

# The Madisonian.

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

MONTANA'S OLDEST PUBLISHING WEEKLY NEWSPAPER. ESTABLISHED 1873

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## Madison River Environmental Assessment plunge

By HANNAH KEARSE  
news@madisoniannews.com

The Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission will wait until August to consider the Madison River Environmental Assessment for public comment.

Community members around the Madison River voiced concerns about opening the discussion of potential river regulations amid the coronavirus pandemic. The FWC's decision was consistent with the governor's approach to communities during the pandemic. But disputes over the development of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks' Madison River Environmental Assessment preceded COVID-19.

"We need an insurance policy that protects biological health with management objectives," Montana Outfitters and Guide Association President Mac Minard said. "Biological objectives with parameters that are easily measured and monitored."

Minard shares a view with some stakeholders of the Madison River that FWP's proposed regulations are an overreach. He said that a management plan for monitoring the health of the river should come before implementing recreation regulations. But according to FWP Fisheries Director Eileen Ryce, the purpose of FWP's Madison River Environmental Assessment is to develop such a management plan.

"The purpose of this was not to regulate the river," Ryce said. "The purpose of this was to get the EA released for public comment."

FWC District Commissioner Pat Byorth said that the dialogue between the public and FWP begins with public comment. According to Byorth, public comment is the time for the public to make effective changes to the environmental assessment.

"Let the EA out so people can talk about it," Byorth said.

FWP's 2019/2020 online survey on the acceptability of various management approaches received over 7,500 responses. It was the most participated public survey regarding Madison River management.

Nearly all participants – residents, nonresidents, and commercial outfitters – agreed that the management goal of having

a healthy fishery, economic viability and diverse angling opportunities while reducing conflicts was important for the Madison River.

All surveyed groups agreed that the fishery's health was very important. Commercial outfitters surveyed the strongest on the importance of maintaining the ecological and economic benefits of the river. All surveyed groups marked that it would be unacceptable for commercial outfitter management and upper-river angler use management to be unlimited.

According to the environmental assessment draft, FWP interpreted non-commercial anglers' low marks of acceptability for no limits or restriction as wanting "to see change and active recreation management on the Madison River."

Surveyed resident anglers surveyed showed the most support on rest/rotation restrictions for social conflict management on the upper river. Residents favored capping non-resident anglers at 50% as an alternative management strategy for angler use on the upper river. Commercial outfitters surveyed all alternatives to outfitter, social conflict and angler use management on the upper river as unacceptable, with the exception of mild support for managing access sites.

"MOGA actually developed that concept, manning fishing access sites with ambassadors" Minard said. "People who had said they experienced conflicts, were overwhelmingly at fishing access sites."

Commercial outfitting and resident angler use have continued to increase in the last two decades. FWP reported angling pressure more than doubled on the upper-Madison River to 207,000 angler days from 2003 to 2017. Commercial outfitting trips, which usually cater to nonresidents, have grown as the number of anglers using the Madison River grows. But nonresident anglers remained at about 75% of the river use since 1982.

According to Minard, regulations should be directed toward the rapidly growing residential use. Commercial outfitters attract customers who tend to help stimulate the local economy. Tourism is Madison County's largest industry and the fishing industry contributes



PHOTO BY CAITLIN AVEY

## Ennis Fourth of July Parade canceled RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

By HANNAH KEARSE  
news@madisoniannews.com

Ennis Mayor Blake Leavitt will not sign the permit for the Fourth of July Parade.

The coronavirus pandemic created many obstacles for the parade, which attracts thousands of people to Main Street Ennis every year. The Ennis Chamber of Commerce pitched its plan for a safer parade to the Ennis Town Council June 11. But some perceived managing Ennis' largest and historically rowdy crowd as unrealistic. The inability to enforce social distancing and the lack of accountability for incomers outweighed the event's economic boom for Ennis.

"This is the hardest thing I've had to deal with," Leavitt said. "The whole COVID thing was cake compared to this."

As mayor, Leavitt has the executive power to approve or deny most permits in Ennis. He did not need the town commissioner's votes to deny the 2020 permit for the Fourth of July Parade. Some parade sponsors had backed out of the parade before the town council meeting. The Woman's Club declined the Grand Marshal position, 3Rivers Communications declined to be the honoree, and Madison Valley Bank's Peter T's Park along with several Main Street businesses would have closed if the parade proceeded.

"I applaud you taking your stance," ECC executive director Marshall Bettendorf said. "Thank you for making a decision. I think it's positive for the town to move forward."

According to the governor's directives for the second phase of reopening Montana's economy, "groups larger than 50 people should be canceled unless physical distancing can be maintained." The directive adds that plans for an event with more than 50 people should be consulted with local public health offices to implement adequate social

distancing. The Madison County Public Health Board postponed its decision on Ennis' Fourth of July Parade to June 16.

"They [the ECC] have to plan, and the health board kicked the can down the road," Leavitt said. "I'm a little disappointed in the health board. This wasn't a decision that was supposed to be on us."

Main Street Ennis bursts with thousands of spectators each year on Independence Day. Many local businesses have their most lucrative days around the event. Residents line the parade procession in truck beds and camping chairs. People cheer on family members and friends walking in the parade. American flags wave among the old cars and horse drawn wagons cruising down Main Street. Ennis transforms into a populated spectacle as thousands pour into the community to experience its creation.

"I support the decision of the town," Madison County Public Health Nurse Melissa Brummel said. "I have not received any plans that adequately included plans for social distancing."

Madison County and all but one neighboring county had zero active COVID-19 cases, with 7 cases currently in Gallatin County as of June 16. Rural communities with low COVID-19 cases have may have an advantage in the pandemic because of their low population density and geography.

Population density is one variable for high COVID-19 infection rates, not the only reason for rapid spread in populations, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data. But the potential for the virus to spread increases as people's movement increases.

"What I hear is residents wanting things to get back to normal," Ennis Town Commissioner Lisa Roberts said. "What normal looks like to me is our kids going back to in person teaching and our manor and hospital to be open and able to have visitors."

According to the CDC, people over 60

years old and people with certain health conditions are at a higher risk of becoming seriously ill from COVID-19 infection. Many Madison County residents fall into the high-risk population. About 40% of Madison County's population is 60 years old and older, according to Roberts.

"I don't want to alienate people who have been a part of this for years and years," Leavitt said. "I just don't think it's fair."

The ECC said that it will optimize on future events that bring sales to local businesses, including next year's Fourth of July celebration.

**"I applaud you taking your stance," Ennis Chamber of Commerce executive director Marshall Bettendorf said. "Thank you for making a decision. I think it's positive for the town to move forward."**

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PLUNGE continued from A1

a large chunk of the profit. "There is not one wild trout fishery in the world that can sustain a half-a-million angler days," Byorth said. "The Madison River is in uncharted territory. Exploitation is heavy and could cause a collapse." As a fish biologist, Byorth

said signs of fishery degradation have begun to show. The data is not conclusive but according to Byorth it raises some red flags. The Madison River is one the most biologically recorded wild trout fisheries, its records dating back to the late 1950s. Byorth fears that

if the fish population collapses, it will be very difficult to reestablish. "That's bull\*\*\*\*," Minard said. "I've rebuilt several successful fisheries." The Madison River Environmental Assessment was originally scheduled in April for the

FWC to consider its release to public comment. Byorth said he believed that the desire to avoid the public commenting process is so that a small number of people can control the dialogue. "It's a red herring," Byorth said. "A political advantage."

**MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS**

**Table 6. Alternative acceptability for various management approaches from 2019/20 online survey.**

Proposed Management Goal	Goal Importance (average score)		
	Healthy Fishery	Economic Viability	Diversity of angling experiences
	4.48	4.42	4.68
	3.28	3.69	4.29
	3.74	3.87	3.32

ALTERNATIVE COMPARISON BASED ON COMMERCIAL STATUS AND RESIDENCY	Alternative Acceptability (average score)			
	Non-commercial Residents	Non-Residents	Commercial Outfitters	
Commercial Fishing Outfitter Management	No Limits	1.65	1.88	2.61
	Cap # of outfitters at 2018 level	2.24	2.32	2.47
	Cap # of trips of outfitters at 2018 level	3.1	3.23	2.75
	Reduce number of trips below 2018	3.71	3.5	2.22
Social Conflict Management on Upper River	No restrictions	1.84	2.01	2.86
	Access Site social conflict mgt	2.5	2.66	3.19
	Rest-rotation	3.51	3.09	2.01
	Walk-wade	3.22	3.45	1.79
	Daily boat launch restrictions	2.92	3	1.88
Lower River Recreational Use Management	Status Quo	2.24	2.47	3.07
	Evaluate level of crowding and conflict	3.32	3.45	3.64
	Prohibit commercial use below Greycliff	3.19	3	1.61
	Preserve primitive nature below Greycliff	3.58	3.69	2.59
Angler Use Management on Upper River	No Limits	1.96	2.4	2.6
	Non-commercial use cap at 2018 level	2.43	2.66	2.7
	50:50 resident:non-resident cap	3.44	2.29	2.35
	Citizen's Day	3.11	2.11	2.11

Alternative acceptability (average score): 1 (Very unacceptable) to 5 (Very Acceptable)

Goal importance (average score): 1 (Very unimportant) to 5 (Very Important)

Survey results from the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks drafted Madison River Environmental Assessment.

# Madison County Planning Board's May meeting

LEE'S POOL SUBDIVISION PUBLIC HEARING TO OCCUR JUNE 29

By Keely Larson  
connect@madisoniannews.com

The Madison County Planning Board met May 26 to discuss conservation easements and review standard operating procedures. The Lee's Pool Subdivision public hearing will take place in-person, with a Webex offering, on June 29.

Three conservation easements regarding three properties were reviewed by the board. Under statute, the board only reviews and makes comments on easements, but does not make any binding decisions. All three easements were regarding agriculture and habitat preservation.

The Kalsta Ranch, near the Big Hole River, includes residences, ranch buildings and corrals. The proposed easement would allow for limited uses of the property, and remodeling or reconstructing residences.

Sauerbier Ranch I and II are owned by Dan and Janet Doornbos. The property in the vicinity of Alder involves a 308-acre portion. The other encompasses 7,697 acres and is located in the Sweetwater area. Wildlife include elk, antelope, deer and sage grouse. The easement would aid in protecting leks—nesting and forage sites for sage grouse.

"The planning board was very supportive of all three of them [the easements]. They think that they're a good contribution to the preservation of resources in the county," Alex Hogle, planning director, said. "This month, they [board members] wanted to focus a

little more on the general concept of planned unit developments (PUDs)," Hogle said in regard to board functioning.

The focus was on the process and relation of PUDs to subdivisions and other development plans. Now with a full board, 11 members, the range of experience varies. Hogle provided hypothetical examples for members to work through as a skill building component—prompts to help stimulate quick, constructive thinking.

The Lee's Pool Subdivision public hearing will take place on Monday, June 29, 6:15 p.m. at the Madison County Administration Office Building—103 W Wallace, Virginia City. The hearing will be conducted in the conventional, in-person manner, but video conferencing will be provided via Webex.

"Our Webex meetings have been well attended, but we did experience a few minor difficulties, and since the June meeting is an important one, we are anxious to be able to openly confer in a good public setting and follow the governor's plan and orders on social distancing," Pat Bradley, board member, said in an email.

Information regarding the subdivision may be found in a public notice in The Madisonian June 11 edition. Binders with additional information are located at the Ennis Library, the Madison County Administration Office Building in Virginia City and the Big Sky Fire Station #2.

Public comment and participation are encouraged.

**"Our Webex meetings have been well attended, but we did experience a few minor difficulties, and since the June meeting is an important one, we are anxious to be able to openly confer in a good public setting and follow the governor's plan and orders on social distancing,"**

**PAT BRADLEY, BOARD MEMBER, SAID IN AN EMAIL.**

Written comments should be received by 5 p.m. on June 29 and may be sent to the Madison County Planning Board by mail to P.O. Box 278, Virginia

City, Montana, 59755. Email to [planning@madisoncountymt.gov](mailto:planning@madisoncountymt.gov). Verbal comments may be given at the public hearing.

**Webex URL:** <https://madisoncounty.my.webex.com/madisoncounty.my/j.php?MTID=m28cca719cddc1ddf0e51eeb29a31394c>

**Meeting number:** 126 584 1336

**Meeting password:** VCMadison

**Join by phone:** 1-408-418-9388

**Access code:** 126 584 1336 #

**Numeric Meeting Password:** 826 234 76 #

# GRAYING PAINS

Opportunities & Challenges in the West's Oldest State

A MONTANA FOURTH ESTATE PROJECT

Montana is the oldest state west of the Mississippi, and demographic projections show the state growing collectively older as more Montanans enter their senior years. The economic, cultural, and personal impacts of that trend present the state and its residents with new challenges and, with those challenges, opportunities.

Graying Pains is a series of weekly stories and broadcasts exploring those challenges and opportunities in communities statewide. By investigating how other communities have responded to the issues raised by aging, Graying Pains hopes to point the way toward policies and innovations that can help Montana, and Montanans, improve with age.

The series is produced by the Montana Fourth Estate Project, a collaboration among 13 Montana newsrooms and the University of Montana School of Journalism under the auspices of the Montana Newspaper Association and the Solutions Journalism Network. See [montanafourthestate.org](http://montanafourthestate.org) for the collected Graying Pains stories and more information.

## MONTANA'S FAMILY FARMS AND RANCHES FACE UNCERTAIN FUTURE AS PRODUCERS AGE OUT

By NOLAN LISTER,  
Independent Record

The 68-year-old old poultry farmer pointed out the hen houses he built decades ago, providing details of each wooden tenement's residents.

Hugh Spencer built the hen houses and accompanying grain bins, which look like high-density housing for chickens, shortly after he and his wife, Viki, purchased the land in 1981.

Spencer's 48-week-old hens are kept in the northernmost house. The pullets (or young hens) are kept in the center house. The veteran, 90-week-old hens huddle together in the southernmost house.

Spencer makes the walk from his and his wife's stately home only a few miles north of Plains, collecting the fruit of his and his hens' mutual labor, three times daily. The eggs are sold under the Spencer's Valley View Farm label.

For health reasons, Spencer changes his boots before entering each hen house. While he may have given little thought to this precaution 20 years ago, he is quick to point out its importance now.

He mentioned "bio security" frequently. His main concern is not for his bottom line, but for the birds themselves.

"When they come in a day old, I'm up every couple of hours for the first few nights until they get completely settled in," Spencer said at a slow, deliberate pace. "You know, I pretty much live with them. It's a matter of, you know, give them the very best care you can."

He said it is important that his chickens live "a chicken life." That way of thinking about raising chickens is less common in today's corporate world. Poultry farms of Spencer's size — his farm is home to about 6,000 chickens — are rare birds in the United States.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2017 Census of Agriculture, there were 513 poultry farms with between 3,199 and 10,000 animals in operation across the country. There were just nine in Montana at that time.

Between 2012 and 2017, the USDA estimated the number of agriculture operations owned by either an individual, family or partnership in the U.S. decreased about 10%. The number of corporate-owned operations increased about 10%.

"That's the reality of egg production in the U.S.," Spencer said. "I'm the exception."

### Ag producers aging out

Spencer's career in poultry began on his eighth birthday. His father, a poultry farmer in upstate New York, gave him some chicks as a present. He has been raising birds ever since, the first 25 years of which were for fly-tying purposes only.

Years later, following a family

road trip out West, Spencer came to the realization he wanted to move to the Rockies.

Fast forward to 1981. Spencer and his Montana-born wife were among the first to close on one of the 80-acre parcels situated below Deemer Peak and above the Clark Fork Valley.

"Starting out as a young couple, being able to line up enough money to buy a farm can be tricky," Spencer said. "We figured out a way to do it."

They built a home, a successful business and a happy family. Spencer said the ability to work so closely with his wife and two children has been one of the best aspects of his career.

His wife also ran a daycare for the community while their children were younger.

But chasing children and chickens around 80 acres will always be a young person's game, and Spencer reluctantly admits as much.

"Ag has been a great living for us, a great way to raise a family," Spencer said. "If I were younger, I'd do it again."

The kids grew up and moved away to pursue other careers, and the gray-bearded farmer said he plans on retiring in two years. He hopes to sell the operation and move to Missoula to be closer to his grandchildren.

His only problem is the apparent lack of demand for a rural Montana poultry farm.

"I haven't had anybody beat down my door," he said.

He said large-scale corporations would not have much use for his land and facilities. He could probably sell to a land developer, but he would rather see the property that gave his family so much do the same for another upstart couple.

"I'd love to see it stay in ag," he said. "It's a quality of life you'd like to pass on. I think that's the best way I can put it: quality of life."

As an aging Montana aging agricultural producer, Spencer is in good company.

The USDA reported in 2017 that of the more than 3.3 million ag producers working across the country, 34%, or about 1.2 million, were 65 or older. More than 28%, or about 955,000, were between the ages of 55 and 64.

Montana-specific USDA statistics from 2017 show more than 47,000 ag producers working in the state, nearly 36% of whom are 65 or older, and more than 29% of whom are between the ages of 55 and 64.

More than half of all ag producers in the state are either past or close to retirement age.

Julia Haggerty, who teaches economic and human geography at Montana State University, said a number of reasons factor into the industry's aging trend.

"But two that I would point to are the trend toward individual properties becoming larger and individual operations needing less labor, which makes it possible and sometimes necessary for an individual owner to stick

around longer," Haggerty said. "And that is connected to and tied into challenges in transferring a property within a family, which can be economically challenging and fits within the challenge of recruiting young — what we call emerging — farmers and ranchers back to their property. So you get social and economic factors tied into that, and it contributes to an aging median age for farmers and ranchers in this state."

Just like Spencer, many Montana farmers and ranchers do not have children interested in taking over the family business, leaving little to no choice but to sell the land to developers or agriculture corporations.

Haggerty said there is a large contingent of aging producers who are opposed to selling out to corporations, and thereby depleting the state's access to locally grown and raised ag products. That group has demonstrated a commitment to bringing the next generation into the fold.

"In fact, many transitioning farmers and ranchers show that they're willing to do something else because they feel so strongly about keeping properties in agriculture and because they're committed to emerging producers," she said.

Another barrier preventing that passing of the torch is land prices. The USDA reports the average price per acre of farmland nationwide has risen nearly \$500 from 2012 to 2017.

The cost alone can be prohibitive for young producers.

### Connecting with young buyers

Missoula resident Ellie Costello grows vegetables she incorporates into soups that she sells. She also grows garlic and flowers. She has been growing the vegetables on other people's land, devising rental agreements with each landowner, which does not always work out well.

There is also a concern over infrastructure. Does the property have a wash house? Can she store the produce? Is there housing for her on the land, or will she have to continue renting in Missoula?

"It's those reasons that make me really want to invest in my own land, and I know that could look like a lot of different things," Costello said. "I don't have one specific 'this is the perfect plot for me' — perfect size, perfect location. It gives me more opportunities to say yes to something."

The young farmer said she was so desperate for her own land that at one point she nearly purchased a small parcel near Missoula with a cabin that smelled so strongly of rodent excrement that "you thought you should throw away your shoes when you were done being in there."

The cabin sits on about an acre of land near Clinton and would have cost her less than \$200,000, a modest enough price that Costello felt she could

carry the note by selling soup. But while she was researching ways to mitigate the cabin's many flaws and how best to fund those efforts, the property was sold.

"And that's my property that got away that somebody else purchased before I could get to it," Costello said.

Dave Renn is the Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Program director for the Community Food & Agriculture Coalition. CFAC is a Missoula-based, statewide nonprofit that, among many other endeavors, is attempting to connect landowners looking to transition out of the agriculture industry with emerging producers in need of land.

Renn said one of the biggest reasons for the disconnect is that land deals within Montana's agriculture industry often involve verbal contracts. For instance, so-and-so attends the same church as so-and-so, and they got to talking.

"Deals in agriculture tend to be a handshake," Renn said. "There's an element of trust involved."

CFAC and other nonprofit organizations, in an attempt to facilitate land deals between retiring producers and emerging producers, created Land Link in 2006. About six years ago, the program was moved entirely online and under the control of CFAC.

CFAC's website says Land Link has "provided a forum for many conversations between these parties and has helped many beginning farmers begin their land search. Think of it as a Craigslist for like-minded folks!"

The program initially focused solely on Western Montana, but has since been expanded to incorporate the entire state.

"We're focusing on trying to help people make connections now, but we also have one eye on the future," Renn said. "We see this aging group of operators that are going to retire. So we're also trying to build a foundation and have a useful tool ready to go when those farmers decide that they're ready."

In 2019, CFAC's Land Link program successfully helped broker five separate land deals.

"Prior to these five respondents who let us know they found land through our site, we knew of two matches over the preceding five years," Renn said. "That was all we had heard about, so really it's a big jump up for us. Five doesn't sound like that much, but we're really encouraged and excited to hear this is happening."

Costello, who previously worked for CFAC, said she has tried unsuccessfully to find land through Land Link.

"I haven't found tons of success in actually acquiring land through that site yet. I keep

actively looking at it," she said.

It is not the only resource Costello is tapping into. She said there are plenty available.

"There are a lot of resources out there, but you have to find out what they are, you have to figure out if they apply to you and if they apply to this particular situation, and then if and when you can access them, and then by the time you do all that, the money's gone," she said. "It's just hard to buy property. It's a hard thing to do."

Spencer is another user of CFAC's Land Link. He said he and his wife have just started the process of trying to sell Spencer's Valley View Farm.

While no one may be beating down his door just yet, he is confident his Land Link listing will do the trick.

"Somebody coming in wouldn't have to reinvent the wheel," Spencer said. "The wheel's already rolling and greased."

Until someone comes along to take the reins of Spencer's "turn-key operation," he will continue tending to his beloved hens.

As he plodded his way between hen houses, Spencer smiled at the egg empire he and his wife built from the ground up.

"If I was younger, I'd put up another hen house," he said.



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Safe and Sober rides for the Ruby Valley

By KEELY LARSON  
[connect@madisoniannews.com](mailto:connect@madisoniannews.com)

Bronwen Pfau bartended in the Ruby Valley for 15 years before beginning her taxi service now known as B's Safe, Sober Ride. During her bartending career at Chick's in Alder, she was asked to drive a sober vehicle during the day for a Cat/Griz game and continue through the evening for the bar's festivities.

"It was great, I had a great time. I really enjoyed it," Pfau said of that first experience.

This evolved from being a service offered on weekends or for special events to a constant. Pfau watched people die or go to jail because of drunk driving "way too much," and decided this was a way to help.

The trigger for consistency was Jacob Nate's death in 2018. Nate, just recently 21, died in a drunk driving accident in Sheridan.

Pfau filed Ruby Valley Taxi, the original name, as a business, became incorporated in June 2019 and received her nonprofit status at the beginning of this year. "It makes it so people can make donations to it and get a tax deduction. I have gotten a few small donations," Pfau explained.

A local fishing lodge owner paid the nonprofit application fee and Pfau applied for grants in February, just before the coronavirus hit. She has not received any grant



Picture from a Ruby Valley parade last year of the 1998 Ford Expedition, donated by Allhands Auto. PHOTO COURTESY OF BRONWEN PFAU

money from these applications, and needs to get some rolling, she said. "If anybody needs a tax donation, we sure could use the money."

Last summer, Pfau was evicted and her sole source of income was from her taxi service. She sold her other vehicles to make ends meet. "It's just life you know," Pfau said. Allhands Auto donated the Ford Expedition that Pfau uses today. Her first time shuttling for Chick's, Pfau rented a passenger van. Since then, she has been stuck in a snowbank in a rental car and did not want to deal with not having four-wheel drive anymore. "The valley's been very supportive," Pfau said.

She tries to be available in the valley between Virginia City and Twin Bridges from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. every night to take people to

and from bars or back to their car in the morning. In terms of payment, she accepts Square and Venmo along with cash.

The suggested donation is one dollar per mile, a third of a taxi company rate, Pfau noted. Suggested is the key word. "Anyone in the Ruby Valley who needs a ride home is getting a ride home," Pfau said. She also offers shuttle service to the Bozeman and Butte airports for \$100.

Occasionally, Pfau's four-year-old daughter Cora comes along for the rides. "It's actually pretty funny. She finds them to be a lot of fun," Pfau said.

The Ruby Valley has supported B's Safe, Sober Ride from day one, Pfau said, "and they're the reason I keep going"

Contact Pfau for a ride at 406-660-1839, text preferred.

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## ENNIS, MONTANA

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Editorials are intended to acquaint our readers with the Editor's viewpoints on matters of public importance. Guest editorials and letters from readers (Letters to the Editor) reflect the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or the staff of *The Madisonian*.

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•Content must be factual and objective.

•Content must not contain advertising language (such as "Thank you," "Congratulations," "call now," "to buy tickets for," "now showing,") or include pricing.

•Items of a general business interest are appropriate for advertising—see advertising policy and current rates.

•Content must not be derogatory to competing companies or organizations.

•Content may only be submitted and published once.

•There are no guarantees that press releases will be published.

•The *Madisonian* may edit submissions for grammar and content.

•The *Madisonian* reserves the right to make all determinations relative to the above policy.

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The *Madisonian* encourages the opinions of readers on public issues and matters of local concern. Letters must be close to 350 words, and author may only submit twice monthly. Please include the writer's name, address and phone number. *The Madisonian* reserves the right to edit

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# OPINION

## A fight against fear

Dear Editor,

Why do they keep going race, against race, against race? Why is it "black lives matter"? Why is it "all lives matter"? Because in the end, six feet down and in a box or spread across your favorite view, ashes is ashes and bone is bone. We take a situation and make it our own. We stand together in unsynchronized unison saying a name or saying a statement louder than we can comprehend. "Beat, beg, and barter," turns to

"beat, burn, and barred," and another statement left unstirred. We fight fire with fire, and water with water, but when will we fight good with bad, hand in hand? This isn't a fight against races, this isn't a fight for injustice. It's a fight. A bloody, burned, catastrophe where friendly fire turned into an everyday act of so-called justice. We act like we know when we don't. We act like the fear to leave the house is one sided. The fear to not come home is one sided. The fear of losing

someone is one sided. The loss of hope is one sided. But yet we turn a blind eye to the reality of others, standing on the low, middle, or high pedestal walking a parallel line with the people around us. We fight for things that will never end. Unfairness, fear, injustice. It will always be there, no matter how hard we try to stop it. But people don't see that we don't have to fight each other to stop things that cause us pain. We don't see that behind each battlefield, there's peace.

There's a place that everyone walks hand in hand, but for some reason we can't seem to make it across the battlefield to shake a different hand. When will we realize this isn't a fight against races, it's a fight against fear. A fight against injustice. A fight for fairness. When will we realize that place behind the main battlefield has just turned into another battlefield.

Kaya Fiedor  
McAllister, MT

## Educate yourself and do research

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to last week's opinion piece "Partisan politics" and would like to address several points. I am appalled and disappointed that the paper chose to run this piece, and that these points need to be addressed at all.

When the authors ask "What would happen if white people

did the same in black neighborhoods", they should read up on the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921 that left up to 300 people dead, 35 city blocks ruined, and no repercussions for the white perpetrators. When they suggest that there's a "racist agenda to wreak havoc on the white population" they fail to recognize that racism is a system of advantage built on race, and that system is designed

to keep the white population in power. This statement is blatant white supremacy and has no place in a just society. Human rights are not pie (American or otherwise), and more for someone else doesn't mean less for you.

I implore you to take this as an opportunity to educate yourself and do some research. Google "what is anti-racism".

Read an article by a Black author. Watch a movie by a Black director. Listen to a podcast by a Black producer. Being non-racist is not enough - it's time to be actively anti-racist.

Sincerely,  
Emily Hayes  
Ennis, MT

## A time to reflect

Dear Editor,

Clearly, this is a difficult time for all Americans. In a recent letter, Marc and Patricia Dingfelder take turns misrepresenting the facts of a brutal killing that has impacted the entire world. The opening statements blaming the riots resulting from that incident on "a permissive society gone rampant" lacks clarity, because no one can be sure at whom they're pointing the finger. They denounce "the roving gangs of liberal thugs, called ANTIFA,"

but those mobs exist only in the minds of conspiracy theorists and radical talk show hosts. ANTIFA is not an organized entity... it's merely a philosophy, like neo-con or progressive. It stands for "anti-fascist" and dates back to civilians opposing Mussolini and Hitler, but it never gained impetus or structure. There is not a shred of evidence to support that claim - in fact, as of this date (June 10), of the 51 defendants being held by federal authorities following those incidents, not one has been positively linked to

ANTIFA or any organized group.

Mr. & Mrs. Dingfelder bluster on effusively, denigrating George Floyd - a man who was brutally killed and being mourned that very day. They dwell on his imperfect past and speculate on the cause of death when official autopsies and numerous videos make it clear that he was "asphyxiated from extreme pressure."

No rational person is endorsing the looting or rioting, but all Americans should applaud the tens of thousands - hundreds

of thousands worldwide - who protested this atrocity and were met with unprecedented military force. The incident in Lafayette Square wherein our president used massive police and military force against our own citizens for the sake of a photo op, to the sole purpose of self-aggrandizement - was inexcusable and mind-numbing. Like most Americans, I'm having trouble trying to justify that.

Walt Long  
Virginia City, MT

## We are better than this

First and foremost, I would like to recognize The Madisonian and its staff for staying true to the First Amendment and allowing the free speech of the Dingfelders to appear in the June 11 edition of this paper.

I have written, edited, and

deleted so many versions of this letter I have lost count. Anger, fear, bias, hate and disgust are good motivators for a letter to the Editor, but as evidenced by the Dingfelders letter these motivators will never produce acceptable results. The Ding-

felders letter is utterly disgusting and downright shameful!! It is racist and rife with hate filled statements that serve no purpose other than to inflame an already divided populace.

The Dingfelders are entitled to their opinion, but as Daniel

Patrick Moynihan said: "Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not his own facts."

Ennis, WE ARE BETTER THAN THIS!!

Kaye D Suzuki  
Ennis, MT

## A look into studies

Dear Editor,

In a recent letter to the editor we are told about "...continued killings of black people by white people...". The letter then jumps to a generalization that many do not have adequate health care, education or economic opportunity. The writer worries democratic institutions, elected leaders, some courts and police departments turn a blind eye to the Constitution. This leads the writer asking you to support the ACLU and Let America Vote. The ACLU broke over 100

years of tradition and history in 2018 when they actively began to support political candidates, 99.9% of whom are in only one party. The other group is staffed and supported by the same party as the ACLU. These are political agents supporting the gain of political power, not free and honest elections by citizens.

In addition, two new studies refute the "continued killing of black people by white people." One from Harvard and one from Michigan State University and The University of Maryland, using data showing every single

police killing since 2015. Both studies were peer reviewed and concluded that police officers of any race were not killing blacks preferentially. Indeed, a black offender was more likely to be killed by a black officer than a white one. As to whites killing black people on the whole, FBI statistics show 93% of black homicide victims were killed by other blacks.

Yes, black Americans have been disadvantaged. Daniel Patrick Moynihan in 1965 (Department of Labor Moynihan Report) identified many causes, especially

out-of-wedlock births and the breakup of the black family. These problems are worse now despite political solutions over 60 years. I agree with Dr. Shelby Steele from the Stanford University's Hoover Institution that no number of social programs can help until the Black Community and their leaders work on the institution of marriage. Let's start now to support that solution.

Bob Williams  
McAllister, MT

**Editor's note:**  
The Madisonian does not endorse the viewpoints or statements of those who submit letters to the editor.

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## Disappointed in article

Dear Editor,

I was disappointed in the article "Timing: Madison River Environmental Assessment," in the June 11 paper. A reader who isn't already familiar with the years-long conversation about regulating the river wouldn't glean any information from your article. Instead, readers were offered a surface-level he said/she said that only quotes two people and completely trivializes the

topic.

The issue at hand is more complicated than Fish, Wildlife and Parks bringing a draft EA before the commission on June 12. I would hope our local paper would take the time and put in the effort to unpack the history of how this EA was developed, and why many in the community are concerned about how this process has unfolded.

I was also taken aback by an unattributed claim that "most

agree that social conflicts are deteriorating the Madison River experience and should be regulated to a degree." For a paper that strives to be unbiased, claiming most people feel a certain way seems reckless, especially without citing any data.

This article was an uninformative piece that didn't address the content of the draft EA, which seems like a gross oversight. For your readers to learn and make informed opinions

about this issue (which is hugely important for Madison County), I think a thorough look at the document and the process that created it is important. I would also go so far as to say it is imperative to represent a much greater variety of stakeholders and voices when reporting on this issue.

Thank you,  
Abigail Dennis  
Ennis, MT

# OBITUARIES

## Samuel John Korsmoe



Samuel John Korsmoe passed away May 17 while hospitalized



at the Madison Valley Medical Center after a long illness of

pulmonary fibrosis and sudden cardiopulmonary arrest.

Sam was born in Poplar, Mont., attended school in Poplar and graduated in 1947. He was an honor roll student and participated in every sport as well as helping his father, Soren, run the farm. Sam attended Montana State, now named MSU, and graduated with a degree in civil engineering in 1951. Sam and Elena were married Dec. 27, 1952 in Los Angeles. His first job was with Chicago Bridge & Iron in Salt Lake City. His second job was with the Atomic Energy Commission at Los

Alamos, New Mexico. In 1956, his father died and we went back to Montana to farm in the Great Falls area for a few years. He returned to his profession and was the structural engineer for Page Werner & Partners in Great Falls, Mont. until the late 80s. We then retired and lived in Phoenix, Ariz. until 1997, came back to Montana and found a lovely home on the golf course in Ennis in 1998. Sam worked summers at Ennis RV (back to his beloved working with soil) and Elena returned to teaching as a sub in Ennis schools. Sam got involved with the food

bank in Ennis, as he had been in Phoenix, played golf and our greatest joy was watching and cheering our 13 grandchildren in sports, music, theater and art. Sam is survived by Elena, his wife of 67 years in Ennis; Roberta and Darrell McKay in Ennis and their children, Mandy and Joey in Bozeman; Samantha in Australia; Elena and Dan Fox and daughters Ayla and Maja in Marysville, Wash.; Teresa and Roger Trang in Nashua, and Matthew in Helena; and Jessie and Taylor in Nashua and Glasgow, Mont.; Jeanette "Bunny" and Dennis Boyd in

Reno, Nev. and Sam in Vietnam, summers in Ennis and his son Colter in Ennis; Mary and Mike Hillenius and Molly in Bozeman and Miranda in Los Angeles; seven great grandchildren and two more expected. Plans for his celebration of life are for August 15 with the planting of a memorial tree in Ennis RV. His family is grateful for the care he received at the Manor from Feb. 11 to May 13. On May 14, his doctors moved him to the hospital where the excellent care continued and his family was with him to the very last.

## John "Randy" Green May 23, 1951 to June 12th, 2020

John "Randy" Green left this life on June 12th, 2020 after a months' long battle to recover his health following emergency surgery in March. He was born in Salamanca, N.Y. on May 23, 1951, where he finished his public school years. He served

in the US Army, spending nearly 3 tours with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. He started his higher education while in the Army through the University of the Americas and completed 2 Bachelor's degrees and a Master's Degree at

Colorado University in Boulder, Colo. Randy was in the construction business for nearly 40 years, building everything from high-rise and other commercial buildings to log homes to sheds in Colorado, Utah, Nevada and Montana. He loved to play

baseball and played baseball and softball until he was 40. He also hunted and fished most of his life. He was preceded in death by his parents Bernard and Phyllis (Perry) Green, sister Janice Green and sister-in-law Karen Claassen. He is survived

by his wife Kathy Carpenter Green of Ennis, Mont., stepsons Kenneth Claassen and Josh Claassen of Ada, Okla. and mother-in-law Beverly Claassen of Ennis, Mont. We are very grateful for the great care Randy received at the Madison

Valley Medical Center and The Billings Clinic Hospital. He will be missed by the many people whose lives he touched. We look forward to the time we will all be together for eternity. There will be no services due to the virus shutdown.

## Dorothy (Garrard) Dougherty November 6, 1927 to June 5, 2020



Dorothy passed away at Madison Valley Manor June 5, 2020. She was born to Fritz and Vera (Sweetland) Garrard on November 6, 1927 in Havre, Mont. She graduated from Park County High School in Livingston in 1945. Dorothy was a Home Economics major, attending Montana State College in Bozeman from 1945 to 1948.

Dorothy married David Dougherty June 27, 1948 in Livingston. They had three children, Dwight, DiAnne and Dawn. They lived in Ennis from 1950 to 1960, spent one year in Portland, Ore. and moved to Seattle, Wash. where they lived for about 25 years. After retiring from the Seattle area, Dorothy and David returned to their home in Ennis

that they had kept all those years. Dorothy loved dancing, swimming, tennis, walking and traveling to many of our State or National Parks. She was preceded in death

by her parents, her sister Vera Irene, husband David, and daughter DiAnne. She is survived by her son Dwight (Linda) Dougherty, daughter Dawn (George) Blackshire, four grandchildren Den-

nell, Joel, Damotra and Dmitri, and one great grandchild Evan. Thank you to everyone at Madison Valley Manor for their excellent care and compassion. There will be a celebration of life at a later date.

# MADISON COUNTY DISPATCH

In areas with low cell phone coverage, you can now text 911 in case of emergency.

### May 31, 2020

- Citizens were assisted in Sheridan and Ennis.
- A coroner was called in Sheridan.
- Suspicious circumstances were reported in Ennis.
- An accident occurred in Sheridan.
- A traffic complaint was made in Sheridan.
- An animal complaint was made in Twin Bridges.

### June 8, 2020

- Suspicious circumstances were reported in Sheridan.
- A public safety complaint was made in Alder.
- Citizens were assisted with a power outage in Sheridan.
- A theft complaint was made in Ennis.
- A wildlife complaint was made in Alder.
- Ambulances were called in Sheridan.

### June 9, 2020

- Ambulances were called in McAllister and Sheridan.
- A trespass complaint was made in Sheridan.
- A welfare check was performed in Sheridan.
- A traffic complaint was made in McAllister.

### June 10, 2020

- A welfare check was performed in Ennis.
- A wildlife complaint was made in Sheridan.
- A citizen was assisted in McAllister.
- An ambulance was called in Cameron.
- Underage drinking occurred at Revenue Flats.
- An accident occurred in Twin Bridges.
- An accident occurred in Harrison.

- Lost/found property was reported in Sheridan.

### June 11, 2020

- An ambulance was called in McAllister, Twin Bridges and Ennis.
- A citizen was assisted in Ennis.
- A traffic complaint was made in Silver Star.
- Animal complaints were made in Ennis, Silver Star and Alder.
- Suspicious circumstances were reported at Red Mountain Campground.

### June 12, 2020

- A citizen was assisted in Ennis.
- An animal complaint was made in Twin Bridges.
- Wildlife complaints were made in McAllister.
- An accident occurred in Twin Bridges.
- Lost/found property was reported in Sheridan.

### June 13, 2020

- Fire calls due to high winds and down power lines occurred in McAllister, Silver Star, Twin Bridges and out of county.
- A traffic complaint was made in Twin Bridges.
- Vandalism/criminal mischief was reported in Silver Star.
- A citizen was assisted in Ennis.
- A tree was down on a road in Melrose.
- An accident occurred in Ennis.

The Madison County Sheriff's Department responded to 122 calls for service between June 7-13.

## TO OUR READERS

# Tummy churning times

THE IMPORTANCE OF CONVERSATION

One of my former employers had a saying that stuck with me. I've used it repeatedly as a parent, wife, coach and employer through the years.

"If your tummy ain't churning, you ain't growing."

Well, our collective tummies are churning now, as evidenced by the weight of The Madisonian's Opinion page, if nothing else. I felt it encumbant upon me, in my role as Editor, to weigh in on the importance of honest

conversation in helping to move society through turbulent times.

As a community, we are facing many important conversations right now—to name just a few—the environmental assessment of the Madison River, our economy, the 4th of July parade, racial tension, to don a mask or not?

Conversation is not merely waiting politely for your turn to talk. Conversation demands a willingness to listen, to

consider, to allow "your tummy to churn." Honest conversation does not by any means dictate agreement, but perhaps requests a moment for allowing yourself to consider that everybody has a story.

Thank you for conversing through The Madisonian. We value these tummy churning times and the people in the communities impacted by these times. Continue the conversation. Churn baby churn.

All the best,

*Cori Koenig*

Editor  
The Madisonian

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# Ennis Arts Festival canceled; scholarships awarded

Submitted by JAN BEEKMAN, EAA

At a meeting of the Ennis Arts Association on June 8, 2020, the members in attendance at Lion's Club Park reluctantly voted to cancel the 25th annual Madison Valley Arts Festival, scheduled for August 1, 2020 in Peter T. Park. It is rescheduled for Saturday, July 31, 2021. The 48 artists who have been juried in received a letter explaining they are automatically entered in the 2021 Festival without need for further jury process, as long as their entrance fee is received by the 2021 deadline.

In other news, the EAA rejoices in the privilege of awarding art scholarships to two local recipients:

Logan Crowley of Ennis received the \$1500. EAA General scholarship as an Ennis High alumni who is

continuing her education at MSU in the area of Graphic Arts. She received an EAA scholarship as a graduating senior last year as well, and has completed year one with excellent grades and references.

Avery George, graduate of Twin Bridges High School, was selected as the recipient of the \$1000. Kim Tolotti Memorial Scholarship. Avery will attend Flathead Valley Community College with a major in culinary arts. Her interest in and experience with digital photography was a factor in her selection. Kim Tolotti, a formerly active member of the Ennis Arts Association who died last year after a brave battle with cancer, was an avid photographer. Her memorial scholarship was made possible by donations from Kim's family and friends.

Congratulations, Logan and Avery!



Avery George



Logan Crowley



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# Colonel James Wilkins to be promoted to Brigadier General

Submitted by MONTANA NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Colonel James Wilkins was promoted to the rank of brigadier general on June 13, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. in a closed ceremony held at Fort Harrison, Mont.

Wilkins serves as the Director of the Joint Staff for the Montana National Guard. "It is an honor and privilege to be a part of the leadership team of the Montana National Guard. This position is vital in ensuring that the Montana Guard Soldiers and Airmen are supporting the people of Montana and the Nation as a whole, whatever the mission or requirement," said Wilkins.

An Ennis native, Wilkins began his career as a Montana State University ROTC Graduate in 1990 with a degree in Construction Engineering.

He attended the U.S Army Flight School immediately following graduation and served on active duty from 1991-1998. During his active duty tenure, Wilkins flew a variety of aircraft to include rotary and fixed wing. In 1998, he left active duty and joined the Montana Army National Guard where he continued his aviation career flying UH60 Blackhawks and the C-12 fixed wing airplane, logging over 2600 flight hours.

Wilkins continued his career in the Montana National Guard and became a full-time employee in 2001. He has held numerous key leadership positions in the Montana National Guard with positions in the 1-189th General Support Aviation Battalion as the Operations Officer, Executive Officer and Battalion Commander. He also served as the 95th Troop

Command Operations Officer and Troop Command Brigade Commander. In 2015, Wilkins attended the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base and graduated with a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies. Upon his return to Montana he served as the State Army Aviation Officer for Montana until his new assignment as the Director of the Joint Staff.

Wilkins deployed three times in support of Operation Desert Spring, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Spartan Shield as the Aviation Task Force Commander.

He and his wife Katie reside in Helena, MT and have 5 children:

Chase, Grayce, William, Noah and Jameson.

The ceremony will be available for viewing live on the Montana National Guard Facebook site.



Colonel James Wilkins. PHOTO COURTESY MONTANA NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

## Reminder: income taxes due July 15

Submitted by Sanjay Talwani, MT Dept. of Revenue

As Montanans look forward to summer, the Montana Department of Revenue has a reminder: Federal and state income taxes are due July 15. "Montanans have handled

a lot in these past few months, so I thank all those who have already filed their returns," said Gene Walborn, director of the Department of Revenue. "For those who haven't, this is a good time to make sure you have your tax information available and find any help you

may need to file." Filing electronically is the easiest and most secure way to submit your return, and is the quickest way to receive any refund due. This year, the department has a new way for Montanans with simple taxes to file their

state income tax returns online, quickly and for free. MT QuickFile is now available for Montanans who:

- Were full-year Montana residents in 2019;
- Only have income documented on W-2, 1099-DIV or 1099-INT forms;

- Are filing as single, head of household, or married filing jointly;
- Are taking the standard deduction;
- Are not claiming any tax credits (other than the Elderly Homeowner/Renter Credit.)

Montanans who meet all

these criteria should check if they can use MT QuickFile, available at [MTRevenue.gov](http://MTRevenue.gov). To avoid delays in receiving refunds, all Montanans should keep their mailing address current with the department. For more information, visit [MTRevenue.gov](http://MTRevenue.gov).

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**Ron Gay**  
SALES ASSOCIATE  
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**Frank Colwell**  
BROKER  
406.596.1076

**GRIZZLY BEAR LOOP, WEST YELLOWSTONE**  
\$485,000 | #345013

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- Located on the south edge of Hebgen Lake Estates
- A large heated garage with a shop

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# Montana State University honor rolls for spring semester 2020

Submitted by MSU NEWS

There are two MSU honor roll lists, the President's List and the Dean's List. To be eligible for the lists, students must have earned at least 12 college-level credits. This honor roll list was current as of June 11 and includes all registration corrections or grade changes processed to that date.

**The 2,439 students with a perfect 4.0 grade point average for the semester were named to the President's List. An asterisk (\*) follows their names.**

The Dean's List includes the 4,067 students earning grade point averages of 3.5 or higher for the semester.

**Montana students named to MSU's President's or Dean's lists, ordered according to their hometowns, follow.**

**Big Sky:** Kate Buckingham, Clare Cawthon, Alexander Chovanes\*, Daniel Fowley, Eloise Gitchell, Rose Hewitt\*, Rowan Merryman, Christopher Samuels\*

**Cardwell:** Courtney Adorni

**Ennis:** Davis Blair, Charles Buus, Charles Gilmore\*, Jurgen Haenke, Joree Hokanson, Katherine Jones, Caitlin Klatt, Jourdain Klein, Emmett Lingle\*, Nacole Martello\*, Hayden Morgan, Jarrod Nye

**Harrison:** Riley Sabo, Jonathon Strong

**McAllister:** Cole Crowley, Logan Crowley\*, Brand Morgan

**Norris:** Erin Brush\*

**Pony:** Jack Chater, Allison Larock\*

**Sheridan:** Brittini Barnosky\*, Austin Brentlinger, Tyler Haag\*

**Twin Bridges:** Ayden Anderson\*, Madison Baughn, Sierra Frandsen\*, Rachael Nye, Kjersten Sandru

**Virginia City:** Ryan Smart

# 29 YEARS!



Opportunity Bank of Sheridan hosted an open house retirement party on Friday, June 12 to celebrate Paul Kramer's 29 years of commitment to the banking industry in the Ruby Valley. Kramer joined the bank in 1991. PHOTO COURTESY ROBIN BIEROTH

## MAHALO SOUTH WEST MONTANA!!!

Bill & I would like to take this Opportunity to Thank Our Guests, Staff, Families, Local Communities, Private Donors, Area Businesses, as well as State & National Entities that have assisted us NOT only thru Financial but Moral & Emotional Support during the Recent COVID-19 Closure.

We are truly fortunate to have had such a strong network that kept us going thru these troubling times. We are humbled by the generosity & outpouring of 'Kako'o & "Aloha Spirit" we have received & look forward to greeting all of you as we reopen our doors, once more!

*Mahalo Nui Loa & with Much Aloha,  
Paula & Bill Kinoshita*

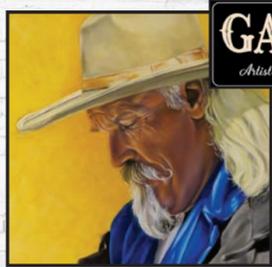


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Toni Bowen 570-9233

# Voice your opinions about healthcare in the Madison Valley Hospital District Health Survey

Submitted by BAILEY GREENWELL

Community members in the Madison Valley Hospital District and surrounding areas may soon be receiving a survey in their mailbox. This survey will be sent to a random sample of homes and will help Madison Valley Medical Center identify health services needed in the community. This information will be used for strategic planning, grant applications, new programs and by community groups interested in addressing health issues.

The Montana Office of Rural Health is assisting the hospital in an analysis of local community needs, use of local healthcare services and overall community health. This process was developed to maintain quality healthcare to serve the continuing and future needs of the community.

The community health needs assessment process promotes healthcare as a local affair. Citizens of rural counties can take responsibility for the health of their community by completing the survey they receive in their mailbox. Most communities face a large number of complex issues in addressing the health and wellness of their residents, but fortunately, Madison County can engage in effective problem-solving, which is the most important factor in the survival of rural health services.

An accompanying goal of this process is to keep healthcare dollars within the local community. While the vast majority of healthcare can be provided locally, rural residents often drive to large medical centers for care, spending money on healthcare and non-health care purchases that could be spent locally. It is estimated that within a typical rural community, millions of dollars of revenue is lost in this way. This revenue could be retained in the local community with stronger community-healthcare provider linkages.

Madison Valley Medical Center's services include a certified Trauma Receiving Center with Tele-Stroke and Crisis Response, Inpatient and Transitional Care, Rural Health Clinic with Integrated Behavioral Health, Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy, Cardiac and Respiratory Rehabilitation, Imaging services including Mammography, Ultrasound, CT, MRI and Laboratory services.

"The community health needs assessment is an essential tool in evaluating the effectiveness of our current medical services and in determining what other services are needed in our community," states Allen Rohrbach, Chief Executive Officer, Madison Valley Medical Center.

"We are pleased to be able to bring some of the best community health resources to the Madison Valley Hospital District. The goal of this initiative is to assist forward-thinking rural hospitals and communities in aligning their resources, to address their present and future needs in the best way possible," said Natalie Claiborne, Assistant Director, Montana Office of Rural Health.

For more information contact: Bailey Greenwell at 406-682-6610 or by email at bailey@mvmedcenter.org



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The Ruby Valley Relay for Life took an informal flavor this year. Despite the coronavirus, participants of all ages, showed their support for the fight against cancer on Saturday, June 13. PHOTO COURTESY JACK BIELER

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**MADISON COUNTY WEATHER**

**Thursday**



Except for a few afternoon clouds, mainly sunny. High 76F. Winds SSW at 10 to 20 mph.

**Friday**



Considerable cloudiness. High 81F. Winds SSE at 15 to 25 mph.

**Saturday**



Sunshine and clouds mixed. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. High 73F. Winds S at 15 to 25 mph.

**Sunday**



Rain showers in the morning with scattered thunderstorms arriving in the afternoon. High 61F. Winds SW at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 60%.

**Monday**



Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 69F. Winds SSW at 10 to 20 mph.

Quote of the Week:

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## Dr. Maura and Dr. Marks

THOUGHTS ON THE PAST FEW MONTHS

*“Every crisis is a learning opportunity, and we’ve learned a lot,”* DR. MARKS SAID.

By KEELY LARSON  
connect@madisoniannews.com

Madison Valley Medical Center (MVMC) had a couple COVID-19 cases early as the coronavirus hit Montana. A nurse tested positive within the first two weeks. The team at the hospital shifted gears immediately—changing how they moved people through the hospital, wearing masks as part of a daily practice and stopped seeing extra patients to limit exposure.

Dr. Maura Davenport and Dr. R.D. Marks are not fans of the masks. Dr. Marks said it brings out his ‘grouch factor.’

“I think since then we’re kind of just trying to get people back in the door and working on treating all the things that people didn’t come in for when COVID was kind of a big deal,” Dr. Davenport said.

It is a big deal, she recognized, but it ended up not being a big deal in Ennis. Initial cases created a sense of urgency that allowed the hospital to prepare. “I think we’re ready if it does come. We spent a lot of time getting ready. We did a really good job with that and so I think now we can easily transition back to being ready for when it does show up,” Dr. Davenport said.

Dr. Marks called society’s and the government’s jump onto the same train the Pied Piper effect, a jump prompted by a fear reaction, he reckoned.

“I think we jumped right into social isolation and we didn’t take into account what happens to people when they socially isolate. I’m seeing two or three patients a day right now for depression and anxiety related to not being around people, financial concerns,” Dr. Davenport said.

“We’ve had people not come to the hospital and get really sick or die at home. The nursing home, appropriately, is not letting anyone in the building and we’ve had an uptick in mental health there, too,” she continued. “We didn’t think about it when we did it, and I think we’re dealing with the consequences of that right now.”

The doctors saw the jump and the fear factor as characteristics that made this virus response different. Doctors know how to treat respiratory viruses, know how to work with personal protective equipment and know how to work with contagious diseases.

Fear made this different, they said, and from where did it stem?

“You want to point a finger...” Dr. Marks said, an index finger at the reporter in the room.

“When the only thing you can read in the news is this news about COVID it sort of takes your focus and always keeps your focus on this thing that is going on that may be part of your life, but probably won’t be. I think that keeps everybody’s fear going,” he said.

A patient at MVMC was sent to a bigger hospital for a pulmonology consult and sat on a COVID floor for three days before being seen by a pulmonologist. No one wanted to expose themselves or a patient to a potential COVID case. “She got terrible care because they

were worried she had COVID and that just doesn’t make sense to me,” Dr. Davenport said.

As people digest fear, some end up rejecting it, Dr. Marks pointed out. He used crowded beaches and swimming pools as examples of this rejection, a response to being kept captive and the rejection of authority, leading to decisions that may not benefit community health.

The health of a community is more than the measure of one illness, however, as Dr. Davenport put it. Economy, mental health and personal interactions have value equal to physical health and as any one is affected, community members react.

Fear of and respect for the coronavirus are two different things, Dr. Marks said. It is important to respect that one may get the disease, but not let fear cripple the reaction to the possibility. It is going to show up in case counts when we start ‘mixing’ again, he said. “You cannot stop it. We have to learn to deal with it and mitigate it, but you can’t stop it.”

“Control what you can control, which is yourself,” Dr. Davenport offered as a suggestion moving forward.

Furthermore, keep judgment to a minimum. There are some who will wear a mask everywhere they go and some who know they will be six feet apart from others in a coffee shop and ditch the mask.

As medical professionals, the doctors treat everyone assuming they want to be protected and are serious about the virus. “We have to adjust what we do to where we’re at and the situation,” Dr. Marks said. Restrictions in New York do not parallel restrictions in Ennis, just as a phased reopening of Montana does not mirror New York’s.

“I think it’s really easy to look at people and say, well you’re not doing a good job or you’re not doing what I think you should be doing, but I think that’s what gets a community in trouble. That’s where a lot of the anger and fear comes from,” Dr. Davenport said.

Both doctors agreed COVID-19 did not really change their lives. “I’m just a grouchy old guy. To me, this is just like another day,” Dr. Marks said. He compared it to his decision to join the military—he understood it was his choice and was aware of the consequences, and viewed the decision to be in the medical field the same.

Both agreed the acceptance of the usefulness of telemedicine was a big win. As a hospital, colleagues are learning how to better work together and use each other’s strengths to their potential. “Every crisis is a learning opportunity, and we’ve learned a lot,” Dr. Marks said.

“I think it comes down to common sense and taking responsibility for yourself and making decisions. All you can do is control yourself and how you treat others, and how you decide to interact with others,” Dr. Davenport said.

“I think a lot of the fear that we’re seeing now, some of the riots and everything, that fear is a direct consequence of the isolation and the decisions we made, and we’re going to have to live with that,” she said.



These two, spending so much time together, do not need to be socially distant, Dr. Marks said, laughing. PHOTO BY KEELY LARSON



“I’ve got a different take on the world than most people,” Dr. Marks said. PHOTO BY KEELY LARSON



“The community support, too, has been cool,” Dr. Davenport said. Twelve boxes of Girl Scout cookies, lunches provided, coffee delivered every morning, to name a few things. PHOTO BY KEELY LARSON





# Red Cross now testing all blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies

URGENT NEED FOR BLOOD DONORS TO HELP PREVENT SUMMER SHORTAGE

**\$5 Amazon.com Gift Card for all who come to give in June**

Submitted by CYNTHIA DE LA TORRE

Beginning June 15 and for a limited time, the American Red Cross is testing all blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies, providing donors insight into whether they have been exposed to this coronavirus. At the same time, there continues to be an urgent need for blood donations as hospitals resume surgeries and treatments that require blood products.

Antibody testing will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Donations will be tested to spend more time outdoors, using samples pulled at the time of donation and sent to a testing laboratory where they will also undergo routine infectious disease testing. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity.

COVID-19 antibody test results will be available within

7-10 days in the Red Cross Blood Donor App or donor portal at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org). The test has been authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

"As an organization dedicated to helping others, the Red Cross is pleased to provide more information about COVID-19 to our valued donors," said Dr. Erin Goodhue, executive medical director of direct patient care with the Red Cross Biomedical Services. "If you are feeling healthy and well, please schedule an appointment to not only help save lives but also learn about your potential exposure to COVID-19."

The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test.

**Donation appointments can be made by downloading the free Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo**

device. Thanks to Amazon, all those who come to give June 1-30 will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email.\*

**Blood drive safety precautions**

To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, individuals who do not feel well or who believe they may be ill with COVID-19 should postpone their donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

**Upcoming blood donation opportunities, June 15-30:**

**BEAVERHEAD**

**DILLON**  
6/29/2020: 1:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Church of Latter Day Saints, 93 State Hwy 91 S  
6/30/2020: 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., SOUTHWESTERN MONTANA FAMILY YMCA, 75 Swenson Way Broadwater

**GALLATIN**

**BELGRADE**  
6/25/2020: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., First Security Bank of Belgrade, 511 West Main Street

**BOZEMAN**  
6/16/2020: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Bozeman Blood Donation Center, 300 North Willson  
6/17/2020: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Ressler Motors, 8476 Huffine Lane

6/26/2020: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., First Baptist Church, 120 South Grand Avenue, Suite 103A  
6/27/2020: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Gallatin Valley Mall, 2825 W. Main

**THREE FORKS**

6/18/2020: 12:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Christian Center, 301 1st Ave West Jefferson

**About blood donation**

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood donors can save time

at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) or use the Blood Donor App.

**About the American Red Cross**

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](https://redcross.org) or [cruzrojaamericana.org](https://cruzrojaamericana.org), or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.*

\* Restrictions apply. Additional information and details are available at [RedCrossBlood.org/Together](https://RedCrossBlood.org/Together).

# Sunscreen 101: How to get the most out of your sun protection product

THE SKIN CANCER FOUNDATION SHARES ITS TOP TIPS FOR CHOOSING AND APPLYING SUNSCREENS

Submitted by ALI VENOSA, Skin Cancer Foundation

Summer is heating up, and many states have rolled back stay-at-home orders implemented to stop the spread of COVID-19. As we're all tempted to spend more time outdoors, The Skin Cancer Foundation would like to remind everyone how to use sunscreen safely and effectively as part of a complete sun protection strategy. Though no single sun protection method is foolproof, research has shown that sunscreen not only reduces skin cancer risk but also helps prevent premature skin aging caused by ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun.

**Decoding the label**

Sunscreen options may seem endless, with many different brands, formulas and ingredients to sift through. However, The Skin Cancer Foundation believes everyone can find a sunscreen that works for their skin, budget and lifestyle. Deciphering a sunscreen's label

is the first step of finding your perfect match.

The first thing to consider is SPF (sun protection factor). The SPF number tells you how long the sun's UVB radiation would take to redden your skin when using the product exactly as directed versus the amount of time without any sunscreen. Ideally, if you apply an SPF 15 sunscreen it would take your skin 15 times longer to burn than if you weren't wearing sunscreen.

A sunscreen with a minimum of SPF 15 is fine for days when you're mostly indoors. For days spent outside, choose a water-resistant formula with an SPF of at least 30. For people who have a history or high risk of skin cancer, genetic diseases such as albinism or xeroderma pigmentosum or certain immune disorders, an even higher SPF may be appropriate.

The second thing to check for on a label is the term "broad spectrum," which means the product protects against both UVA and UVB radiation. Both

types of UV rays penetrate the skin and cause skin damage that can lead to skin cancer.

Once you've decided on your SPF and checked that a product is labeled broad spectrum, you can decide on other qualities based on personal preference and lifestyle. For example, this may include checking the list of active ingredients on the bottle. Look for a mineral-based product containing zinc oxide and/or titanium dioxide if you have sensitive skin — they're less likely to cause skin reactions than some other active ingredients. However, some people prefer the so-called chemical sunscreens, which utilize ingredients like avobenzone and octisalate and can be easier to apply than mineral formulas. Many sunscreens combine both types of active ingredients.

Sunscreens also come in lotion, powder, spray and stick form. There are quality options available in every formulation. See which products The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends for safe and effective use

in your sun protection strategy at [SkinCancer.org/recommended-products](https://SkinCancer.org/recommended-products).

**How much, how often?**

Sunscreen won't protect your skin if you don't use it properly, so understanding application is vital. Use one ounce of sunscreen, which is about the amount that would fit into a shot glass, to cover the entire body. For the face, a nickel-sized dollop works. Slathering on sunscreen in the morning isn't enough to protect you all day. The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends applying sunscreen 30 minutes before going outside, then reapplying every two hours and immediately after swimming or sweating. No sunscreen is water-proof, only water-resistant, so in these situations, be aware of how long the product claims to protect against moisture and keep an eye on the clock.

**Sunscreen alone is not enough**

Studies that examine the effect of sunscreen use on skin cancer risk have consistently

delivered encouraging results. One example is a rigorous study spanning the course of a decade that showed daily use of an SPF 15 or higher sunscreen reduces the risk of developing melanoma by 50 percent. However, no single method of sun protection can protect you completely. That's why The Skin Cancer Foundation has always recommended a multipronged approach to sun safety that includes seeking shade and covering up with clothing, wide-brimmed hats and UV-blocking sunglasses, in addition to daily sunscreen use.

**About The Skin Cancer Foundation**

The Skin Cancer Founda-

tion saves and improves lives by empowering people to take a proactive approach to daily sun protection and the early detection and treatment of skin cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to decrease the incidence of skin cancer through public and professional education and research. Since its inception in 1979, the Foundation has recommended following a complete sun protection regimen that includes seeking shade and covering up with clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses, in addition to daily sunscreen use. For more information, visit [SkinCancer.org](https://SkinCancer.org).

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# COLUMNS



## COMMODITY INSITE: It's official

By JERRY WELCH

It is official. The National Bureau of Economic Research, a trade group that determines when recessions start and end, claims one began in February. According to CBS News, "the economists said employment peaked in February and fell sharply afterward, marking the beginning of the downturn as cases of COVID-19 metastasized throughout the U.S., soon killing thousands, shutting down millions of businesses and sparking stay-at-home orders for much of the nation's population by mid-March."

CBS News went on to state, "The unprecedented magnitude of the decline in employment and production, and its broad reach across the entire economy, warrants the designation of this episode as a recession, even if it turns out to be briefer than earlier contractions, according to the NBER."

If a recession did begin in February it ended the longest economic expansion in history and came just as the coronavirus pandemic began to spread.

Historically, three forces that can bring the stock and commodity markets to their knees. One, is a war, another is higher interest rates and the third is a recession. Today, there is no war and rates are headed lower, not higher. In fact, a few days ago the Federal Reserve stated U.S. interest rates would remain near zero thru 2022. In other words, the Fed would not hike rates for another two and half years. They may actually lower them!

But this past week, the high tech stock market, the Nasdaq rose to a new all-time historic high. The Dow at one point this week was within a meager 15% of a new all-time high. Since March, stocks have en-

joyed one of the most bullish, "rallies back" in history. Yet, the U.S. is in a recession.

Here are some old quips defining a recession that I have always enjoyed. 1. "How do you tell the difference between a recession and depression? If your friend loses his job, it's a recession. If you lose your job, it's a depression." 2. "Thanks to the recession I'm back on my feet again. The bank took my car. 3. "If the bank returns your check marked "Insufficient Funds," you call them and ask if they meant you or them.

Quips aside, here are some thoughts from CNN.business.com regarding what may lie ahead if a recession has truly arrived. "The global economy is plunging into the worst peacetime recession in a century, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation

and Development. A second wave of coronavirus infections would lead to even more disruption and economic scarring. By the end of 2021, the loss of income exceeds that of any previous recession over the last 100 years outside wartime, with dire and long-lasting consequences for people, firms and governments," said OECD chief economist Laurence Boone. There is nothing funny about the thoughts above.

When the Fed announced they would not hike rates for two and half years, the first thought that popped into my head was, "Wow, they see something they don't like." When the Fed anticipates financial trouble it never hikes rates. By the same token, the Fed is more than willing to hike rates when things are rosey, bullish and enthusiasm exuberant. The Fed is notori-

ous for taking away (hiking rates!) the punch bowl just as the party is getting going.

Moving forward and considering the U.S. is now in a recessionary environment it means those making a living from and depending on agriculture one way or another need to hone their marketing skills. The key to success for farmers and ranchers is marketing much more so than production. Production pretty much takes care of itself. Marketing, on the other hand, requires patience and information.

The current economic environment is the most severe facing the United States in 90 to 100 years. But the Fed is also doing more to turn things around than any other time in history. There is no doubt in my mind they will get the job done and lead the U.S. out of

the recession. In the process, there will be money making and money saving opportunities that have yet to rear their head. And that is why patience needs to be practiced.

Yes, it is official, a recession has arrived but with it comes a host of market opportunities. Please consider the Special Offer for my twice a day newsletter Commodity Insite. If you need timely information broadcast twice a day give me a call at 406-682-5010. Or, email me at commodityinsite1@gmail.com. Let me hear from you.

The Fed is spiking the punch bowl in an effort to start a new party because we are in a recession. If times were robust and exuberant amid inflationary pressures they would remove the punch bowl. Let's hear it for the Fed!

# HOLLOWTOP SMOKE SIGNALS

*Grappling with the immortals | Adopting a new method of lawn care*

By ART KEHLER

Goodness knows I'm not a lawn care expert. In fact, I'm anything but. However, I'd have to be blind not to notice the onslaught of dandelions in my yard this spring. To be blunt, I have never seen them so widespread and dense as they are this year.

At first, the bright yellow flowers fairly trumpeted the coming of spring. Regrettably, the brightly colored blossoms were soon replaced by ugly white crowns full of seeds. Now that the wind has blown off their white crowns, the naked dandelions look like an alien army mounting a slow motion, frontal assault on what little grass I have

left. The hideously twisted stems average about 8-inches in height.

In years past, because it did a great job of killing the dandelions, I would have spread Weed 'n Feed across the whole of my lawn by now. However, because we've had so little moisture this spring, I was hesitant to do so. Besides, after spreading the supernatural fertilizer in previous years, I ended up mowing my lawn every three days. These days, I find that much mowing to be physically taxing.

As a result, the dandelion crop which I thought had been obliterated by the Weed 'n Feed applications of yore, has come

back with a vengeance. The bitter truth is, in parts of my lawn, the current number of dandelions exceeds the blades of grass. Moreover, for all I know, the evil weed may well be developing immunities to the next generation of weed killers as I am writing.

Besides, even if landowners did miraculously rid themselves of dandelions, no doubt they would soon discover that the cursed weeds had a vital part in the environmental scheme of things. For example, not having enough dandelions in a lawn might trigger the growth of grass so thick that a riding mower would have to be chained up

to mow it. Then again, a much worse weed might rise up and take the place of dandelions.

Consequently, the thought occurred to me that, maybe I would be better off to just accept the fact that there will always be dandelions in my lawn. So why not just allow them to grow where they will? Still, I had lingering doubts.

So, I conducted an Internet search on the positive aspects of dandelions. Imagine my surprise when I discovered that dandelion isn't a weed at all. Rather it's a plant whose flowers can be made into wine, added to salads and made into jellies. Additionally, I

found out dandelion greens can be eaten raw, steamed, boiled, braised and sautéed. As if that not enough, dandelion consumption reduces cholesterol and inflammation in humans.

So, that settles it! From this day forward, I will not harm a single dandelion in my yard. Just think of all the time, effort and money I'll save from not trying to kill something that's obviously immortal. Additionally, I'll be able to stomp the flowers and make copious amounts of wine. I can even whip up some jelly to spread on my morning toast. Lastly, I can treat myself to a bowl of lip-smacking,

heart-healthy dandelion greens anytime I want to. Now all I have to do is convince my neighbors (who's lawns are always as immaculate as a golf course) of the above-detailed advantages to be found in my new method of lawn care before my invasion spreads.

*Art lives in Harrison, Montana. His essays, stories, and poetry have been published in newspapers, journals, literary magazines, and on-line magazines.*



## A WRANGLER'S RECKLESS WRITINGS

By Bryce Angell

### Restitution

When I was young my father taught me how to show respect for someone else's property. I learned to stay in check.

I must have been about fourteen, my neighbor called me squirt. And being young and stupid, I got my feelings hurt.

Retaliation was my plan. I flattened his truck tires. I pulled each stem out with my new True Value Hardware pliers.

I gazed down at my handy work, then realized what I'd done. My conscience got the best of me. I am my father's son.

So, I thought I'd face the music. Told my dad about my deed. He said, "I hope your bank account will cover what you need."

The two of us drove over to our neighbor's run-down truck. His flattened tires were plumb worn out. Thought, "What a lucky duck."

I prayed our neighbor would admit his tires were torn to shreds. 'Cuz his rusty truck was 'bout to get four brand new Good Year treads.

My neighbor got new tires. I emptied out my bank account. But restitution was required, no matter the amount.

I won't forget that day. Was it a blessing in disguise? 'Cuz nothing measures more than favor in my father's eyes.

So today I got to thinking, listening to the radio. These rioters are causing havoc everywhere they go.

Do they even wonder who will pay for damage they've incurred? And maybe they weren't blessed to have a father they deserved.

I hope the angry protesters will come back to their sense. There ain't no way to recompense the terrible expense.

I'm thankful my good father taught me life ain't just for fun. And to this day, he'll always say, "Pay back for what you've done."



## NATURAL RESOURCE NEWS

### Leafy Spurge

#### MADISON COUNTY BIO-CONTROL PROGRAM

By LIZ DAVIS

Leafy spurge is an invasive species that is now flowering in the Madison Valley. It has flat-topped clusters of yellowish, green, petal-like bracts that surround the true flowers. It grows up to 32 inches tall and its leaves have a bluish-green color. When damaged, leafy spurge exudes a milky latex that contains ingenol, a toxic compound that causes inflammation and vomiting in most mammals. Because of these traits, this plant is listed as a Priority 2B weed in Montana, meaning its management is prioritized by local weed districts. It should be dealt with by property owners.

Leafy spurge is native to Europe and Asia. It was first reported in the U.S. in Massachusetts in 1827 and has spread across the U.S. and Canada. It will grow in diverse environments and is estimated to infest over 5 million acres in the Northern Great Plains and the Rocky Mountain West.

Leafy spurge's success is due to its extensive root system. Its vertical roots can grow to a depth of 18 feet and can spread laterally 15 feet per year. These large roots are covered with a corky bark that enables the plant to withstand drought. They also store large amounts of carbohydrates to provide energy for regrowth. This growth makes controlling the

plant challenging.

Landowners can choose several ways to control leafy spurge. The oldest method is by hand pulling, hoeing, or mowing. Seeding competitive grasses has been successful at increasing forage production and can reduce weed density. (Check with the local NRCS for the best variety of seed to compete with leafy spurge.)

Biological control is another way to combat leafy spurge. USDA has approved twelve insect control species for leafy spurge. These insects have undergone rigorous tests and are proven to only affect the intended noxious weed, in this case, leafy spurge.

Madison County Biological Control has been able to gather and distribute three of these insects to landowners. Two Aphthona flea beetles have been highly effective. The adults feed on the foliage and the flowers but the hungry larvae feed on the roots, limiting nutrients and creating wounds that allow plant pathogens to enter. These tiny (3-4 mm long) beetles prefer hot, dry sites with moderate densities of leafy spurge. Oberea erythrocephala is another beetle that helps to combat leafy spurge and is gathered by MCBC at the same time as the flea beetles. The adults lay up to forty eggs and deposit them one at a time into a hole in the stem. The new larvae tunnel

down through the stem to the root crown where they hibernate through the winter. In the spring, they resume feeding, causing extensive damage to the plant.

If the landowner's goal is to totally eradicate leafy spurge, she will need an Integrated weed management (IWM) system. The Federal Noxious Weed Act describes this as "a system for the planning and implementation of an interdisciplinary approach to controlling the undesirable plant." A sizable acreage of leafy spurge could require a combination of methods such as goat and sheep grazing, herbicide application, biological control, or other land management practices.

Preventing the establishment of leafy spurge is the easiest way to combat this noxious weed. Montana encourages landowners to wash the undercarriage of their vehicles before moving to uninfested areas, to use certified weed-free seeds and hay, to hold animals in corrals before moving animals from infested areas, and to refrain from picking and transporting plants. Continuous education is the key to controlling all noxious weeds in Montana. Contact Madison County Bio-control for more information. 406-595-1610

Sources: USDA Biology and Biological Control of Leafy Spurge  
Montana Field Guide - Leafy Spurge

# COMICS & PUZZLES

THEME: COCKTAILS AND MOCKTAILS

ACROSS

- 1. Angelou and Rudolph
- 6. Mason's load
- 9. Bobby Pickett's "Monster \_\_\_\_"
- 13. Infection from contaminated water or food
- 14. Formerly Cassius Clay
- 15. Slow, musically speaking
- 16. \_\_\_\_ Ste. Marie, Ontario
- 17. Bonding words
- 18. Like draft beer
- 19. \*Cognac, orange liqueur, lemon juice
- 21. \*Tropical cocktail favorite
- 23. Motion of approval
- 24. \*Home of pisco sour
- 25. Smoker's residue
- 28. Big butte
- 30. \*It has both white and dark rum
- 35. Popular BBQ side
- 37. Pea houses
- 39. \*Hold your drink aloft in honor
- 40. "Downton Abbey" countess
- 41. Subject of 17th century Dutch mania
- 43. Cote d'Azur locale
- 44. Teatro alla Scala offering
- 46. Sushi selection
- 47. Kind of jeans fit
- 48. \*She famously disliked the eponymous drink
- 50. Chesterfield or ulster
- 52. Bro's sib
- 53. Long and lean
- 55. Petting spot
- 57. \*Negroni and boulevardier ingredient
- 61. Time for the big bowl games
- 65. Unethical loaner's practice
- 66. Designed to guarantee equal rights
- 68. Cooler manufacturer
- 69. #38 Down, pl.
- 70. Atlantic catch
- 71. Musical ensemble
- 72. Rodeo Drive tree
- 73. It's of the beholder
- 74. Rosetta Stone, e.g.

DOWN

- 1. Difficult situation
- 2. Antioxidant-rich berry
- 3. Common contraction
- 4. Kind of wrench
- 5. TV's popular portmanteau
- 6. Let it down to relax?
- 7. \* \_\_\_\_ fashioned
- 8. D in LED
- 9. Take-out handout
- 10. Nay sayer
- 11. Sun, e.g.
- 12. Indigenous people of northeast Arizona
- 15. \*Nespolino fruit
- 20. Highly skilled

CROSSWORD											
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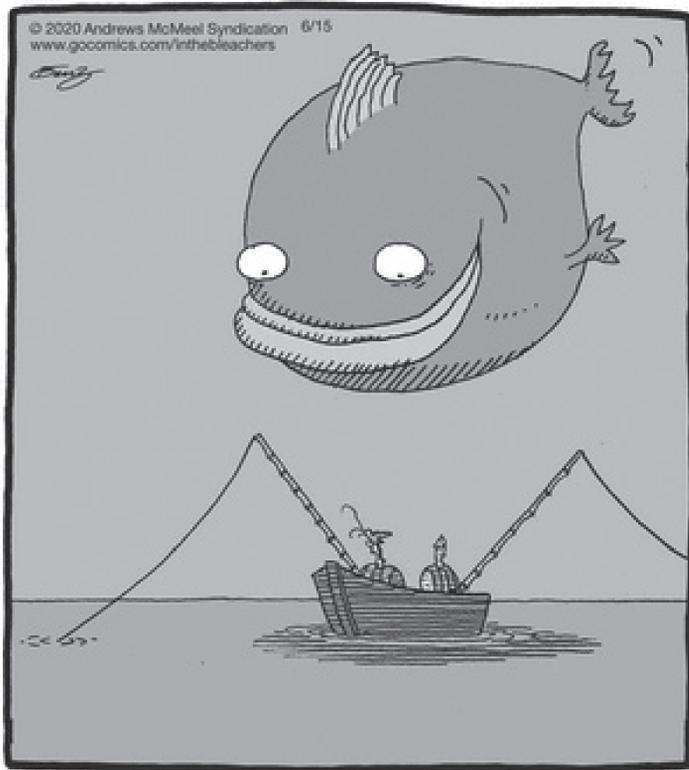
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- 22. Elbow rest
- 24. Portable lock
- 25. Fancy tie
- 26. Ski run
- 27. Sheik's bevy
- 29. \*Whiskey \_\_\_\_
- 31. Charged particles
- 32. Flip side, pl.
- 33. Binary digits code
- 34. Things on a list
- 36. "Star Trek" speed
- 38. Fodder holder
- 42. Eloise's residence
- 45. Quiets
- 49. Otitis organ
- 51. \*Popular mixer, pl.
- 54. Brother's daughter
- 56. Should
- 57. Turning point
- 58. World's largest continent
- 59. \*To warm wine or cider and add
- 60. Junior ball
- 61. Green gemstone
- 62. Burn-soothing plant
- 63. Agitate
- 64. Yesteryear
- 67. \*First name in cola and grenadine



"I thought you said the fish would be jumping."

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

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Crossword puzzle answers on B7

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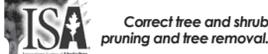
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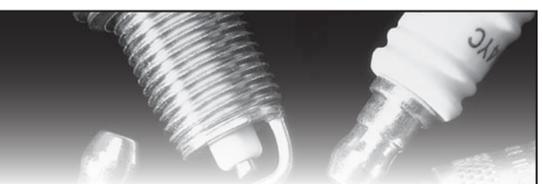
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| <b>Utility Machine Operator</b><br>(St. Regis) | <b>Mechanic</b><br>Millwright<br>(St. Regis) |  |

Competitive wages (Entry Level \$16.59/hr), paid holidays and 401ks from day one. Full health benefits and PTO after 60 days. Apply online at [idfg.com/careers](http://idfg.com/careers) or call 406-649-7250

Idaho Forest Group - St. Regis  
162 Old Mill Loop, St. Regis, MT - [idfg.com](http://idfg.com)



## D&D Auto, Inc. AUTO & TRUCK SALES

We Are YOUR Go to Guys!  
Auto & Truck Repair - Gas or Diesel - All Makes & Models

We Make Hydraulic Hoses  
New Tires, Wheels & Tire Repairs  
Engines & Transmissions Installed - Car & Truck Accessories

We Install Windshields - Alignments  
**ENNIS • 682-4537**

Daily Parts Deliveries to Alder, Sheridan & Twin Bridges Areas  
**24 Hour Towing (CELL 406-570-9872)**



## Now Hiring!

- Madison Valley Manor, Ennis, MT**
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time, Permanent \$15.20 to \$19.00 hourly;
  - Dietary Aide/Cook-Part-time, Permanent \$14.45 to \$18.16 hourly;
  - Registered Nurse-Full-time, or Part-time, Short-term \$24.00 to \$30.00 hourly;
  - Registered Nurse-Part-time, Permanent \$24.00 to \$30.00 hourly;
  - Residential Aide-Part-time, Short-term \$14.25 hourly;
- Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center, Sheridan, MT**
- Certified Nurse's Assistant/Aide-Full-time or Part-time (2 Positions), Permanent \$15.20 to \$19.00 hourly;
  - Dietary Aide/Cook-Part-time, Permanent \$14.45 to \$18.16 hourly;
  - Licensed Practical Nurse-Full-time or Part-time, Permanent \$19.79 to \$24.74 hourly;
  - Registered Nurse-Full-time or Part-time, Permanent \$24.00 to \$30.00 hourly;
  - Temporary Healthcare Workers-Part-time, Short-term \$14.25 hourly;
- Madison County, Virginia City, MT**
- Deputy Clerk of District Court-Part-time, Short-term \$17.70 to \$22.12 hourly;
  - District 3 Mower, Ennis-Part-time, Short-term \$18.50 to \$23.12 hourly;
  - IT Support Specialist-Part-time, Short-term \$23.69 hourly;
  - Senior Shuttle Driver-Part-time, Permanent \$10.65 to \$13.31 hourly;
  - Temporary Custodial Worker-Part-time, Short-term \$14.88 to \$18.60 hourly; and
  - Weed Program Coordinator-Full-time, Permanent \$18.61 to \$23.26 hourly.

### Madison County Employee Benefits

- Public Employees Retirement System – 5 Year Vesting
- 457 (b) Deferred Benefit Plan Option Savings
- Paid Employee Health Insurance-BCBS optional dependent coverage
- 3-Weeks Paid Vacation + 12 days Sick Leave (pro-rated PT Employees)
- 10 Paid Holidays Per Year (11 paid holidays in even numbered years)
- Employer Sponsored Life Insurance \$20,000
- Optional dental & life insurance benefits

Visit our *Employment* page online at  
[www.madisoncountymt.gov](http://www.madisoncountymt.gov)

Join Our Team!

Please visit Madison County's online employment page at [www.madisoncountymt.gov](http://www.madisoncountymt.gov) for additional information or contact the Human Resources Department at 406-843-4201. Madison County is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

(Job Vacancy ad for Madisonian (06.18.20))

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## JUNE 18, 2020

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
MADISON VALLEY STORAGE, ENNIS, MT  
On Saturday, June 20, 2020, at 5076 US Hwy. 287 N., Ennis, MT, at 10:00 am, there will be a sale of storage unit contents on duly defaulted tenants as follows:  
Mike Carroll ETC #13, MVS #22 and #75  
Joanie Shortridge MVS #151 & #153  
Robert Hatlee MVS # 188  
Alex Rundella MVS #297  
Arita Haldorsen and Mark Blumhaden MVS #345

The terms of the sale are:  
1. Each individual unit shall be sold in bulk. There shall be no prior previewing. The unit doors will be opened by the Operator. Attendees will be allowed to enter, but not to move or remove any of the contents.  
2. Each unit shall be bid upon by attendees. The highest bidder shall be entitled to the entire contents of the storage unit. The contents must be removed within one week of the date of sale by the winning bidder (June 27th).  
3. Sales are cash or certified check only. (Pub. JUNE 11, 18, 2020)  
MADISON VAL. STORAGE  
MNXALP

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 1-2020 REPEALING ORDINANCE 2-2006 AND RAISING THE FEE FOR CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION PROJECTS, REQUIRING A PERMIT FOR SUCH PROJECTS, REGULATING DEPOSIT OF WASTE AND PROVIDING A PENALTY The Madison County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, June 23, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. in Second Floor Court Room of the Administrative Office Building, Virginia City, Montana. To receive public comment on the second reading of Ordinance 1-2020. The proposed ordinance would repeal Ordinance 2-2006 and raise the fee for construction and demolition projects, requiring a permit for such projects, regulating deposit of waste and provide a penalty. Copies of the proposal are available for review at the following locations: Sheridan Public Library (107 E. Hamilton St.), Twin Bridges Library (206 S. Main St.); Ennis Madison Valley Public Library (210 E. Main St.); Thompson-Hickman Library, (217 Idaho St.), Madison County Commissioners' Office (103 W. Wallace), the Clerk & Recorder's Office (103 W. Wallace), Virginia City; and on the County's website under current proposals at [www.madisoncountymt.gov](http://www.madisoncountymt.gov). Comments on the proposal are welcome. Written comments may be submitted at the hearing or delivered to the Madison County Commissioners' Office prior to the hearing at P.O. Box 278, Virginia City, MT 59755; faxed to (406) 843-5517; or e-mailed to [madco@madisoncountymt.gov](mailto:madco@madisoncountymt.gov). Written comments must be received by close of the June 23, 2020, public hearing. For more information, contact the Commissioners' Office at (406) 843-4277. (Pub. JUNE 11, 18, 2020)  
MC COMMISH  
MNXALP

**MADISON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
The Madison County Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on Monday, June 29, 2020 at 6:15 pm in the Public Meeting Room of the Madison County Administrative Office Building, 103 W Wallace, Virginia City, Montana. The Board will consider the agenda item and make a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners who will take final action. A request by Lone Mountain Land Company on behalf of MB MT Acquisition LLC for Preliminary Plat approval of Lee's Pool Subdivision and Planned Unit Development (PUD), a 132-unit residential/commercial development that would divide the 233.78-acre subject

property into five Condo lots, one future development lot, and two Open Space lots proposed to be developed as follows: Condo Lot 1 (35.60 acres) - four lodge buildings with 81 units, a spa facility, restaurant, and 13 detached guest cabins; Condo Lot 2 (14.95 acres) - a Ski Lodge, one chairlift terminal, and two detached residential condominiums; Condo Lot 3 (14.08 acres) - 17 detached residential condominiums; Condo Lot 4 (9.19 acres) - 9 detached residential condominiums; Condo Lot 5 (7.57 acres) - 10 detached residential condominiums; Lot R (89.72 acres) - to be re-divided and developed in the future; Open Space A (40.40 acres); Open Space B (9.91 acres). Accessed from Jack Creek Road via Lone Mountain Trail and Moonlight Trail, the subdivision would be served by an extension of existing public water and sewer services operated by Moonlight Basin Water & Sewer LLC. The proposed PUD regards a requested modification to standards outlined in Section IV-B-1(c)(3) of the Madison County Subdivision Regulations, to reduce the applicable construction setback from onsite waterways from 100-ft to 40-ft. Located within the Moonlight Basin Overall Development Plan area, the subject property is legally described as Tract A1 of Certificate of Survey 2508 in the NE1/4, SE1/4, SW1/4 & NW1/4 of Section 12, Township 6 South, Range 2 East, P.M.M., Madison County, Montana. Public participation is encouraged. Written comments should be received by 5:00 p.m. on June 29, 2020, and may be sent to the Madison County Planning Board by: Mail to P.O. Box 278, Virginia City, Montana, 59755; E-mail to [planning@madisoncountymt.gov](mailto:planning@madisoncountymt.gov); Verbal comments may be given at the public hearing. Additionally, the public hearing will be live-streamed via Webex video conferencing platform: <https://madisoncountymt.webex.com/madisoncountymt.myj.php?MTID=m28cca719d0dc1ddf0e51eeb29a31394c> - Meeting number: 126 584 1336 - Meeting password: VCMadison Join by phone: 1-408-418-9388 Access code: 126 584 1336 # Numeric Meeting Password: 826 234 76 # (Pub. JUNE 11, 18, 2020)  
MC PLANNING  
MNXALP

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY, IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN D. ELLINGSEN, Deceased. DP-29-2020-11 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be either be mailed to Nancy C. Allen, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, c/o Victor N. Bunitsky Law Office, P.O., Box 77, Virginia City, Montana 59755, or filed with the clerk of the above-entitled Court. DATED this 3rd day of June, 2020. /s/ Nancy C. Allen, Personal Representative for the Estate of John D. Ellingsen. (Pub. JUNE 11, 18, 25, 2020)  
BUNITSKY  
MNXALP

**SUMMONS OF PUBLICATION**  
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY  
KEVIN MANDELL JACKSON Plaintiff, v. BARKES L. ADAMS or the ESTATE OF HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN, HEIRS AND DEVISEES, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF BARKES L. ADAMS AND HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN, and unknown heirs or unknown devisees of any deceased person; and any and all other persons known and

all other persons unknown, claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the Complaint adverse to the Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent. Defendants. CASE NO. 29-2020-19  
THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to BARKES L. ADAMS or the ESTATE OF BARKES L. ADAMS, address unknown. This action is brought to quiet title to land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: Lot 12 in Block 32 of Original Townsite of Pony, in Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Madison County, Montana. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-entitled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney with twenty-one (21) days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and Seal of said Court this 11TH day of March, 2020. /s/ KAREN MILLER CLERK OF COURT  
/s/ CARMIN HILL DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, JULY 2, 2020)  
ACB  
MNXALP

**SUMMONS OF PUBLICATION**  
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY  
KEVIN MANDELL JACKSON Plaintiff, v. BARKES L. ADAMS or the ESTATE OF BARKES L. ADAMS; HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN or the ESTATE OF HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN, HEIRS AND DEVISEES, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF BARKES L. ADAMS AND HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN, and unknown heirs or unknown devisees of any deceased person; and any and all other persons known and all other persons unknown, claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the Complaint adverse to the Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent. Defendants. CASE NO. 29-2020-19  
THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN or the ESTATE OF HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN, address unknown. This action is brought to quiet title to land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: Lot 12 in Block 32 of Original Townsite of Pony, in Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Madison County, Montana. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-entitled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney with twenty-one (21) days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint WITNESS my hand and Seal of said Court this 11TH day of March, 2020. /s/ KAREN MILLER CLERK OF COURT  
/s/ CARMIN HILL DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, JULY 2, 2020)  
ACB  
MNXALP

**SUMMONS OF PUBLICATION**  
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MADISON COUNTY  
KEVIN MANDELL JACKSON Plaintiff, v. BARKES L. ADAMS or the ESTATE OF BARKES L. ADAMS; HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN or the ESTATE OF HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN, HEIRS AND DEVISEES, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF BARKES L. ADAMS AND HELEN ADAMS SWEETMAN, and unknown heirs or unknown devisees of any deceased person; and any and all other persons known and all other persons unknown, claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the Complaint adverse to the Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent. Defendants. Case No.29-2020-19  
THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to all unknown persons claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the Complaint adverse to the Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title, whether the claim or possible claim is present or contingent. This action is brought to quiet title to land situated in Madison County, Montana, and described as follows: Lot 12 in Block 32 of Original Townsite of Pony, in Madison County, Montana, according to the official plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Madison County, Montana. You are hereby commanded to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you by publication and to file your WRITTEN RESPONSE with the above-entitled court and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney with twenty-one (21) days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and Seal of said Court this 11TH day of March, 2020. /s/ KAREN MILLER

Clerk of Court /s/ CARMIN HILL Deputy Clerk (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, JULY 2, 2020)  
ACB  
MNXALP

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Lyman H. Bennett, III BENNETT LAW GROUP, PLLC P.O. Box 337 Virginia City, MT 59755-0337 Telephone: (406) 843-5650 Facsimile: (406) 843-5651 E-mail: [lymanhbennett@montana.net](mailto:lymanhbennett@montana.net) Attorney for Personal Representative MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT MADISON COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GERALD F. SCHILDROTH JR., Deceased. Probate No. DP-29-2020-13. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be either mailed to LYMAN H. BENNETT, III, return receipt requested at PO BOX 337, VIRGINIA CITY, MT 59755 or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. DATED this 5th day of JUNE, 2020. /s/GERALD F. SCHILDROTH, III, Co-Personal Representative /s/GENEVIEVE I. SCHILDROTH, Co-Personal Representative (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, JULY 2, 2020)  
BENNETT  
MNXALP

**TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY**  
Vacancy - Appointment of Sheridan Council person position starting July 13th, 2020 in accordance with MCA 7-4-4112. If you are interested in serving as a council person, please send a letter of interest to PO Box 78 Sheridan, MT 59749 stating your qualifications. Letters must be received by July 9th, 2020 by 4:00 p.m. Interested parties must have resided within the Town City limits for at least 90 days prior to applying. The applicant will serve a vacant position until the next general election in November 2021. (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, 2020)  
SHERIDAN TOWN  
MNXALP

**PRELIMINARY BUDGET MEETING**  
The Town of Twin Bridges has completed their preliminary budget for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Approval of the preliminary budget will be on July 14th at 7:00 pm at it's regular council meeting. The meeting will be located at Town Hall (104 E. 6th Ave, Twin Bridges, MT). If anyone would like to review the budget they can stop in at the office or call 684-5243. Any taxpayer or resident may appear and be heard at the meeting. (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, 2020)  
TB TOWN  
MNXALP

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a five-year comprehensive bond review of Barretts Minerals, Inc. Regal mine (Operating Permit No. 00013), located in Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 7 West and Section 2, Township 8 South, Range 7 West. The site is about 11 miles east of Dillon, MT in Beaverhead County. DEQ has determined that the current bonding level does not represent the present costs of compliance with the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, administrative rules adopted thereunder, and the operating permit. DEQ is proposing a bond increase of \$497,571 (from \$5,953,295 to \$6,450,866). The bond increase is largely due to changes in fuel price, additional disturbance area, and indirect costs (mobilization, contingency, and administration). The procedure for increasing bonds as a result of a comprehensive bond review is set forth in Section 82-4-338(3), MCA. The company and the public will have until July 24, 2020 to comment on the proposed bond increase. DEQ will issue a final bond determination after the comment period has expired. The company or any person with an interest that may be adversely affected by DEQ's final bond determination may obtain a contested case hearing before the Board of Environmental Review by filing with DEQ within 30 days of the issuance

of the final bond determination a written request for hearing stating the reason for the request. Copies of the bond calculation can be reviewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT. For information on the proposed bond contact: Herb Rolles Operating Permit Section Supervisor Hard Rock Mining Bureau Department of Environmental Quality P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620-0901 (406) 444-4960 or e-mail at [hrolles@mt.gov](mailto:hrolles@mt.gov) (Pub. JUNE 18, 2020)  
DEQ  
MNXALP

**INVITATION TO BID**  
Sealed Bids will be accepted by the Tobacco Roots Mountains Care Center's Administration, 326 Madison Street, P O Box 308, Sheridan, MT, 59749 until 5:00PM local time on June 29, 2020, and then publicly opened and read aloud at the Madison County Commissioners' meeting located at 103 W. Wallace, Virginia City, MT at 1:00PM local time on June 30, 2020. Bids are being accepted for the removal of the existing asphalt shingles on the main structure, membrane roofing on a low-slope roof section of the structure and the metal roofing on entranceways, and partial gutters/downspouts on the main structure and asphalt shingles on one (1) 20x20-storage building located on the grounds of the facility. The project also includes the installation of new-asphalt shingles, membrane, metal roofing and partial gutters/downspouts and asphalt shingles on one (1) 20x20-storage building located on the grounds at the Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center (TRMCC), 326 Madison Street, Sheridan, MT, 59749. The qualified contractors would be responsible: to provide all necessary materials, labor and equipment to complete removal and installation of the complete project on the main structure, low-slope roof section and roofing on the entranceways, partial gutters/downspouts, on the main structure and roofing on one (1) 20x20 storage building located on the grounds of the facility. Complete Bid Proposal may be viewed on the Madison County website: <https://madisoncountymt.gov/424/PublicLegal-Notices> All laborers employed by Contractor or Subcontractors in performance of the construction work shall be paid wages at rates required by Montana Prevailing Wage Rates. The Contractor must ensure that

employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Each bid or proposal must be accompanied by a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond payable to Madison County, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid. Successful Bidders shall furnish an approved Performance Bond and a Labor Materials Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount. The successful Bidder shall provide insurance, as required, and a Certificate(s) of that insurance shall be provided. The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals received, to waive informalities, to postpone the award of the contract for a period not to exceed sixty days, and to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid that is in the best interest of the Owner. To make inquiries about the scope of the project or to schedule an appointment please contact David Reintsma, TRMCC Facility Director at 406-843-5600. Madison County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Published in the Madisonian on June 11, June 18, and June 25, 2020, Madison County Commission, 103 W. Wallace, PO Box 278, Virginia City, MT 59755. (Pub. June 11, 18, and June 25, 2020). MC Commission (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, 2020)  
MC COMMISH  
MNXALP

**TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS**  
The individual transportation contracts for the 2020-21 School Year are now available at Sheridan Public Schools. If you reside at least three miles from the school or transport your child at least three miles to a school bus, you may be eligible for reimbursement. For further information please contact Rebecca E. Larsen at the Sheridan School Office (842-5302). (Pub. JUNE 18, 25, 2020)  
SHERIDAN SCHOOL  
MNXALP

# STOP

## AQUATIC INVADERS



ALWAYS CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.

- 💧 Drain water
- 💧 Remove mud & plants
- 💧 Dry hatches

[CleanDrainDryMT.com](http://CleanDrainDryMT.com) 

## NOTICE OF PENDING ATTACHMENT OF A TAX LIEN

### Notice per MCA 7-1-2121 and MCA 15-17-214

Notice is hereby given that if property taxes are not paid by July 30, 2020, Madison County will attach a property tax lien to the property on which the taxes are delinquent. Delinquent taxes including penalty, interest and costs are a lien upon the property and unless such are paid prior to this time, the lien will be attached and may be assigned to a third party. Notice is to be sent certified mail at least two weeks prior to the date of the payment for delinquent taxes to whom the property is assessed before assigning the tax lien certificate to a third party, the treasurer is to receive proof of this notice. FAILURE TO NOT PAY YOUR TAXES COULD RESULT IN LOSS OF PROPERTY. A list of delinquent property taxes for the year 2018 is on file in the County Treasurer's office and is open to the public for inspection. MCA 15-17-122  
Shelly Burke, Treasurer  
[sburlig@madisoncoun nit. ov](mailto:sburli@madisoncoun nit. ov) 406-843-4212

# Music Ranch Montana

Paradise Valley

## 2020



4664 Old Yellowstone Trail North  
9 miles south of Livingston on Hwy 89

**www.Twang - Dinner/ Dance ..... July 11**  
**Ryan Keplin - Dinner/ Dance ..... July 18**  
**Sam Platts & the Great Plainsmen - Dinner/Dance ... Aug. 1**  
**Montana Rose - Dinner/ Dance ..... Aug. 15**  
**Band of Drifters - Dinner/Dance ..... Aug. 29**

**Please go to [musicranchmontana.net](http://musicranchmontana.net) for the complete lineup • 406-222-2255**

# FIND FELLOWSHIP WITH US



Contact your place of worship for current guidelines.

**Christian Science Services**  
 Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m.  
**ALL WELCOME**  
 Each week a Bible lesson full of healing Christian concepts is read aloud in our Sunday service.  
 4983 US Hwy 287 N. • Ennis, Montana  
 www.ChristianScience.com

**Rocky Mountain Baptist Church**  
 Will Stevens, Pastor  
 682-4949  
 Sunday School 9:45am  
 Morning Service 11am  
 Afternoon Service 1:30pm  
 Tuesday Womens Bible Study 6pm  
 Wednesday Night Prayer Group 6pm  
 6 Blocks South of City Complex  
 Located in the heart of Madison Valley for the Hearts of Madison Valley

**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 Shaw 684-5255

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

**Madison Valley Presbyterian Church**  
 WORSHIP  
 September - April ~ 11 a.m.  
 May - August ~ 9:30 a.m.  
 Everyone Welcome, Fully Accessible in communion with ELCA, UCC, RCA  
 Rev. STEVE HUNDLEY  
 682-4355 ~ Ennis  
 Corner of S. Charles & W. Hugel

**Valley Assembly**  
 Love Jesus • Love People • Reach the Valley  
 114 N. Main, Sheridan 842-5845  
 Pastor Duane B. Dshner  
 Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.  
 Wednesday Valley Kids - after school to 6:45 p.m.  
 Ruby Valley Food Pantry - Saturdays 10 a.m. - Noon  
 Our mission is to Love Jesus, Love People, and Reach the Valley.

**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

**MADISON COUNTY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY'S MASS SCHEDULE**  
 Saturday 4pm at St. Joseph's, Sheridan  
 Sunday at 11 am St. Patrick's, Ennis  
 Sunday 9:30am at St. Mary's, Laurin  
 Sunday at 8 am Notre Dame, Twin Bridges  
 Saturday at 4 pm St. Joseph's, Sheridan  
 Weekly Mass: Tuesday and Thursday 7:30am at St. Joseph's Wednesday 9am at St. Patrick's  
 Please call the Rectory for the daily Mass schedule at 842-5588  
 Father John Crutchfield, Pastor

**FISHERS OF MEN**  
 MADISON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
 Phil 2:16  
 Holding forth the word of life:  
**Dr. Ray Teston**  
 Pastor  
**Peter Rosenberger**  
 Minister of Music  
 Sunday School ~ 9:45 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ~ 11:00 a.m.  
 Weds. Nights ~ prayer meeting 6 p.m.  
 5050 Hwy 287, P.O. Box 668, Ennis, MT  
**Phone 682-4244 SBC**  
**MADISON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 Aides for the hearing impaired

**Ruby Valley United Methodist Parish**  
 Invites You To Worship With Us  
 Reverend Tonya Whaley  
 Office: (406) 842-5934  
 Church of the Valley Twin Bridges  
 Worship & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
 Bethel UMC Sheridan  
 Worship 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
 Ready Set Grow Preschool  
 Contact Donna Gilman 596-0456

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**  
 The Church of Word and Sacrament  
 Visitors Welcome  
 Pastor Ken Stensrud  
 • Sunday Service 9:00 am  
 • Bible Study 10:15 am  
 • Sunday School 10:15 am  
 Corner of Madison and Armitage St.  
 Ennis, Montana 406-682-4910

**THE BAHAI FAITH**  
 The principle of the Oneness of Mankind, as proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh, carries with it no more and no less than a solemn assertion that attainment to this final stage in this stupendous evolution is not only necessary but inevitable, that its realization is fast approaching, and that nothing short of a power that is born of God can succeed in establishing it.  
 www.bahai.org | 406-451-3923  
 Bahá'ís of Madison County

**ENNIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 Loving God, Loving People  
 Sunday School 9:30 AM  
 Worship Service 10:30 AM  
 Wednesday Ministries  
 Kids Club Submerge (K-6) 3:15 PM  
 Family Dinner 5:30 PM  
 Youth and Adult Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 6:30 PM  
 Pastor Greg Ledgerwood  
 402 Madison Ave - Ennis, MT 682-4197

**Madison County Episcopal Churches**  
 In full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
**Join Us for Sunday Worship!**  
**Trinity** Jefferson/Ennis  
**St. Paul's** Virginia City  
**Christ Church** Sheridan  
 10 a.m. adult forum  
 11:00 a.m.  
 9:00 a.m.  
 10:00 a.m.  
 www.rvecc.org  
 Prayer requests:  
 682-4199 843-5296 842-7713

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

**GRACE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP**  
 WEARING SHARING  
 The Full Armour of God

**SUNDAY SERVICES**  
**Cowboy Church**  
 TIME: 10:00am  
 Nevada City in the Tent  
 Christ-Centered • Bible Based Teaching  
 Open Question Forum  
**(406) 842-5915**  
 Pastor Tom Luksha

## AREA SENIOR MEALS

**ENNIS SENIOR CENTER**  
 315 W Main Street  
 Closed Dine-in & Activities  
 315 W Main Street: TAKE OUT PICK-UP: M-F NOON TO 1 P.M.  
 To help us plan, please call at least 24 hours in advance:  
 682-4422 or www.enniseniorcenter.org  
 MOW delivery area expanded: S. to Cameron, W. to Virginia City N. to McAllister E. to lower Jeffers.  
 Due To Food Product Shortages menu items may change.

Thursday, June 18-Grilled burger, set-up, potato salad, sSSERT  
 Friday, June 19 - Shrimp alfredo, salad garlic bread, dessert  
 Monday, June 22 - Turkey ala king, salad dessert  
 Tuesday, June 23 - Chicken fried steak, mashers, veggies, dessert  
 Wednesday, June 24 - Grilled pork chops, roasted potatoes, veggies, dessert  
 Thursday, June 25 - Teriyaki chicken kabobs, rice, garlic bread, dessert  
 Friday, June 26 - Ham & cheese sliders, broccoli salad, sSSERT

**RUBY VALLEY FOOD PANTRY, SHERIDAN**  
 Open Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Located at 114 N. Main St., in Valley Assembly (formerly New Beginnings). Serving the Ruby Valley from Silver Star to Virginia City. Contact Doug 842-5587 or Jim 842-5573 for more information.

**SENIOR CENTER, SHERIDAN**  
 The Sheridan Senior Center offers meals for seniors 60 years and older. Seniors may choose to eat at the Senior Center, family style for \$4 or have their meals delivered for \$4.50 (Meals on Wheels). Meals on Wheels are within the city limits of Sheridan and should be called in by 10 a.m. Contact Shirley Sand at 842-5966. 201 Crofoot Street (the former Ruby Valley Medical Clinic).

**VIRGINIA CITY CAFÉ**  
 Senior meals for Madison County Seniors 60 and over will be served at the Virginia City Cafe on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for \$4.00.  
 Delivery in VC if seniors call between 10am and Noon on those days.  
 Thursday, June 18 - Chicken parmesan, veggie, roll, dessert  
 Tuesday, June 123 - Grilled cheese, fries, dessert

**TWIN BRIDGES SENIOR CENTER**  
 The Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center provides meals for seniors every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon at the Twin Bridges Senior and Community Center.

**COVID UPDATE: Still serving meals Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the Center as Take Out Only.**  
 All meals are served with fresh home baked rolls, veggie/fruit, and dessert  
**ALL GATHERINGS AND CLUB MEETINGS ARE CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
 Wednesday, June 17 - Meat loaf, mashed potato, gravy veggie, salad, lemon fluff  
 Friday, June 19 - Beef stir fry, rice, top ramen cabbage salad, dessert  
 Monday, June 22 - Mac 'n cheese, veggie, salad, german chocolate cake

**HOLLOW TOP SENIOR CITIZENS**  
 Pony, Harrison and Norris. The Hollowtop Senior Center will be open for pickup meals starting on May 4, at 12 noon. Any questions call: 685-3460.

Wednesday, June 17 - Hamburgers  
 Wednesday, June 24 - Golden Gate Chow Mein

**MAYAS HOD MASH**  
 ECOLI ALI LENTO  
 SAULT IDO ONTAP  
 SIDECAR DAQUIRI  
 NOD PERU  
 ASH MESA MAITAI  
 SLAW PODS TOAST  
 CORA TULIP NICE  
 OPERA ROLL SLIM  
 TEMPLE COAT SIS  
 LANK ZOO  
 CAMPARI JANUARY  
 USURY ERA IGLOO  
 SILOS COD CHOIR  
 PALM EYE STELE

— King Crossword —  
 Answers  
 Solution time: 25 mins.

**ENNIS FAMILY and FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP**  
 100 Prairie Way, Ennis (599-3659)  
 For those who have a loved one struggling with any type of addiction  
 Tuesdays ~ 5 p.m.

**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

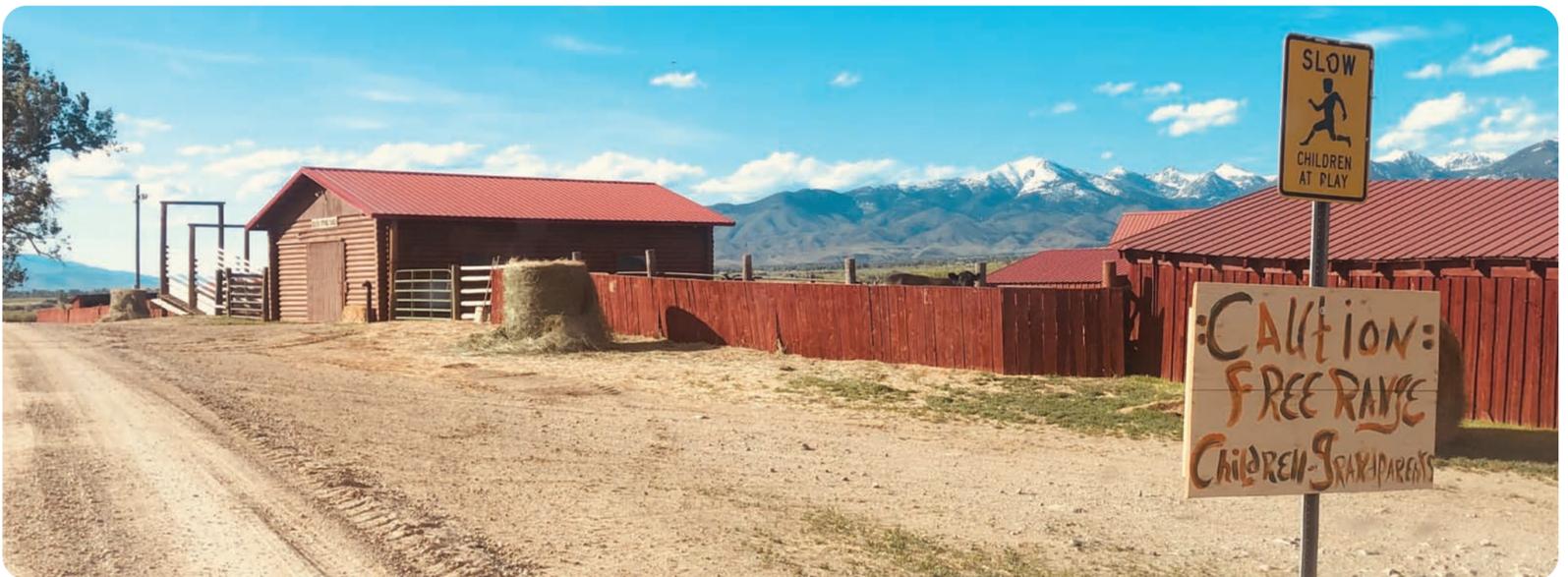
"Keep it Simple."  
**A.A. MEETING**  
 Bethany Hall, Sheridan  
 (behind Methodist Church)  
 Wednesdays ~ 8 p.m.

**Vennis Over The Hill Unity Group**  
 Faced with a drinking problem?  
 Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help.  
 SUN. - 10 a.m., Elks Club  
 MON. - Open, 7:00 pm Call numbers below for on line Zoom meeting directions  
 WED. - 7:30 p.m., Trinity Church in Jeffers  
 FRI. - Open, 7:00 pm Call numbers below for on line Zoom meeting directions  
 406-596-5000 Ennis  
 406-925-0371 Virginia City  
 916-316-2824

DO YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM?  
 CONTACT A.A. - WE'RE ALCOHOLICS HELPING OTHER ALCOHOLICS STAY SOBER.  
 CALL 1-833-800-8553 TO TALK TO AN A.A. MEMBER  
 OR  
 GET THE MEETING GUIDE APP  
 OR  
 GO TO AA-MONTANA.ORG  
 FR VIRTUAL AND FACE-TO-FACE MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS

*Did you know*  
**682-7755**

- Our obituaries are FREE up to 450 words. (25¢ for each word after 450)
- We offer 20% off non-profit advertising
- Lost and Found classifieds are FREE!



**EDITOR'S NOTE\*** Let's keep our public involved. As you schedule virtual meetings, please post at [Outpostevents.net](https://outpostevents.net) so our public stays active and informed. If you're planning an event, please share.

**REGULAR EVENTS**

**MONDAYS**

**10 a.m.**  
**Madison County All Hazard Incident Management Team Operations Briefing**  
 Meeting link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/289992789>  
 Access Code: 289-992-789  
 Join by phone: +1 (872) 240-3311

**TUESDAYS**

**9:30 a.m.**  
**Madison County Board of Commissioners Meeting**  
 This Meeting will be available by Webex.  
 Meeting link: <https://globalpage-prod.webex.com/join>  
 Meeting number (access code): 295 441 840  
 Password: VCMadison  
 Host key: 289925 or  
 Join by phone +1-408-418-9388

**WEDNESDAYS**

**10 a.m.**  
**Madison County All Hazard Incident Management Team Operations Briefing**  
 Meeting link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/289992789>  
 Access Code: 289-992-789  
 Join by phone: +1 (872) 240-3311

**FRIDAYS**

**10 a.m.**  
**Madison County All Hazard Incident Management Team Operations Briefing**  
 Meeting link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/289992789>  
 Access Code: 289-992-789  
 Join by phone: +1 (872) 240-3311

**Monday through Friday**

**6:30 -7:30 a.m.**  
**Water Aerobics and Lap Swim**  
 The Ruby Valley Swimming Pool in Sheridan is offering a cool way to stay fit in the summer. Call 406.842.5272 to sign up for water aerobics or reserve a lane.  
**Noon – 1 p.m.**  
**Water Aerobics**  
 The Ruby Valley Swimming Pool in Sheridan is offering a cool way to stay fit in the summer. Call 406.842.5272 to sign up.

**EVENTS**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 16**

**4:30 p.m.**  
**Madison County Board of Health Meeting**  
 The board will be meeting on Gotomeeting.com. Sign in information will be released at a later time.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 18**

**5:30 p.m.**  
**Madison County DUI Task Force Meeting**  
 The public is welcomed and encouraged to attend the meeting at the Ennis Town Hall.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19**

**5 p.m. – 8 p.m.**  
**Evening of Art**  
 Enjoy local art! Cathy Toot will be featured at Gallery 287 and Cattleman's Gallery is featuring photographer Gerry Mooney.

**5- 7 p.m. Ed Totten artist reception** at Madison Valley Public Library.

**JUNE 19, 20 and 21**

**up in Arms gun show** at Madison County Fairgrounds.

**SATURDAY, JULY 20**

**Horseback Poker Ride**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
 Saddle up for the Pony Homecoming Club's 16th annual Poker Ride at the Sitz Angus Ranch in Harrison. Be sure to hide your poker face because masks are mandatory. \$30 to play. 37 Sitz Road, Harrison.

**10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Kids Fishing Derby**  
 Twin Bridges' veterans will host their annual fishing derby for kids 14 years old and under at Lori's Pond. Veterans and the women's auxiliary will hold a barbeque as well.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 21**

**Happy Father's Day!**

**CANCELATIONS**

**SHERIDAN DAYS IS CANCELED.**

**ENNIS FOURTH OF JULY PARADE IS CANCELED.**

**FIRE DEPT. PANCAKE BREAKFAST IS CANCELED.**

**4TH OF JULY PICNIC AT MOLLY'S YELLOW HOUSE (IN ENNIS) IS CANCELED.**

**ALDER DAYS IS CANCELED.**

**ENNIS ARTS ASSOCIATION ART SHOW IS CANCELED.**



**Big Sky State Games 35th Anniversary!**

July 17-19  
 Billings, MT

**REGISTER TODAY**  
[bigskygames.org](https://bigskygames.org)

T-SHIRT DEADLINE & BEST PRICE: July 1  
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 CYCLING • DISC GOLF • EQUESTRIAN  
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 LACROSSE • PICKLEBALL • RACQUETBALL  
 ROAD RACE • SHOOTING • SOCCER  
 SOFTBALL • SWIMMING • TABLE TENNIS  
 TAEKWONDO/JUDO • TENNIS  
 TRACK & FIELD • TRIATHLON/DUATHLON  
 ULTIMATE FRISBEE • VOLLEYBALL • WEIGHTLIFTING

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**DINE IN!**  
[www.theshovelandspoon.com](http://www.theshovelandspoon.com)  
 MON, TUES, WED 11-2 and THUR & FRI 11-7  
 108 N. Main Street | Sheridan, MT | 842-7999

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