known for being one of the first to go east and bring black angus cattle into the region. The cattle were delivered by train and trailed to the ranch. The Georges were well known in Butte and the surrounding areas for the turkeys they sold during the year and holiday season. One year they raised over 2,500 turkeys.

Olive's family owned Riverside Dairy, located just past the bridge at Waterloo. They made cream and butter, and bottled milk that was later sold to neighbors, local markets and door to door in Butte. Olive always talked fondly

about her grandfather Paulino, a Butte miner, and grandmother Filomena (Ghiselli) Giorgi who owned a boarding house in Meaderville where she could remember spending many hours visiting and cooking. She always told stories of walking around town and going to see her cousins at the Meaderville Bakery. The Georges and their cousins came from Lucca, Italy, to Butte in the early 1900s and were well known in the area. Olive was very proud of her Italian heritage and made sure to pass along many great recipes, words of wisdom and other family traditions to her family and friends. Almost every Sunday she would have a four course meal for her family. She also hosted many guests throughout the year who raved about her cooking.

Olive married the love of her life John "Jack" Smith, on Jan. 7, 1955. This marriage was blessed with five strap-

ping boys, keeping them busy throughout the years. Olive was a typical ranch wife; she could often be found doing anything from everyday house work, baking chocolate chip cookies or ice cream for her growing boys, to pitching hay to the cows, gardening, driving truck and doing the paperwork for Smith and Sons Construction. She enjoyed her time catching up with other ranchers and farmers while sitting for hours at the stockyards in Butte, often looking for calves to buy for the ranch. Olive always kept in touch with her friends and family near and far. She would drive to Butte or Twin Bridges often to meet up with family or friends for lunch. She was a very social person, so she had numerous friends wherever she went.

Olive loved her family very much, especially her grandchildren and her nieces and nephews and all of their families. She could be seen attending

family gatherings, cheering in the gym, sitting at the field, or parked at the arena showing her support. Along with caring for her family she was always concerned with the well-being of friends, neighbors and the community as a whole. She was always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need and will be greatly missed by all.

Olive is preceded in death by her parents and grandparents, sister Gloria and brother-in-law John Broksle of Twin Bridges, brother in law Bill Buyan Sr. of Sheridan, sister Rose Shoemaker of Washington, and brother Guy George Jr. of Butte.

Olive is survived by her sister Leona Buyan of Sheridan; sister-in-law Arline George of Butte and brother-in-law Bud Shoemaker of Washington; her husband Jack Smith; son John Jr. (Deanna) Smith, Jonathan (Diana) Smith and Jordana, all of Whitehall; son David Smith,

Shawna (Kaleb) Barrett of Lolo, Whit (Courtney) Smith of Butte, Chad (Alex) Smith of Cardwell, and their mom Lynn Smith, son Paul (Shannon) Smith, Tyler, Ian and Jenny Smith; son Larry (Konni) Smith, Will and Brooke Smith; and son Mike (Robin) Smith, Katherine, Brandon and Dylan Smith all of Whitehall; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Vigil services were held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 21, at St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Whitehall. Funeral services were the following day, Tuesday, Dec. 22, at 11 a.m. also taking place at St. Theresa's. Memorials can be made in Olive's honor to Whitehall Ambulance/Whitehall Fire Departments (P.U.L.S.E.) as well as the Jefferson Valley Museum in Whitehall.

Arrangements are in the care of K&L Mortuaries - Whitehall.

## A "big surprise" highlights the Ennis Christmas Bird Count



Green-tailed Towhee

Submitted by Robin Wolcott

Lurking under a giant spruce tree near the feeders behind the hotel south of town, a Green-tailed Towhee caught the eye of Audrey and Joel Evers, participants in the 56th annual Ennis Christmas Bird Count held on Dec. 16. While this species can be found in the foothills near Ennis in the summer, it prefers to reside in Southern Arizona and Mexico in the winter. But there it was, plain as day. Someone must have suggested that Ennis was a great place to live year round.

The Christmas Bird Count has a long history in America. The first one was held in 1900 when Frank Chapman, an ornithologist and officer in the rela-

tively young Audubon Society, proposed a Christmas bird census. The modern day Christmas bird counts are held between Dec. 14 and Jan. 5 all over North America. The counts are done by citizen birders who volunteer their services for a day in the field. The Ennis count was started in 1958 by Dr. P.D. Skaar and is now organized by Robin and Richard Wolcott from Bozeman. This year Skaar's son, Don, was again one of the bird counters.

Birders count in a 15 mile diameter circle that includes the town of Ennis, Ennis Lake, Norris Hill, Meadow Creek and Jack Creek. The goal of the count is to try and count all the feathered creatures inside the circle. This year there were 13 participants covering five specific areas of

the count circle while four others roamed around the entire circle area looking for species others might have missed. In addition, three local enthusiasts watched their feeders throughout the day adding their reports to the compilation. The count participants came from Ennis, Bozeman, Deer Lodge, Helena, Livingston and California.

In spite of the recent snows, 67 species were recorded for the count making this the second highest count on record - the highest was 73 species in 2011. This year also produced several other species seen only infrequently in the past including a Rusty Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, a Harris's Sparrow and a Snow Goose with a broken wing.



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Ennis Senior Center  
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Madison Valley Fire Department  
Madison Valley Food Bank  
Madison Valley Hospital Foundation  
Madison Valley Aquatic Center  
Virginia City Ice Rink  
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The gift of peace.  
The gift of happiness.  
May all these be yours at Christmas.**

*Bill, Lincoln, Kim,  
Laura, & Kristie*

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**Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Montana Properties**



**Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Montana Properties of Ennis is doing their part this holiday season! The Berkshire agents have purchased all the requested outdoor winter gear from the tags off The Giving Tree at First Madison Valley Bank.**

*As we wind up*

## WEST of the MADISON

*we would like to thank*

all the Madison Valley folks for your patronage over the years. We've been honored to be a part, in some small way, of your homes, your birthdays and Christmases, your job interviews, your romantic liaisons, and your sorrowful moments.

Thank you to the entire Sciuchetti family for their support over the years. Best of luck to Cindy and Libby in their new venture, Plain Jane's. Watch for them to open in April of next year.

Heartfelt thanks, finally, to everyone who's ever been a part of West of the Madison: Pam, Jill, Christine, Ellen, Nancy, Teri, Ellie, and our treasured friend, Pam Gronning.

*We wish you all a magical holiday season. Happy Trails ...*



# TOY DRIVE SUCCESS!



Submitted by Jon Goodman

Independent Financial Partners in Ennis hosted a toy drive for Christmas. The sleigh in the corner grew to overflowing with boxes and gift bags loaded with toys, clothes, goodies and gift cards. Merry Christmas, everyone.

## Pony's Summer Poker Ride big hit

Submitted by Nancy Nellis

We had a fantastic Poker Ride at the Todd Brennan Ranch near Cardwell on June 20, 2015. The weather was beautiful. Over 110 riders

participated in the Poker Ride and over 20 door prizes were awarded. Everyone had a great time from what was reported to us. Lots of riders said this is the best trail ride they have been on, and they will definitely be

back for next year's ride. The food, money for high hands, and prizes were definitely a hit.  
*\*Editor's Note: Though this event happened over the summer, however we received this submission this week.*

# Happy Holidays



*From our little family to yours!*

We wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with joy, family and peace. We will see you in the new year!

*Merry Merry!*

Susanne, Erin, Abigail and Caitlin



## BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Montana Properties



**BROADWAY STREET, VIRGINIA CITY**  
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\$114,000 | #210107 | CREEK AND VIEWS

**Rikki Dilschneider**  
BROKER  
581-5155

6 bd, 3 ba, 2,872± sf spacious home with large country kitchen, large master bedroom with walk-in closet, has potential for rental or bed and breakfast, property also includes one bedroom cabin and outbuilding that was once used as a garage, covered front porch and lots of parking space

Creek, trees and majestic views, 20± acres with no covenants, varied terrain, privacy and seclusion, property offers several great building sites, Eight Mile Creek flows through corner of acreage, power nearby, located 10± miles west of Ennis



**VIRGINIA CITY RANCHES, ENNIS**  
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Massive views of the Madison Range and Madison Valley from this 5± acre lot, located at the southern end of popular subdivision, ideal spot for your dream home, Pronghorn Meadows is the best of both worlds, just 3± miles from town yet has country feel

As the Holiday Season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and on those who have helped us shape our business.

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*We wish you a Happy Holiday Season and a New Year filled with Peace and Prosperity.*

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Saloon | Restaurant | Lodging



# NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

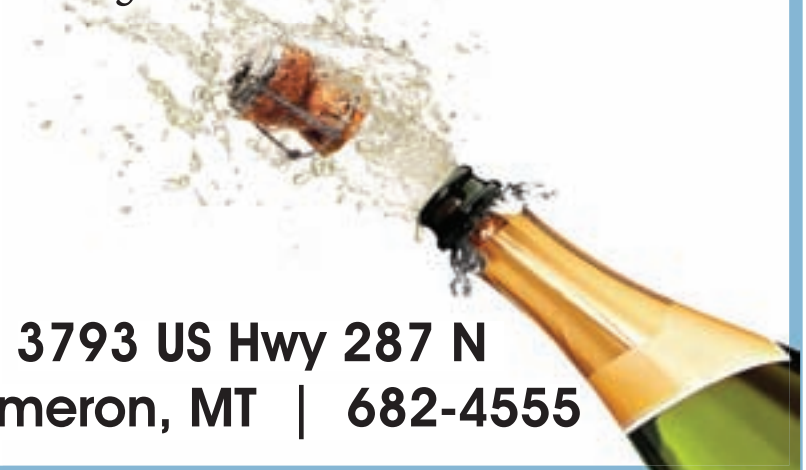
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# PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Toni Scully

A cattle drive takes place on a cold and snowy Tuesday on Bear Trap Canyon Road.



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## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

### ENNIS

Ennis Elementary's student of the week is **Logan Dickinson**. Logan is a 5th grader in our school and is deserving of this recognition for a number of reasons. Although she is a quiet student, she leads by example with her kind, considerate spirit and friendly nature. One example of this has been seen the last few weeks in how she has been so helpful to another student in our school who broke her ankle and is on crutches. Not only does she help this student in the classroom, but she has helped this student in the lunch line every day to get her food, then walked to the back of the line to get her own food without complaint. It is people like Logan that make a school or any organization great. Thank you, Logan, for being a positive part of our school!



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## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 24th at 6 p.m.

Madison Valley Baptist Church  
 (406)682.4244 5050 US Hwy. 287 North, Ennis  
 (across the highway from the Firehouse in Ennis)

## MADISON COUNTY WEATHER

### Thursday



Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of snow showers. Lows zero to 5 above zero.

### Friday



Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow showers. Highs 15 to 20. Lows 5 below to 5 above zero.

### Saturday



Partly cloudy. Highs 15 to 20. Lows 5 below to 10 above zero.

### Sunday



Not as cold. Mostly cloudy. Highs 20 to 30.

### Monday



Not as cold. Mostly cloudy. Highs 20 to 30.

## Quote of the Week:

**"Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas."**

*Dale Evans*

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We Will be Closed  
 December 21 thru January 13  
 In Order for Our Staff to Celebrate the Holidays with Family & Friends We Look Forward to Serving You in the New Year!

Winter Season Hours will Resume  
 Thursday, January 14  
 Dinner: Thurs-Sat 5pm-9pm  
 Brunch: Sun 9am-2pm

Mahalo Nui Loa for Your Support in 2015! Mele Kalikimaka! Hauoli Makahiki Ho!



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## 4 PAWS RESCUE PET OF THE WEEK



### ANGELINA

Hey! Have you forgotten about me? My brother Duffy is getting adopted and I sure wanted to be home for CHRISTmas. Alas, no one has come for me yet. I'm so sad. I'm all taken care of - you know all the necessities and everything, so here I sit eagerly awaiting you to come. Please call Misty at 439-1405 about me soon. Hopefully, Angelina PS/Thank you for donating to help us.

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## DAVE LARSON

### A commitment to Sheridan Schools

Caitlin Avey  
THE MADISONIAN  
news@madisoniannews.com

"I didn't get it all done yesterday," said Dave Larson as he swept up a pile of dirt from the biology lab.

Larson starts his workday at 1 p.m. when he heads to Sheridan Schools, where he works as a part-time custodian.

He starts in the cafeteria, collecting garbage from the day, before doing a quick swipe through the weight room. He then heads to what used to be the old elementary building to clean the halls, library and classrooms until 3:30 p.m. when he heads to the gym to sweep before practice.

"I come in Friday to finish if I need to," he said dumping the dirt pile.

Larson, who just turned 79, has been part-time with the Sheridan schools for 10 years, but has spent closer to 25 years working as a substitute janitor for the school.

"I subbed when needed," he said. "I used my experience from being a church custodian and because of that, (the school) knew I knew about cleaning."

Larson works everyday school is in session, Monday through Thursday, and usually comes in on Fridays to finish up any work not done during the week.

Aside from his weekly duties in the halls and classrooms, Larson, an avid Panther fan, cleans up after all sporting events with his daughter, Carol, and is in his 16th season doing so.

"We clean up the concessions area, gym and locker rooms," said Larson.

While he is flexible and does not mind the work, Larson also enjoys attending as many home games as he can.

"I sit right in the front at

center court and try to go to all the home games," he said. "I've gotten acquainted with most of the referees and they usually save my spot."

In his 50 years of living in Sheridan, Larson said he has only missed a handful of home games.

#### Coming to the Ruby Valley

Larson and his family moved to the Ruby Valley in 1965 after selling their 60-acre farm in Garland, Utah. After a threat that a freeway was going to be constructed through their property, they started looking at different options.

"My dad helped some family friends move to Twin Bridges and he fell in love with the area, so we sold our 60 acres to our neighbor and bought a ranch up here," said Larson.

The family bought a ranch in the Duncan district just west of Sheridan and started out with a small sheep operation before adding some cattle.

Larson first got started working with sheep after his sophomore advisor talked him into buying a carload of lambs to raise and take to the Ogden Livestock Show. He did, and ended up taking the grand prize.

"After I won, there was a write up in the paper about the hog raiser from Garland that won the show - I didn't have any hogs," laughed Larson.

After a while, the family got into cattle ranching, something not new to Larson since he started milking with his dad at the age of three.

Larson, along with his brother and father, operated the ranch west of Sheridan for 20 years before the calf prices dropped and they decided to sell in 1987.

"I've always enjoyed ranching," said Larson, who still has some property out of

town and watches his son's horses. "I feed (the horses) in the morning and at night when I can - and I enjoy it."

#### Making an impression

Ever since his father moved them out of Utah, Larson has managed to make a life for himself and his family, working on the ranch and as a custodian - first at his church and then at the school - something he said he plans on doing for as long as he can.

"I guess my health will determine how long I can work, but as long as I'm doing something, it keeps me younger," Larson said.

Over the years, Larson has managed to build a good relationship with the students who have passed through the halls and enjoys being able to help out.

"Most of them know who I am and I know who most of them are," he said. "They all call me Dave."

Since he works during school hours and is present at all the games, the students have grown accustomed to having him around and vice versa.

"Sometimes I need help and they're always willing to do so," he said. "I'm very rarely ever turned down."

And while he attends almost every home game, it is basketball that he most enjoys.

"I went to my first Panther basketball game in December of 1965," he said. "That was before they even had girls basketball."

Ever since then, Larson has attended all the home games, be it volleyball or basketball, not just as a custodian but also as a spectator.

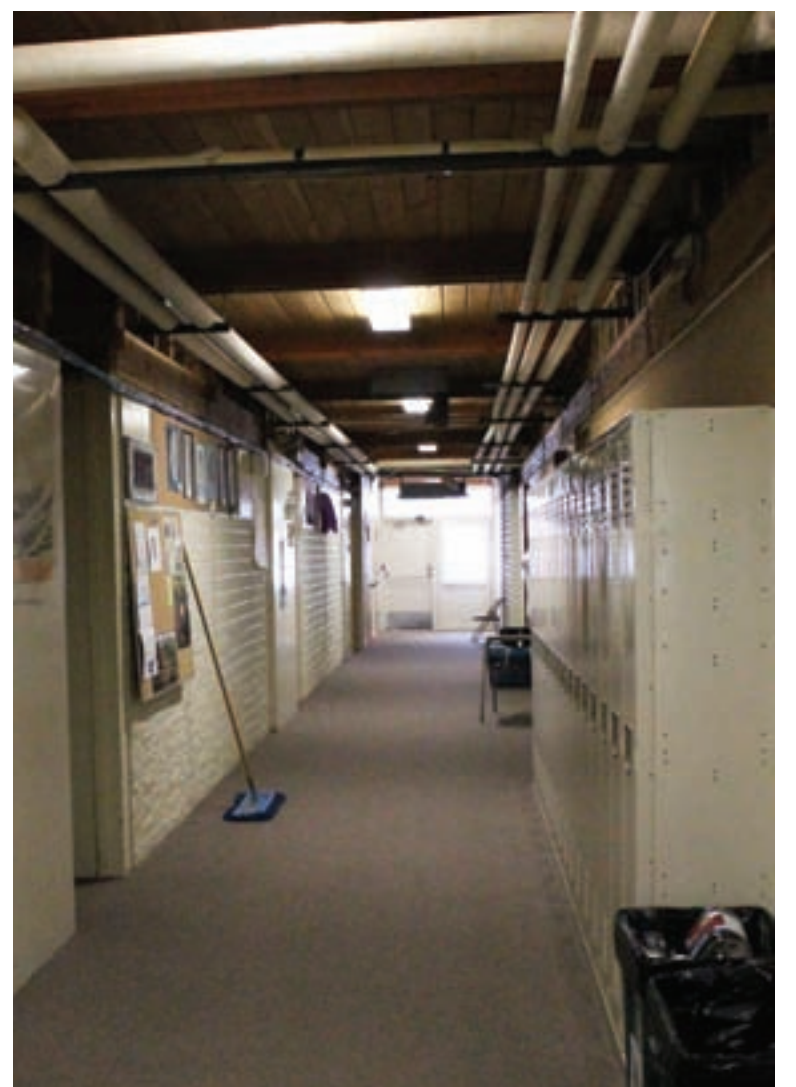
"I just basically like being with people," he said. "It keeps me active."



Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian  
Dave Larson has been a part-time custodian with Sheridan Schools for 10 years, but has subbed on and off as needed for 25.



Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian  
The C.B. Murray Media room was named after a Sheridan principal and is part of Larson's cleaning territory.



Caitlin Avey/The Madisonian  
The halls in the old elementary stand empty on Friday afternoon. The building is now home to the library, seventh and eighth grade classroom, the band and choir room and the junior high and high school art rooms.





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# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## Winter heating safety reminders, tips

Submitted by Butch Larcomb  
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

Winter is here and NorthWestern Energy is offering reminders about the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and the importance of winter heating safety.

The dangers are real. Around the recent Thanksgiving holiday, a Havre customer was saved from serious consequences after a carbon

monoxide detector showed dangerously high readings in her home. In 2014, three members of a Helena family were hospitalized after furnace vents plugged by snow caused a heavy build-up of carbon monoxide in their basement. Two family pets succumbed to the poisonous gas.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that may be poisonous when a fuel is not burned completely.

Any fuel – wood, coal, oil, propane and kerosene, can produce carbon monoxide. The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning can resemble the flu and include headache, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, confusion, tightening of the chest, unusual yawning or irritation of the nose, mouth or eyes.

To guard against carbon-monoxide issues, consider the following steps:

- Purchase a UL-

approved, digital carbon monoxide alarm with AC power and battery backup.

- Get annual inspections of gas-burning furnaces and appliances, including water heaters.

- Make sure all vents for furnaces and other appliances, on the roof or side of a structure, are unobstructed. Such vents can become clogged by heavy snow, ice or objects such as bird nests.

- Use portable space heaters properly and follow manufacturers' instructions.

If you detect or suspect carbon monoxide in your home, get the victims to fresh air immediately and call 911 from outside the home or building. NorthWestern Energy will inspect the homes of natural-gas customers. Our gas service employees carry carbon monoxide detectors and know what to look for.

If you detect gas odors, usually a rotten-egg smell, leave the structure immediately. Do not use a phone or light switch, as this could trigger an explosion. Call NorthWestern and 911 from a safe location.

Montana customers should call: (888) 467-2669. Customers with questions about natural-gas safety or any aspect of their service can contact NorthWestern Energy at (888) 467-2669.

## Ways to keep cozy this season

Submitted by StatePoint

In cool weather, staying comfortable is a top priority – from the clothes and shoes you wear to the food you put on your family's table.

### No shoes policy

Avoid tracking the outside elements into the interiors of your home. A no-shoes policy in the house can help. Keep a shoe rack by the door of your house to encourage family and guests to remove their shoes upon arrival. You can make the policy stick more easily by supplying your family with weather-appropriate

shoes that are easy to slip on and off.

### Simple meals

With energy-zapping seasonal afflictions an ever-looming threat, your energy levels can be as unpredictable as the weather. But cooking your family wholesome foods that evoke warmth and comfort does not need to be complex or tiring.

One dish recipes like stews or chili are great for incorporating seasonal vegetables with minimal fuss.

### Dress for comfort, stylishly

The temperatures may be dipping but that's no reason why

you cannot remain at the intersection of comfort and style. Seek out good quality outerwear. The key is finding favorites that look good with everything, work well no matter what activity your family is doing, and will last year in and year out.

And it all starts with shoes.

Especially for moms who want to quickly slip something on when running out to pick up the kids from after-school activities or racing around for last-minute errands.

With the right head-to-toe gear and the right mindset, you can stay cozy all season long.



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## Is your life in balance?

Healthy habits to try in 2016

Submitted by StatePoint

Is your life in balance? The New Year is a great time to take stock of your routine and make improvements where necessary.

Here are some thoughtful habits to consider incorporating into your day in the coming year.

### Find time to decompress

- If you are a morning person, get out of bed 30 minutes earlier than normal

to wake up with your favorite coffee or tea and think about what you need to accomplish for the day.

- More of a night owl? Spend at least 30 minutes before going to sleep to unplug from technology and relax with a new book you have had on your list to read.

- Schedule time for exercise to reduce stress and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Planning workouts ahead of time will make you more



likely to stick to them.

### Write everything down

- Handwritten notes and to-do lists will reinforce your memory of the tasks you need to conquer. They also

give you the option to look at what you need to do for the day and prioritize the list. Consider a personal planner.

- Documenting your day not only keeps you organized,

but also provides you with an opportunity to look back and reflect on your life's accomplishments, memories and milestones from the year.

### Balanced diet, balanced life

- Maintaining a healthy, balanced diet will help you feel great, and can increase your focus, energy levels and productivity.

- Cooking your own fresh meals can help keep your bank account balanced, and is often much healthier than food from a restaurant. And spending time in the kitchen is also a stress reliever for some people.

Make a fresh start – the beginning of a new year is the perfect time to make positive changes to how you schedule and organize your time.



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### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We will be closed in Ennis on Christmas eve and New Years eve. We will be scheduling for January 7th in Ennis and, as always, we are always happy to see patients at our Eyes On Main Bozeman office.



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# COLUMNS



## This, OUR VALLEY:

By Reverend Keith Axberg



### Dreams in the Valley

*Christmas started with a dream / God's dream for you and me / Yule not find it 'neath a tree / This dream for me and thee / Not in the stores, nor in the malls / Nor in the things of earth / The dream was meant for human heart / The birth of Christ: a start!*

God is a dreamer. You might think that's kind of strange. Some would argue that God is like a clock maker who made the universe, set it in motion and left. Theologians tell us that God is omniscient: God knows all; or God has a plan: As in a game of chess, God moves us piece-like around the board and when all is said and done, checkmate (or Armageddon).

But that's not God. When you read the scriptures, you see that God is less an architect and more an artist. I mean, listen to the creation story:

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. The breath of God blew gently over the face of the waters ... " (Genesis 1, NKJV)

That's not the picture of an engineer looking over a set of blueprints to ascertain the structural integrity of a project. That's the picture of an artist working with a fresh canvass.

She looks it over, and taking a deep breath she dips her brush into the oils and begins to apply more than colors; she applies her very soul to the canvas one stroke at a time.

"In the beginning God ... " is the story of an artist – a dreamer – at work.

God prepared this magnificent jewel orbiting the sun, a glorious planet with clean water, fertile land and lush vegetation. Living creatures of every shape and size were present. Birds sang the sun up in the morning and crickets sang the sun down at night. There were no endangered species. There were landmasses, pounding oceans, fresh-water lakes, life-sustaining rivers and streams.

It must have taken God's breath away the first time he stepped back to survey this wonderful work in progress. One of the most mesmerizing

pictures of the late 20th century is that photograph of the earth rising above the surface of the moon; Earthrise, they call it.

You can almost picture the angels crowding around, noses pressed against the studio glass in hushed silence, watching God at work.

What did God create? God created a magnificent habitat for all – a dream house. God gave us a place to call home. That was his dream. That was his vision: to create a place where all could live in harmony with God, creation and one another; where lion and lamb would frolic by day; where child and adder could cuddle by night.

It didn't last long of course. Wanting to be "like gods" we destroyed God's dream house, trashing the environment, hunting majestic creatures into extinction, and our favorite past time, waging war against all comers. God's dream was shattered like a tacky leg lamp crumpled beyond repair.

Many of our dreams lie shattered too. Pink slips are handed out at Christmas parties – shattering dreams; loved ones are killed by drunk drivers – shattering dreams; men in uniform quietly arrive on the front porch to deliver sad news from overseas – shattering dreams. For everything there is a season, but in every season: shattered dreams.

What is God to do? Closing his eyes, God stretches out a new canvass; God begins to paint – a new hope and a new dream. He starts with a baby in a manger in a podunk town in a dustbin land. We can't see it of course, but God can.

*Lying there in manger rude / the child of God is born / and giving birth to hope and peace / he's here on Christmas morn / and if we deign to shut our eyes / we'll feel the oils applied / upon the canvass of our lives – these lives for which he died. / So come, ye faithful, raise the strain / for Christ is born – that peace o'er us may reign!*

May the good Lord apply the oils of love, joy and peace upon the canvass of your souls – the substance of hope in this, our valley – his Christmas gift to you.

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



## WINTER BIRD FEEDING AND VIEWING

Somewhere among the snow and blowing cold, hardy birds are making a living in Southwest Montana. They can be easy to miss unless one makes the opportunity to view them, and there are some great ways to do this right in our area.



Sunni Heikes-Knapton

Setting up feeding stations and participating in bird counts can be a great way to see these feathered creatures that might ordinarily go unnoticed. The following information is provided by the Audubon Society, with some good recommendations for the tools and supplies for feeding birds in winter.

"More than a hundred bird species supplement their natural diets with foods offered at feeders. They often rely most heavily on feeders in winter, when food is scarce. Additionally, some species will take advantage of backyard refueling stations during spring and fall migrations; others will stop by while nesting during the summer. Selecting a specific feeder design and a variety of foods

can set the table for a greater diversity of birds. Choosing more than one will prevent crowding at your backyard buffet. Keep birds coming back with three essential ingredients: the right mix of quality seed and other foods and ample cover from native plants. Follow this guide and watch the birds flock to your feeders."

**1. Tube feeder**  
If you hang just one feeder, this should be it. Choose a model with metal ports around the seed dispensers to deter squirrels. Hang it at least 5 feet off the ground, and 3 feet from a window to avoid bird collisions.

Seed types: black oil sunflower, mixed seed, safflower, peanuts

**2. Hopper feeder**  
With these feeders you can keep an abundant supply of seed dry and ready for visiting birds. The weight of the arriving birds triggers the release of seeds. Position this feeder on a pole about 5 feet off the ground, or hang it from a tree branch.

Seed types: safflower, sunflower, cracked corn

**3. Suet feeder**  
Hang suet in mesh onion bags or purchase a cage feeder.

You can make your own suet "pudding" by grinding suet and adding seeds. Create homemade suet feeders by packing the mixture into the crevices of large pinecones.

Seed types: suet and bird puddings

**4. Thistle feeder**  
These feeders make seed available only to small-beaked finches. Hang them from a tree or place on a 5 foot pole near other feeders.

Seed types: thistle seed

**5. Ground feeder**  
This is a simple screen-bottomed tray that typically sits several inches off the ground or on a deck. Some have covers to keep out snow; others may have wire mesh to keep out squirrels and large birds like crows. Place at least 10 feet from trees or shrubs to give birds a chance to escape predators.

While many of the birds we see in summer in Montana migrate south in the winter, there are still a large number of species that spend the cold season here. Those are harder than most, but the supplemental feedings are very valuable for their survival. Bird seed and/or supplies are available locally.

A final opportunity for watching our local bird

species takes place during the Christmas Bird Count, part of the Audubon Society. According to the website, "The Christmas Bird Count is a long-standing program of the National Audubon Society, with over 100 years of citizen science involvement. It is an early-winter bird census, where thousands of volunteers across the U.S., Canada and many countries in the Western Hemisphere, go out over a 24 hour period on one calendar day to count birds."

A local opportunity to identify our local birds will be taking place in Three Forks on Monday, Dec. 28. Interested participants should meet at Wheat Montana at exit 274 by 8:30 a.m. Contact Tom Forwood at tjfishing75@gmail.com for more information.



Tube Feeder

## James Gemmell or Gammell, Part 1

By Charlie Rossiter

It's said that cats have nine lives and this story is of a man who had three unique lives. It is a story that gives Forrest Gump a run for its money with action, and complex relationships and dealings with some famous people.



Charlie Rossiter

This is a brief outline of his life, which has been written in detail in a book by his great-great-granddaughter Elizabeth Gemmell Hedquist, entitled "Escape from Van Diemen's Land." This book and "Pioneers Trails and Trials" were instrumental in writing this article. Some of the quotes were taken verbatim from these books.

### The Early Years

James Gemmell was born in 1814 at Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland; the second of four children. In 1821 the family moved to New York City where his father ran the Rob Roy Hotel. In 1829, another brother was born and their father died at age 51. In 1831 his mother remarried and moved to New Hampshire.

The two oldest boys left home – James to Canada to farm with an uncle and his brother to Texas. In 1837, due to the repressive economic policies and taxes by the British government, James becomes involved in the Patriot War. The rebellion erupted on two separate fronts, first in Lower Canada (Quebec) and then in Upper Canada (Ontario). The Upper Canada revolt was joined by United States citizens, who took

the opportunity to try to detach the peninsula between the Michigan frontier and the Niagara frontier from Canada and attach it to the United States. In 1838, the U.S. had the Neutrality Act and would not get involved in either conflict.

Along with other rebels James fled, hoping to escape across the border into the United States, but on June 26 he was captured. A trial was set for the district court in Niagara where James and 11 other Canadians were charged and convicted of treason and condemned to death. On Aug. 22, just three days prior to the date of execution, the sheriff came to the jail and read a document stating, "His Excellency the Lieut. Gov. has been graciously pleased, in consideration of some circumstances in your favor, to commute your sentence of death to transportation for life to her Majesty's penal colony of Van Diemen's Land" (now Tasmania, Australia).

It was rumored that Daniel Webster was instrumental in getting the sentences reduced. Also, New York governor elect, William H. Seward, wrote a letter in support of the prisoners. In accordance with British home office regulations, the prisoners were transported from the colonies and first sent to England then to Australia. James was sent to Fort Henry, Canada, then on to Liverpool and finally to Portsmouth, where the Canadians were passed from prison to prison. All the prisons seemed worse than their predecessors. On Sept. 22, 1839, James and company were finally put on board the Canton and

transported to Australia, 16,000 miles away. After nearly four months at sea, 25-year-old James Gammell set foot on Australian soil at the Hobart dock on Jan. 17, 1840. He'd been a prisoner of His Majesty's government for the past two and half years. Life in Van Diemen's was severe both physically and emotionally. They were abused, (by other convicts who became the overseers) starved, and ignored as human beings.

In June, the Canadians were moved from Hobart 36 miles inland to Lovely Banks where they spent the winter and the hardest labor they had yet experienced. After a day's labor (11 hours) while wearing 14 pounds of chains, they were locked in huts and never allowed to get near a fire. The winter months in the southern hemisphere were especially miserable. No extra clothing was allotted as a protection against the rain, snow and cold. Hard labor on the roads from dusk till dark continued throughout the winter, even though many were without shoes and most were half starved. In September, the Canadian prisoners were marched to the convict station at Green Ponds about 20 miles from Hobart town. James and his fellow patriots worked on the roads at Green Ponds for about eight months (May 1841). In this setting the convicts were required to work from before dawn till late after dusk and rations were even scarcer. The overseers would intimidate the prisoners with the threat of punishment by flogging. Every few days they were obliged to witness the ordeal of a poor fellow's back being laid bare before lining up

to receive their breakfast. The ritual of state inflicted violence was clearly calculated to discourage all further thought of escape. James was moved to several other camps and they all were inhumane.

In 1842, James made his escape and ended up in Hobart town for a second time. He managed to talk the crew of an American whaling ship into taking him on as a stowaway because he was a fellow American. James later wrote, "My friends took me on board the ship. They were the only ones on board, as all others were still ashore. When the sailing time drew near the crew came back, and my friends hid me in the hold of the ship and covered me with sales and tarps. Officers and guards from the prison came on board looking for me. They thrust their bayonets into the sails in several places, and I could hear their voices. Then as they were about to leave one thrust his bayonet down near me, and the blade went through my leg just above my knee. I almost cried out but did not. Later, after we were at sea I was brought food and clothes, and I was soon able to get about."

James had been a guest of His Majesty's government for four long grueling years, and it had made an impression on him. Two New York City newspapers, the Herald and the Tribune, printed notices announcing his arrival on Wednesday, June 22, 1842, the first of the patriot prisoners to escape Van Diemen's Land and reach the United States. For a brief period he was a celebrity, and the toast of the town.

*Check back next week for Part II*

Look for Through the archives window, pg B7

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# COMICS & PUZZLES



"GET THE KIDS EACH A DRONE FOR CHRISTMAS, YOU SAID... IT'S THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE, YOU SAID..."

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

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Lustrous black
- 4 Corned beef concoction
- 8 Into the sunset
- 12 Unoriginal one
- 13 La Scala show-stopper
- 14 Related
- 15 Vitamin B-1 deficiency
- 17 Kindly bloke
- 18 Submit
- 19 Pi follower
- 21 Schedule abbr.
- 22 Moulin Rouge dance
- 26 Book of maps
- 29 Yank
- 30 Discoverer's cry
- 31 Seethe
- 32 Historic boy king
- 33 "Big Brother" host Julie
- 34 Census datum
- 35 Census datum
- 36 Ad for an upcoming broadcast
- 37 Chocolatey treat
- 39 401(k)

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- 22 alternative
- 40 Pompous sort
- 41 Halo
- 45 Opposite of 8-Across
- 48 Samoan port city
- 50 United nations
- 51 Stench
- 52 Under the weather
- 53 "Little Women" woman
- 54 Preschoolers
- 55 Caustic solution
- 3 Gull's cousin
- 4 Customs
- 5 Gladiators' venue
- 6 Knightly address
- 7 Tonsorial task
- 8 Cart
- 9 — out a living
- 10 Sermon subject
- 11 Stick with a kick
- 16 Perfect
- 20 Crone
- 23 Silver salmon
- 24 Throat-clearing sound
- 25 Taboo act
- 26 Common
- rhyme scheme
- 27 Takeout order
- 28 Property claim
- 29 Monkey suit
- 32 Sawbuck
- 33 Muscle woe
- 35 "Help!"
- 36 Rap sheet data
- 38 Sheetload of cookies
- 39 Gold mold
- 42 \$50, in "Monopoly"
- 43 Unattractive
- 44 Unrivalled
- 45 Recede
- 46 Hearty brew
- 47 Topper
- 49 Big fuss

### DOWN

- 1 Pokes
- 2 Duel tool

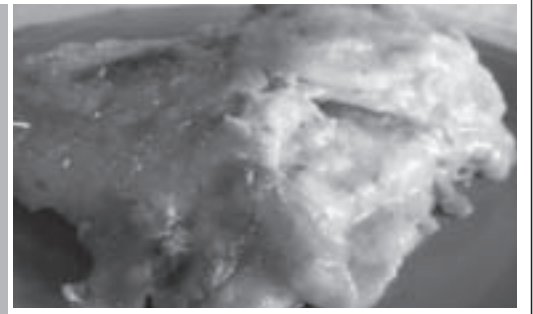
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## Just a Pinch

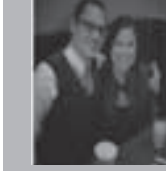
Sharing Hometown Recipes, Cooking Tips and Coupons  
By Janet Tharpe

### Celebrate Christmas With Decadent Cheesy Bacon Potatoes

"There's so much flavor!"



Need a last minute Christmas side dish? Check out Christine Fernandez's flavorful Cheesy Bacon Potatoes. There is nothing better than bacon, potatoes and cheese... right? These easy scalloped potatoes will be the talk of your table! See step-by-step photos of Christine's recipe plus thousands more from home cooks nationwide at:



Christine Fernandez  
Sarasota, FL  
(pop. 51,917)

[www.justapinch.com/cheesypotatoes](http://www.justapinch.com/cheesypotatoes)  
You'll also find a meal planner, coupons and chances to win! Enjoy and remember, use "just a pinch"...

- Janet

### Cheesy Bacon Potatoes

#### What You Need

- 6 large potatoes; peeled and thinly sliced
- 1/2 c onion; chopped
- 2 c cheddar cheese; shredded
- 1 c bacon; cooked and crumbled
- 2 c milk
- 1/2 c half & half
- 4 tsp flour
- 4 tsp butter
- Salt and pepper

#### Directions

- Using a large pot, saute chopped onions in butter until soft but not browned.
- In a small bowl, combine flour, salt and pepper.
- Stir flour mixture into onion mixture. Add milk and half

- and half.
- Stir and cook over medium heat until mixture begins to thicken (about 3 minutes).
- Turn off heat.
- Add 1 1/2 c cheese to the sauce and stir until melted and smooth.
- Add sliced potatoes, bacon and stir well to combine.
- Pour mixture into a casserole dish sprayed with non-stick spray. Cover with foil and bake at 350 for 35 minutes.
- Remove foil, sprinkle reserved cheese over top and return to oven. Bake another 30 minutes or until potatoes are soft, cheese is melted and edges begin to brown.
- Let stand a few minutes before serving to allow the sauce to thicken.

Submitted by: Christine Fernandez, Sarasota, FL (pop. 51,917)  
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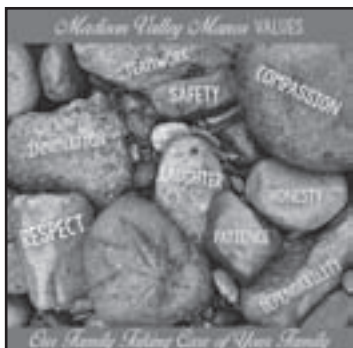
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# the Madison County MARKETPLACE

View classifieds online at [www.madisoniannews.com/classifieds](http://www.madisoniannews.com/classifieds).

## HELP WANTED



The Madison Valley Manor is hiring Certified Nursing Assistants. Full time and part time positions; FREE TRAINING AND C.N.A. CERTIFICATION AVAILABLE. This is a great opportunity to work in a personal healthcare setting.

- Excellent pay
- Government retirement.
- Benefits including life and health insurance.
- Relocation bonus.
- Tuition reimbursement.

If you are interested in a rewarding career in healthcare, Madison Valley Manor is the place. Please contact Christine Canterbury, DON at 682-7271 for more information. EOE  
51-tfc-b

Tire shop manager. Must have experience in tire business and daily operations. Salary DOE. Also need lube tech and an auto detailer. Apply in person at D&D Auto in Ennis, or call and talk to Dennis at 682-4234. Salary DOE. 2-tfc-b

Cardwell store and Moose Crossing Sweets & Gifts are now hiring friendly, team oriented, energetic people with exceptional customer service skills. Send resume to [cardwellstore@outlook.com](mailto:cardwellstore@outlook.com) or stop in to pick up an application. Starting wage at \$9.50/hr. No phone calls, please. 2-tfc-b

Montana Department of Revenue Property Valuation Specialist III Position # 15142821 Virginia City, Montana \$27,984 - \$32,834/yr DOQ Closes: 12/17/15 To apply for this job posting, please see: <http://mt.gov/statejobs/default.mcp> 8-2-b

CAREGIVERS NEEDED TOBACCO ROOT MOUNTAINS CARE CENTER IN SHERIDAN, MT, A SMALL FAMILY ORIENTED LTC FACILITY HAS OPENINGS FOR AN RN OR LPN WORKING 9 HOUR SHIFTS AS A CHARGE NURSE. COMPETITIVE WAGES, GREAT BENEFITS. CONTACT JODY AT (406) 842-5600 FOR MORE INFO AND APPLICATION. EOE 9-4-b

Custodial Position Ennis School District The Ennis School is looking for an individual to work in our custodial department. The job requires the knowledge or willingness to learn to work with various pieces of equipment, such as, floor machines, buffers, scrubbers, etc. Hourly rate will start at no less than \$12.00 per hour, D.O.E. Benefits and retirement may be available. Deadline: Until Filled. For further information and a district application call Jon Wrzesinski at 682-4258. 9-3-b

Drivers: LOCAL Bozeman Refrigerated Runs! Occasional layovers! Excellent Pay, Benefits! Paid Vacations! CDL-A, 1yr Exp. Req. Estenson Logistics 1-888-335-1615 9-2-cc

## FOR RENT

For Rent: Unit 1-E Lone Elk Mall, 908 Sq'. Please call 406-490-9464 for more details. 9-4-b

**Place Your Classified 682-7755**

Studio apartment for rent in Ennis. Call Jamie 581-9219. 7-tfc-b

FOR RENT in Ennis 20 x 30 heated shops/storage. RV Storage also available. 581-7687. 1-tfc-b

For Rent. Two story furnished studio guest house. Upper deck, heated garage and storage, W/D and kitchenette. 1 year lease \$750 per month utilities included. N/S No dogs. In Ennis. Call Erich 682-5737 35-tfc-b

PETERSON'S DISCOUNT STORAGE Indoor & Outdoor RV/Boat storage, storage units. Ennis, 682-7442 18-tfc-b

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

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

3 bedroom 2 bath 1900 sq ft one level home on mill creek. Beautiful views comfortable open concept home. Washer/dryer. \$900 mth. No pets/ smoking 916-600-3018 49-tfc-b

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

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

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

Two 3 bd, rentals avail. in Twin. Call Jack, RE Agent w/ BHHSMT at 406.596.7893 8-3-b

MADISON MANAGEMENT Vacation and Long Term Rentals 570-5401 [www.madisonmanagement.com](http://www.madisonmanagement.com) 22-tfc

## FOR SALE

Geese and turkeys for sale. Call Jonathon at 577-6152 42-tfc-b

Zabel prints "Dog Tired". \$750 "Outfitters Promise". \$500 406-539-9418 2-tfc-b

Three double pane windows with screens 31 1/2 x 59 inside metal casing. \$20 each. 682-7466 8-2-BILL

## SERVICES

Tami's House Cleaning Great references Dependable Efficient Honest 406-548-2954 9-4-p

Madison Valley Caring & Sharing Hours: Mon. Noon-2:00 p.m. Sat. 9-11:00 a.m. Wed. 6-8 p.m. Lone Elk Mall, Unit 4. Ennis. 682-7844 30-tfc-b

## WORK WANTED

Work Wanted. Polyurethane foam, airtight insulation. Call Kenny 550-2327 or Dave 670-6911. 7-4-p

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## ESTATE SALES

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

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## LOST & FOUND

Lost: Brown cowboy hat with red poppy flower on hat band. Lost in Virginia city ranches area. 406-490-2205

Found: iPad on Armitage in Ennis. Call to identify. 580-5321.



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# The Madisonian

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
Madison County is accepting Request for Proposal for the replacement of the current 9-1-1 Telephone system and Voice Recorder system. Contractors interested in submitting a proposal may download the complete RFP from [www.madison.mt.gov](http://www.madison.mt.gov), located under Public Notices or may contact the Madison County IT Office by email [madoit@madison.mt.gov](mailto:madoit@madison.mt.gov) or by phone (406) 843-4254. Responses to this RFP must be submitted no later than January 29, 2016 by 5 P.M. (Pub. Dec 17, 24, 31, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28 2015) mciit MNAXLP

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AS CONSTRUCTOR (CMC) SERVICES FOR NEW REPLACEMENT HOSPITAL AND CLINIC, SHERIDAN, MONTANA.**

The Ruby Valley Hospital Board of Trustees, is seeking a competent Construction Manager as Constructor (CMc) normally engaged in this profession and a duly registered Construction Contractor in the State of Montana, for CMc services as an alternative delivery process, specifically for the following Project: New Replacement Hospital and Clinic located in Sheridan, Montana. It is the Trustees' desire to engage a qualified CMc firm to work as a team with the Hospital and the selected Architectural firm for the performance of this project. At this time, the Hospital and its Architect have prepared a Schematic Design document for the new hospital and clinic. It is the goal to have the CMc selected to work with the team through the development of Design Development, Construction Documents and Construction. The Hospital has selected SMA|Architects as the Design Firm for the project. The final form of the contract shall be an amended AIA A-133™ - 2009 "Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Construction Manager as Constructor where the basis of payment is the Cost of Work Plus A Fee with a "Guaranteed Maximum Price", in conjunction with the AIA A201™ - 2007 "General Conditions of the Contract for Construction," and as supplemented by United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development guidelines. This project is partially funded by USDA Rural Development loan. It is the intent of the Hospital Board of Trustees make a single award for these services. The CMc will be required to provide a Guaranteed Maximum Price for Pre-Construction Services, General Conditions and a specified percentage of construction for the construction fee. The CMc will also be required to provide proof of the ability to bond 100% of the project. Additional information is included in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Digital or physical copies of the RFQ may be obtained from the architect as follows: SMA|Architects 2625 Winne Ave., Suite 1 Helena, MT 59601 406.442.4933 All SOQ's are due to the Ruby Valley Hospital in both digital and physical copy by 4:00 p.m. January 8, 2016. All SOQ's must be clearly marked "Ruby Valley Hospital Replacement Hospital and Clinic Construction Manager as Constructor (CMc) Services" Ruby Valley Hospital Board of Trustees 220 E. Crofoot Sheridan, MT 59749 (Pub. Dec 17, 24, 31, 2015) sma MNAXLP

**PUBLIC NOTICE FORM FOR CHANGE OF LOCATION**  
Notice of Intent to Transfer Location of Air Quality Permit (Pursuant to Section 75-2-211, MCA, and ARM Title 17, Chapter 8, Subchapter 7, PERMIT, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF AIR CONTAMINANT SOURCES). RE Miller & Sons will file on or about December 16, 2015, 2015, a notification of intent to transfer location of an air quality permit with the Permitting and Compliance Division/Air and Waste Management Bureau of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. Applicant seeks approval of its transfer of location of Portable Crushing Equipment. Air quality Permit #3040-02 to Sec. 33, Township 06S, Range 04W, Madison, 575 Upper Ruby Rd., Sheridan MT 59749.

The division must approve or disapprove the permit transfer within 30 days of receipt of a complete notice of intent. Any member of the public with question or who wishes to review a copy of the permit and the division's analysis of it or to submit comments on the change of location must contact the division at 1520 East Sixth Ave., P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901 phone (406) 444-3490. Any comments on the location transfer must be submitted to the division within 15 days after the date of this publication. (Pub. Dec. 24, 2015) rem MNAXLP

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL COURT, MADISON COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LARRY WAYNE JONES, aka LARRY W. JONES and L.W. JONES Deceased. Probate No. DP-29-2015-31 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be mailed to MAX A. HANSEN & ASSOCIATES, P.C., Attorneys for the Personal Representative, P.O. Box 1301, Dillon, Montana 59725, or filed with the Clerk of the above entitled Court. Dated this 23rd day of November, 2015. /s/ Lorraine Ariene Jones Personal Representative (Pub. Dec. 24, 31, 2015 Jan 7, 2016) mha MNAXLP

**AUDIT PUBLICATION STATEMENT**

An audit of the affairs of the Madison VALLEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT, Ennis, Montana, has been conducted by Wipfli CPAs and consultant - Galusha Higgins and Galusha. The audit covered the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. Section 2-7-521, MCA, requires the publication of the following summary of significant findings. Summary of Significant Findings Section 1-Summary of Auditors Results. Financial Statements Type of auditors issued: Adverse Opinion Internal Control over financial reporting: Are any significant deficiencies that are not considered toe material weaknesses? No

Are any material weaknesses identified? Yes  
Is any noncompliance material to financial statements noted? No  
Section 2-Financial Statement Findings Component Unit: The district did not include the Madison Valley Rural Department as a discretely presented component unit.  
Section 3- Summary of prior Audit Findings 14-001 restated as 1015-001  
Public Inspection of Audit Report  
The complete audit report is on file in its en-



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tirety and open to public inspection at 5037 HWY 287 North and that the Madison Valley Rural Fire District will make available a copy of the audit report to any interested person upon request. Sincerely, Nathan Tubergen Bookkeeper

(Pub. Dec. 24, 2015) mvrfd MNAXLP

### OH DEER!



A young doe peeks out from behind a fence post along Ennis Lake Road. Abigail Dennis/The Madisonian

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

TRINITY (JEFFERS) ST. PAUL'S (VC)

**WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**  
O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL—AND FIND OUT

CHRISTMAS EVE (TRINITY) 4:00 PM  
CHRISTMAS EVE (ST. PAUL'S, VIRGINIA CITY) 7:00 PM  
CHRISTMAS DAY (TRINITY) 9:00 AM

**West Yellowstone, Montana**  
**Hebgen Lake NAIFC Qualifier**

**NAIFC Ice Fishing Tournament**  
**January 15-17, 2016**

**Friday**  
Evening seminars & The Rocky Mountain Product Fair

**Saturday**  
On-ice product demos  
Northwestern Energy Kid's Ice Camp  
The Rocky Mountain Product Fair  
Saturday night dinner  
Rules meeting and Calcutta

**Sunday Morning**  
NAIFC regional qualifier tournament with cash payouts & "Battle of the Bars"

**Sunday Afternoon**  
Weigh-in and Awards Celebration

Maximum entry of 150 two-person teams  
Team registration at [naifc.com](http://naifc.com)

Event and registration information at  
[www.WestYellowstoneIceFishing.com](http://www.WestYellowstoneIceFishing.com)  
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Stay another day & play in Montana & Yellowstone. Back country cold smoke powder is a snowmobiler's dream. Or take a snowcoach or snowmobile tour into Yellowstone Park's winter wonderland of snowy bliss and steaming geysers. Activities and lodging information: [www.destinationyellowstone.com](http://www.destinationyellowstone.com)

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# Ennis school Christmas performance

Submitted by Stephen Ellis

Wintery weather greeted the audience last Monday and Tuesday as Ennis Schools music department presented their Christmas programs. The performers led by Jessica Allen and Andrew Scruggs were accompanied on the piano by Vicky Gordon and Sandi Pfau. A full house on Monday applauded the preschool through fifth graders. Incidentally, this is the first year the Ennis Community Children's School preschool students have been included in the school Christmas program.

The preschoolers had a delightful presentation of "Let's Go Riding" finally circling up while continuing to sing. In associated with the theme of the first Christmas in Ennis, the kindergartners sang "Carol of the Birds," an Irish Christmas carol. The first graders added with "Christmas for Cowboys"

while the third graders sang "Bells of Belfast." The skit unfolded with narration from Zack Foss, Megan Knack, Jeremy Mauch, Jackie Lukas, Jaylyn Jenkins, Wylie Connor and Megan Barnes. After the fifth grade band played "In the Bleak Midwinter" and "Jingle Bells" Santa arrived on the scene without a chimney, milk, cookies or reindeer! The Ennis Lions Club helped Santa distribute treats.

Tuesday evenings performance began with a trumpet featuring "Good King Wenceslas." Following the opener, the audience was delighted by two saxophone solos played by Rebekah Cook.



Her smooth, beautiful playing on "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "Away in the Manger" was especially pleasing. The sixth grade band also played a rendition of "Up on the Housetop" and an arrangement called "Festival of Lights." The concert choir sang "My Favorite Things," "White

Christmas," "Little Drummer Boy" and "The Ukrainian Bell Carol." The concert band presented arrangements of "Ding Dong Merrily on High," "Silent Night," "Believe" from the movie the "Polar Express" and concluded with "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

## Through the WINDOW OF THE ARCHIVES

By Evalyn Batten Johnson

By the time he was 15 years of age he had lost both his parents and he and a younger brother set out for Missouri, where an older brother had for about five years been situated. Previously on coming to this country (he was of German heritage) he had secured an adequate education and continued learning the English language and started his journey in life as a very prominent and very successful businessman in the state of Montana and especially in Virginia City. His name was Henry Elling.

In the early 1860s he started west. Working in Denver, Colo., and Helena. In October of 1864 he arrived in Virginia City, bringing with him a stock of clothing and dry goods, which he freighted across the plains in an ox wagon. He did well and decided to return east to do business but wasn't successful ... he was broke. He returned to Virginia City permanently when he realized a great upsurge in profits in the dry goods and clothing business was beginning. He purchased the Elling Store on west Wallace Street and continued that for about five years. He then purchased Content's Corner at the corner of Wallace and Jackson which became the executive offices when Virginia City became the Capitol of Montana Territory.

About that time, Henry became involved in buying and selling gold and started in the banking business as gold was quite plentiful in

Virginia City at that time. The Elling Bank was located on west Wallace.

Henry married Miss Mary B. Cooley on July 20, 1870, and to this union seven children were born.

In 1875 and 1876 a magnificent home of stone was built at the far end of east Wallace Street. It's an elegant gothic home and a great number of parties were given at their home and a ballroom was added in the early 1900's.

The Ellings became a true part of Virginia City's history. He devoted his time to establishing stores and banking businesses of which were needed when Virginia City was at its most prosperous time.

When Henry arrived in Montana he had very little but he was not like so many others that came west. His enterprises were in many businesses that brought him both fame and fortune.

He was a stalwart Republican and he was mentioned for governor, but the magnitude and multiplicity of his businesses precluded his accepting the nomination.

In November of 1900 Henry Elling died. His wife Mary passed away in December of 1924, Christmas night, in Alameda, Calif., where she had lived for 10 years with her daughters Mrs. Thomas Hutt and Mrs. Harry Gohn. Both are buried at Hillside Cemetery in Virginia City.

Source: Dick Pace Archives and The Madisonian

**Ruby Valley Baptist Church**  
 Tony Shaw, Pastor  
 842-5602

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

One block behind IGA, Sheridan

**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  
 6 Blocks South of City Complex

Located in the heart of Madison Valley for the Hearts of Madison Valley

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**

The Church of Word and Sacrament  
 Visitors Welcome

Pastor Ken Stensrud

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

DEC. 16  
 6 pm Soup Supper  
 7 pm Advent Service  
 Christmas Eve Service 7 pm

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

**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

**THE BAHAI FAITH**

O ye Cohorts of God!  
 Praise be to God!  
 — that the Blessed Perfection hath freed the necks from the bonds and fetters and released all from the racial attachments by proclaiming.

"Ye are all the fruits of one tree and the leaves of one branch."

451-3923 or 1-800-UNITE  
 www.baha'i.org

**Madison County Episcopal Churches**  
 In full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Join Us for Sunday Worship!

<b>Trinity</b> Jeffers/Ennis 11:00 a.m.	<b>St. Paul's</b> Virginia City Sunday 9:00 a.m.	<b>Christ Church</b> Sheridan Sunday 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
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www.rvec.org  
 Prayer requests: 682-4788 843-5296 842-7713

# Find Fellowship With Us

**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

**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

**NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Your Local Assembly of God Church  
 114 N. Main, Sheridan  
 842-5845

Pastor Duane Deshner

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!

Christmas Eve candlelight service at 6 p.m. New Beginnings in Sheridan.

**GRACE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP**  
 In Association with The Conservative Baptists of America

SERVICE AT ALDER SCHOOL AT 10 AM WITH SUNDAY SCHOOL FOLLOWING

Christ-centered, Bible Based Teaching, Open Question Forum

Tel. 406-842-5915  
 Pastor Tom Luksha

# AREA SENIOR MEALS

**SENIOR MEALS, VIRGINIA CITY**  
 Winter Senior meals for Madison County Seniors 60 and over will be served at the Virginia City Cafe on Thursdays (through May 2016) from 11:30 am to 12:30 for \$3.50.

**DECEMBER MENU:**  
 Thurs, Dec. 10: Potatoes au gratin w/ ham, broccoli and roll  
 Thurs, Dec. 17: Meat loaf, mashers, gravy, roll

**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 Sandy at 842-7843 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.

**ENNIS MEALS ON WHEELS, ENNIS**  
**Tuesday-Friday 11:45 am to 12:30 pm**  
**Reservations 682-4422**

To help us plan, please call at least 24 hours in advance for meal delivery or if you plan to dine in.  
 Ennis Senior center, 315 W Main Street

**DECEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 31 MENU:**  
 Wednesday, Dec. 23: Pot roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, parsley carrots  
 Thursday, Dec. 24: Baked fish filet, rice pilaf, peas, apricots, dessert  
 Tuesday, Dec. 29 : Chicken parmesan, roasted potatoes, veggies, dessert  
 Weds, Dec. 30: Ham, scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots  
 Thurs, Dec. 31: Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, creamed corn, dessert

**King Crossword**  
 Answers  
 Solution time: 25 mins.

J	E	T	H	A	S	H	W	E	S	T	
A	P	E	A	R	I	A	A	K	I	N	
B	E	R	I	B	E	R	I	A	G	E	N
S	E	N	D	I	N	R	H	O			
			E	T	A	C	A	N	C	A	N
A	T	L	A	S	T	U	G	O	H	O	
B	O	I	L	T	U	T	C	H	E	N	
A	G	E	S	E	X	P	R	O	M	O	
B	O	N	B	O	N	I	R	A			
			A	S	S	N	I	M	B	U	S
E	A	S	T	P	A	G	O	P	A	G	O
B	L	O	C	O	D	O	R	I	L	L	
B	E	T	H	T	O	T	S	L	Y	E	

**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.  
 SUAZN - 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

# MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DISPATCH LOG

11/29/15 – 12/5/15 & 12/13/15 – 12/19/2015

**11/29/15**  
 Alarm – false in 500 Blk S Meadow Creek Road McAllister  
 Wildlife complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 24-25 Cameron  
 Lost or found property on Main St Ennis  
 Suspicious person/circumstance in 5600 Blk US Hwy 287 McAllister  
 Animal problem on Falcon Ln McAllister  
 Traffic complaint on Cemetery Hill Road Cardwell  
 Lost or found property in Virginia City  
 Suspicious person/circumstance on Main St Ennis  
 Trespassing complaint on Reel St Pony  
 Suspicious person/Circumstance on US Hwy 287 N Ennis  
 Medical aid in 200 Blk Comley Way Ennis

**11/30/15**  
 Accident with damage on US Hwy 287 MM 20 Cameron  
 Medical aid in 100 Blk Ballard Ln Ennis  
 Accident with damage in Alder area  
 Civil standby on W Wallace St Virginia City  
 Drug/narcotic Activity on Ballard Ln Ennis  
 Coroner call in Ennis  
 Accident with damage in Sheridan area  
 Public safety complaint on US Hwy 287 N MM 18 Cameron  
 Theft complaint in 100 Blk W Main St Ennis

**12/1/15**  
 Trespassing complaint on

Andren Ln Waterloo  
 Scam in Norris  
 Citizen assist in Sheridan area  
 Agency assist at Ennis  
 Lions Club Park Ennis  
 Disturbance in Cardwell  
 Accident with damage on MT Hwy 41 N MM 48 Silver Star  
 Suspicious person/circumstance on Bear Creek Road Cameron  
 Citizen assist on US Hwy 287 MM 47-48 Cameron

**12/2/15**  
 Fraud complaint on Novich Ln Twin Bridges  
 Animal problem on MT Hwy 287 MM 16 Nevada City  
 Theft at Ennis Fairgrounds Ennis  
 Citizen assist on E Main St Ennis  
 Suspicious person/circumstance in Virginia City

**12/3/15**  
 Wildlife complaint at Varney Road and MT Hwy 287 Ennis  
 Alarm – false on Eagle Rock Road McAllister  
 Coroner call on MT Hwy 41 N Silver Star  
 Identity theft complaint on US Hwy 287 Ennis  
 Citizen assist in 300 Blk Shining Mountains Road Ennis  
 Citizen assist on MT Hwy 41 MM 14 Twin Bridges  
 Dog complaint in 3800 Blk MT Hwy 287 Sheridan

**12/4/15**  
 Domestic dispute in 2200 Blk MT Hwy 287 Alder  
 Agency assist out of Madison County  
 Fire – vehicle outside

of Cardwell on I-90

**12/5/15**  
 Animal problem on US Hwy 287 Norris  
 Vandalism on Main St Sheridan  
 Wildlife complaint on Duncan District Road Sheridan  
 Traffic complaint on MT Hwy 41 S MM 15 Twin Bridges  
 Fire – smoke/investigation in 100 Blk Mill St Sheridan  
 Accident – no injury/damage on US Hwy 287 MM 17 Cameron

*The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 60 calls for service from Nov. 29 - Dec. 5.*

**12/13/15**  
 Missing person on Wisconsin Creek Road Sheridan  
 Animal problem on MT Hwy 287 MM 16 Nevada City  
 Animal problem on MT Hwy 287 MM 27 Sheridan  
 Wildlife complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 41 Ennis  
 Theft on Big Sky Resort Road Big Sky  
 Citizen assist on US Hwy 287 MM 27 Cameron  
 Theft in 400 Blk on W Hugel St Ennis  
 Threats/harassment on Wray St Twin Bridges

**12/14/15**  
 Traffic complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 59.5 McAllister  
 Accident – No injury/damage on MT Hwy 287 MM 1 Ennis  
 Accident with damage on MT Hwy 41 N MM 16 Twin Bridges

Civil Standby on W Wallace St Virginia City  
 Accident – No injury/damage on MT Hwy 84 MM 8 Norris  
 Accident – No injury/damage on MT Hwy 84 MM 1 Norris  
 Accident – No injury/damage on MT Hwy 87 MM 5 Cameron

**12/15/15**  
 Alarm in 100 Blk E Main St Ennis  
 Citizen assist in 100 Blk Jefferson St Harrison  
 Accident with damage on Jefferson St Harrison  
 Theft on Keltner Ln Twin Bridges  
 Accident with damage on MT Hwy 84 MM 4 Norris

**12/16/15**  
 Accident – No injury/damage on MT Hwy 191 MM 60-61 Big Sky  
 Accident – No injury/damage on US Hwy 287 MM 61 Norris  
 Medical aid in 4900 Blk US Hwy 287 N Ennis  
 Dog complaint in 100 Blk Mill St Sheridan  
 Dog complaint on MT Hwy 287 Ennis  
 Dog complaint in 100 Blk S Main St Sheridan  
 Road hazard on US Hwy 287 MM 51-52 Ennis  
 Public safety complaint on US Hwy 287 – Norris Hill McAllister  
 Citizen assist on US Hwy 287 Mm 59 McAllister  
 Accident – No injury/damage on US Hwy 287 MM 59 Norris

Missing person in Twin Bridges

**12/17/15**  
 Medical aid in 100 Blk Ennis St Ennis  
 Theft on Mill Creek Road Sheridan  
 Fire – controlled burn at Alder Dump Alder  
 Threats/harassment in 300 Blk W Wallace St Virginia City  
 Wildlife complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 42-43 Ennis  
 Accident with damage on US Hwy 287 MM 38 Cameron  
 Traffic complaint on US Hwy 287 MM 39 Cameron  
 Agency assist on MT Hwy 191 MM 54 Big Sky  
 Road hazard on MT Hwy 84 MM 1 Norris  
 Scam complaint in 200 Blk Two Bumps Road Ennis  
 Accident with damage in 100 Blk Waterloo Road Silver Star  
 Alarm in 200 Blk Ruby St Sheridan

**12/18/15**  
 Accident with damage on MT Hwy 84 MM 6 Norris  
 Road hazard on MT Hwy 84 MM 1 Norris  
 Medical aid in 100 Blk Pattee St Pony  
 Citizen assist on N Ennis Lake Road McAllister  
 Citizen assist in 200 Blk S Main St Sheridan  
 Road hazard at Jct of North-South Meadow Creek Road McAllister  
 Child custody dispute in Ennis  
 Accident with damage on

Spur Road Big Sky  
 Suspicious person/circumstance on Water St Sheridan  
 Accident with damage on Bradley Creek Road Norris  
 Fire – gas leak/odor at US Hwy 287 and Sterling Road Norris  
 Road hazard on US Hwy 287 MM 62 Norris  
 Suspicious person/circumstance in 800 Blk Mirza Way Ennis  
 Agency assist on Carney Ln Whitehall  
 Accident – no injury/damage on Pony-Harrison Road Harrison  
 Accident – no injury/damage on US Hwy 287 MM 71 Norris  
 Medical aid in 100 Blk Madison St Harrison  
 Disturbance on MT Hwy 287 Ennis

**12/19/15**  
 Medical aid on Potosi Road Pony  
 Accident – no injury/damage near Klute's Landing McAllister  
 Animal problem on US Hwy 287 N MM 73 Harrison  
 Alarm – false on Reel St Pony  
 Threats/harassment in 300 Blk W Fagin St Ennis  
 Accident with damage in 300 Blk E Main St Ennis  
 Accident – no injury/damage on MT Hwy 84 MM 3 Norris  
 Public safety MT Hwy 84 MM 6 Norris

*The Madison County Sheriff's Office responded to 80 calls for service from Dec. 13-Dec. 19.*

**ENNIS CONTINUING EDUCATION**

*is gearing up for Winter Classes!*

**REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>.**  
**CLASSES BEGIN MONDAY, JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> -- 8 WEEK SESSION**  
 (ONLINE, MAIL, OR IN PERSON) • ALL CLASSES \$20 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

**Insanity– High Intensity Exercise Class**  
 Monday & Tuesday | 6-6:45 am  
 Grade School Gym | Lacey Keller

**Yoga for Athletes**  
 Monday & Wednesdays | 6-7 am  
 Commons Rm | Cori Koenig

**Open Sew & Quilt**  
 Mondays | 4-7 | FCS Room #6  
 Kathy Olkowski & Jamie Diehl  
 Limited Space

**Beginning Yoga**  
 Mondays & Wednesday | 5:15-6:15 pm | Commons Rm | Ashley Nelson  
 Limited Space 10

**Fly Tying**  
 Mondays | 6-8 pm | ECW Rm# 12  
 John Way

**Advanced Vinyasa Yoga**  
 Tuesday | 5:15-6:15 | Commons Rm  
 Manu Redmond

**Be Strong Yoga**  
 Thursday | 5:15-6:15 | Commons  
 Manu Redmond

**Early Bird Yoga**  
 Tuesdays & Thursdays | 6:15-7:15 am | Commons Rm | Cori Koenig

**Buggy Barns Quilting**  
 Tuesdays | 4-7 | FCS Room #6  
 Kathy Olkowski  
 Limited Space 8

**Beginning Pickleball**  
 Tuesdays & Thursdays | 5-7 Multipurpose Room Grade School | Dan Olkowski & Cindy Gockel  
 Limited Space

**Beginning Welding**  
 Tuesdays & Thursdays | 6-9 HS Shop | Charlie Zitting  
 \$40 materials fee

**Hula Hooping**  
 Tuesdays | 6:45-7:45pm  
 Commons Room | Ashley Nelson

**Intermediate Knitting– Fix it Class & Knit to Warm Someone Cold**  
 Wednesdays | 5-7 | ECW Rm# 12 Kitty Donich | Limited Space

**Soaps for Home, Health and Beauty**  
 Wednesdays | 5:30-8:30 | FCS Room  
 Kay Gogerty and Guests  
 Materials fee TBA

**Cooking**  
 Thursdays | 5-6:30 pm | FCS Room  
 Jamie Diehl | \$40 Materials fee or \$10 a class to drop in

**Advanced Yoga**  
 Thursdays | 5:15-6:30 | Commons Room | Manu Redmond

**Intro to Mapping & Orienteering**  
 TBA | TBA | TBA | Tim Gogerty

**Wet on Wet Landscape Painting**  
 Thursdays | 7-9 | HS Art Rm | Jack Finley | \$188.25 Materials Fee, \$25 mate

**Lend a Helping Hand: Practical Skills for Family, Friends and Neighbors**  
 3 Thursdays, 1.28, 2.4, 2.11 | 7-8:30 | Room #19 Jr. High | Darci Sgrignoli

**ONE DAY WORKSHOPS (\$10 Each unless otherwise stated)**

**Feed a Bird: A Guide to Bird Feeding/Bird Feeders**  
 Monday, January 18th | 7-9 pm | HS Rm 5 | Marc Elser

**Planning Today for Eating Tomorrow (Gardening)**  
 Kaye Suzuki  
 Tuesday January 26, 6-9pm  
 Brown Bag Dinner

**Couples Yoga and Thai Massage Workshop**  
 Saturday, Feb. 13th | am | Jen Davies | \$20

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 and  
*Happy New Year*

*from all of us at*  
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# AROUND THE COUNTY

## Cell phones for soldiers in the Ruby Valley

Submitted by Doug Martin

American Legion Post 31 of Twin Bridges has been collecting used cell phones for the past three years. Once a year the used phones are taken to Malstrom AFB in Great Falls where they are sent to Cell Phones for Soldiers – a program that recycles phones for soldiers overseas.

Each cell phone is recycled and two and one half hours of calling time is given to a deployed soldier. The phones do not have to be in working order. With the holiday season upon us there should be quite a few old cell phones lying around. There are two drop off locations, the gas station in Sheridan and the market in Twin Bridges.

## K&L Mortuaries & Crematory, Inc.

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## SHERIDAN SCHOOLS ADULT EDUCATION

### BRAIDING CLASS

INSTRUCTOR KATE ALLDER

CLASS DATES ARE JANUARY 20 AND 21 • 6:00 TO 8:00 PM EACH NIGHT.  
CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO FIVE STUDENTS.

Japanese braiding class teaching the basics of creating an 8-strand braid in a wide variety of patterns and textures. At the end of the class the students will have created a braid to be used as a necklace cord. It is suggested that students bring a pendant they would like to hang from the braid. Braiding takes time so the class will require two sessions of at least two hours each. All materials will be provided.

Material list: braiding stands, weights, counter weights, threads, end caps, clasps.

MATERIAL COSTS: \$7.00/STUDENT

### VIKING CHAIN CLASS

INSTRUCTOR KATE ALLDER

THE CLASS WILL RUN FOR FOUR HOURS ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH STARTING AT 1:00 PM.  
CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO FIVE STUDENTS.

Learn to make a Viking chain bracelet by weaving wire around a mandrill and then stretching it to make it flexible. Material

List: Mandrill, wire, end caps, beads, clasps  
MATERIAL COSTS: \$8/STUDENT

### BEGINNING TO INTERMEDIATE QUILTING CLASS

THIS INCLUDES THE BASICS OF ROTARY CUTTING, PIECING, MAKING A QUILT SANDWICH, QUILTING AND BINDING.

IT WILL BE HELD AT LINDA DAY'S HOUSE, 123 INDIAN CREEK ROAD IN SHERIDAN ON JANUARY 9TH AND 16TH FROM 9-4. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL 842-5678.

You will need a sewing machine, thread and a walking foot. We will sew three blocks including a ribbon star, a log cabin and a pinwheel. The fee for the class is \$50. That will include the pattern, fabric and a beginning book. The class is limited to 5 students.

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

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DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> • 10:30-11:30

Musicians: Andrew Scruggs-cello  
Vickey Gordon-keyboard  
Barbara Pearson-violin

Please come and enjoy great coffee & conversation!

Maples Coffee will be closed Dec 24th, 25th  
Open 7:00-12:00 Dec 31st  
Closed Jan 1st

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Dr. Sarah Q. Kirkpatrick OD, F.A.A.O.

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# OUTPOSTEVENTS.NET

B10 Thursday, December 24, 2015

GO TO [outpostevents.net](http://outpostevents.net) FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS

## THURSDAY DECEMBER 24

**Christmas Eve candlelight service, Ennis**  
Please join us in celebrating the birth of Christ on Christmas Eve with a traditional candlelight service at the Madison Valley Presbyterian Church beginning at 7 p.m.

**Christmas Eve candlelight service, Alder**  
Grace Community Fellowship will be having a Christmas Eve candlelight service at the Alder School House at 6:30 p.m.

## MONDAY JANUARY 4

## GMO lecture, Virginia City

Come to the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center for a lecture about GMOs: What they are and why farmers and communities are standing up to them. Lecture will be presented by Chris Hardy and begins at 6:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY JANUARY 7

**Business after hours, Ennis**  
BAH hosted by Big Brothers - Big Sisters at the Gravestone Building from 5-7p.m. BAH is a free networking event open to chamber members and their guests.

## SATURDAY JANUARY 9

**Presentation, Ennis**  
Andy Thomas, Madison Valley Medical Center physical therapist, will discuss the parameters of PT and how it can help the general public. 11 a.m. at the library.

## SATURDAY JANUARY 16

**Chautauqua, Virginia City**  
The Elling House Arts and Humanities center in Virginia City will continue its popular tradition of hosting the Chautauqua program on Jan. 16, 2016, beginning at 7:30 p.m. There will be a potluck prior to the program, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Those interested in performing should call 843-5454.

## THURSDAY FEBRUARY 4

**Business after hours, Ennis**  
BAH will be hosted by Jon C. Goodman, CPWA, Independent Financial Partners and COPY That! Printing and Administrative Services at their offices in the North 40 Building from 5-7 p.m. BAH is a free networking

event open to chamber members and their guests.

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20

**Chautauqua, Virginia City**  
The Elling House Arts and Humanities center in Virginia City will

continue its popular tradition of hosting the Chautauqua program on Jan. 16, 2016 beginning at 7:30 p.m. There will be a potluck prior to the program, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Those interested in performing should call 843-5454.

## THURSDAY MARCH 3

**Business after hours, Ennis**  
BAH hosted by ERA Landmark - Arrow Real Estate from 5-7 p.m. BAH is a free networking event open to chamber members and their guests.

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

### MONDAYS

Info @ 685-3481

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

**TOPS, Ennis**  
Weekly weigh-ins are at 9 am. Meetings at 9:30 am. MVMC in downstairs conference room. Jeanne, 682-3299

### TUESDAYS

**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.

**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

**Ennis Arts Association, Ennis**  
Meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. ennisartsassociation.org

**MV Women's Club FIRST THURS OF EA. MONTH**  
NO meetings June, July or August.

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

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

### FRIDAYS

**Movie Night, Virginia City**  
Movie Night at the Thompson-Hickman Madison County Library Every OTHER Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. Please call 406-843-5346 to find out what is playing!

**Tennis, Ennis**  
9 a.m. til 2p.m., come play tennis at the Madison Meadows Golf Course. All levels welcome.

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

### WEDNESDAYS

**Tennis, Ennis**  
9 a.m. til 2p.m., come play tennis at the Madison Meadows Golf Course. All levels welcome.

**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.

**Open Sew, Ennis**  
Open Sew with the Quilt Guild- open to the public from 2-5pm at Madison Valley Public Library

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY

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

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



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## NORRIS HOT SPRINGS

### MUSIC THIS WEEKEND:

Fri 12/25 - Closed  
Happy Holidays!  
Sat 12/26 - Victoria Rose  
Acoustic Singer/Songwriter  
Sun 12/27 - Tom Catmull  
Original and Stolen Americana

### HOURS:

**Pool & Cafe (Sept - May)**  
Thurs-Fri-Mon: 4-10 pm  
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**ATTENTION MADISON COUNTRY CUSTOMERS OF DILLON DISPOSAL SERVICE:**  
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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

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Photo by Chris Leonard  
Cold day on the Madison River.

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CLOSED FRIDAY DEC 25TH  
WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL 2015 & WISH YOUR FAMILY FROM OURS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**MADISON THEATRE** 682-4023  
115 Main St., Ennis, MT  
Saturday, Dec. 26- Sunday Dec. 27 No movie showing on Dec. 25  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**  
**THE GOOD DINOSAUR (PG)**  
Friday & Saturday 7:15 pm Matinee Sunday 4:00 pm  
COMING SOON: CREED (PG-13), ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE ROAD CHIP (G)  
Evenings: Adults \$8 • Children (12 & under) \$6 Show time at 7:15 pm, Box Office opens at 6:30 pm  
Find us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/madisontheatreennis) at Madisontheatreennis [www.ennismovies.com](http://www.ennismovies.com)