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Park County Community Journal

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FREE

SUNDAY EDITION • July 21, 2024

Not for Novice Runners! The Prospectors 50k/30k Race In Silver Gate/Cooke City



On Saturday and Sunday, August 10th and 11th, the Prospectors 50k/30k is underway—aptnly named for the rugged men who explored the area starting in the 1860s. The Prospectors was a new race that started last year. For runners and spectators alike, the views are as good as the gold the prospectors were seeking. If you can pull your eyes away from the surrounding mountain views, you'll run by big and small reminders of the mining activity including homesteads, mining equipment, and endless spur roads.

The Prospectors 50k course will start in Silver Gate at 7 am and finishes in Cooke City by 6 pm each day. It follows access roads and trails that gain approximately 5500 feet in elevation. The 30k course follows the majority of the 50k course.

The races are limited to 100 racers per event. Both races are not for the faint of heart—that's for sure! This race will have a 12-hour cut-off time, with each aid station having progressive cut offs. (For their safety, if runners make it to an aid station after the cutoff time, they cannot continue the race,



with no refunds issued.)
General registration is \$120/\$95 respectively. Late registration is \$135/\$115. To register online, go to RedLodgeEvents.com/prospectors-50k, and see if you are early enough to get the registration discount. The racers will receive: a beer, scenic racer photos, a custom race flannel—and the race of your lifetime!
The race could always use volunteers: course monitors, finish-line assistants, course sweeps, aid stations, etc. Check out: RunSignUp.com/race/volunteer/MT/CookeCity to view more options and to sign up to volunteer.
The Prospector's 50k/30k race operates under a 5-year Special Use Permit from the Gardiner Forest Service Ranger Station.

"Build A Better Wilsall" Fundraiser Dinner and a Movie— Wilsall Style

Join the Build a Better Wilsall Group on Friday, August 2nd for a family-friendly, summer evening starting at 6 pm featuring a delicious Prime Rib dinner, salad, rolls, and prize-winning brownies. You won't want to miss it! The dinner master will be Bruce Park. Admission is \$20 per person with family discounts. The event sponsors are Kenyon Noble, Livingston's Ace Hardware, and Glenn's Shopping Center in Clyde Park.

This annual fundraiser is an outdoor event held at the Wilsall Rodeo Grounds arena. It includes Auctioneer Garth Isbell selling items such as: a local rancher's beef basket, weaving by Beverly Polk and Sarah Pilgrim, alpaca weaving from Amberly Huttinger of Crazy Head Creek Farms, a Mary Michael sculpture, glass art from Becky Ratliff, and more.

The hottest item of the auction each year is the home-made pie raffle. Winners of the pie raffles are entered into a special drawing to win a rifle from Murdoch's.

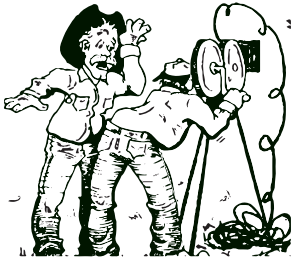
Next up is a memorial slide show of community members who have passed away. The main event is the black-and-

white western movie. What movie will it be this year?

The Build A Better Wilsall Group is serious about improving their town. Here is a list of some of their completed projects:

Donations to rodeo grounds for a concrete slab and other refurbishments; flags, sprinklers, benches, and a granite veteran's memorial at the cemetery; flowers around town; a pavilion, flag, memorial, rest rooms, playground equipment, and signs at the park; picnic table and garbage can at the statue; donations to BPA, the Wilsall signs at the end of town, donations to the stockyard, reproduced photos for the gallery at the museum, speakers at the school, donation to Sedan School for painting; maintenance and fencing at the Conoco station.

Please join them for a delightful summer evening with your family with great food, great auction items for a worthy cause, and a movie under the open sky. Email Cheryl Robinson at MontanaLovely54@gmail.com or call her at 406-223-9014 for questions or more information.



Heroes of The 1962 B-47 Plane Crash on Emigrant Peak

By Joyce Johnson

Where were you the summer of 1962? Here in Paradise Valley, (sixty two years ago July 23) an Air Force B-47 crashed during a training mission on a ridge three quarters up the back face of Emigrant Peak, and took the lives of four young Airmen. In 1969, a 15-year old Valley youth who was told the general area, climbed up the peak to look for the crash site, and found it. We all know him: Bryan Wells of Old Chico. From the personal experience of that adventurer, and even by later climbers to the site, one thing stood out immediately. It was undisturbed,

strangely rust free as though not an old event, but a recent one. "It felt strange," they said, "to be there." Unfinished, I suggested.
But not forgotten - It was investigated but nobody knew much about it around here, despite the drama of the fire it caused, with the involvement of forest, fire, and emergency services. A Search and Rescue Camp was set up at Six Mile Creek. A Forest Serviceman, when asked how the climb up to the ridge went, said, "TWO MILES STRAIGHT UP!" ...



We salute Him. But, the book was not finished, so to speak, until years later when it became a compelling mission for Bryan, friends, kin, locals, tenacious legislators, and an endless list of community volunteers and contributors, to sleuth out the details and acknowledge, honor and memorialize the young Airmen interred on that crash site on our Peak.

Although there were many challenges, this journey, and story was brought to "right" action, and completion, only within the last 7 years. With respect for known facts, it needs to be included that a formal

See Heroes of The 1962 B-57, Page 4



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OP-ED FORUM

Okay, Try This Metaphor on for Size

by Patricia Grabow

It may not be my greatest contribution to urban planning vocabulary, but I've decided you could call the kinds of struggles the Livingston area is dealing with lately the trophy-girlfriend problem.

I feel like unseen but significant moneyed interests are still playing roles behind the scenes in Livingston and Park County as I'd mentioned had been described happening to Jackson in the book, *Billionaire Wilderness*. It's natural to love the beauty of nature all around us; stunning mountains, the flowing Yellowstone River, the greater Yellowstone

ecosystem, even at animals passing through Miles and Sacajawea Parks.

It's like somebody said, "She's hot, I want her for mine," and they never thought that much to respect it on its own terms.

She deserves it. Our vital, historically-rich home has an identity of its own (is as complex as any human), needs to thrive economically in her own right, and did not grow to be simply put under the thumb of amorphous corporate interests.

With a mind of her own, Livingston turned out to be a surprise to her suitor and became more and more independent

of the whims and intents of the corporate wealthy.

As she should, Livingston still has an amazing history. She was the first rail entrance to the first national park in the world, with 6555 national parks formed since then. And a downtown bustling with twenty hotels, including the former Northern Pacific Depot (designed by the original architects for New York's Grand Central), built about the same time as Old Faithful Inn and other key Yellowstone hotels. I'm still investigating the chance of a World Heritage Site designation for this. Gateway cities have been significant to national parks, but Livingston was still the first to the first. Revitalize that original downtown core in service to Park visitors, or as many of us dream and work for, a return of rail passenger service, and she could be quite the broad.

But some don't like too much spirit in a woman, and it can lead to pushback. As when, against the will of a previous city administration, 1600 people of Livingston banded together and created a Growth Policy and envisioned what they wanted Livingston to become.

It was a wise move. Turning into merely yet another suburb of Bozeman could cost us dearly, and the sweetly worded promises of those with designs, rarely, if ever deliver. Any charming community has to watch out for the slick rakes ready to love and leave. Livingston has always been responsible to its own economy and residents. External interests from the corporate to not-for-profits, however, may have very different shareholders, visions, and agendas.

So, while such interests might have drooled at the outlook under the last administration, the trophy dame was kind of starting to think for herself.

You know the story. A new environmentally sensitive and mentally active city commission entered the scene. They hired a city manager determined with them to stand by the Growth Policy, created by the will of the people. Together they created a PUD (planned unit development) allowing for affordable housing in every new subdivision.

The Wellness Center that was proposed to land-grab and take over an infilled former river island at Miles Park, in deference to the policy, was forced to move to an apter location serving on the north side.

A "Main Street Project" was set in motion for a more effective downtown. The city began a project around our parks getting public input. And the city went through more public process in creating potential Gateway Overlay Zones for each of the three entrances to Livingston, and more efforts with an eye to letting Livingston be herself too. It wasn't that outside interests didn't care completely, but they are used to giving orders, not negotiating, because outside of token formalities, it's just not their nature. They thought they could strong-arm down the uppity part.

Livingston deserves credit for its courage to date, but it still needs to take its independence to the next level.

Economically, let her develop her downtown with accommodation and hotel businesses again, potentially even with new structures as well as revived, to attract a year-round customer base for its 355 downtown businesses.

And this is where Livingston could begin to soar more. I mentioned the St. Regis Solar Hydrogen Company, which they believe, could fuel hydrogen rail engines, which could dovetail with that potential passenger service. They expressed their belief that "people living in distressed rural communities deserve access to well-paying jobs and that, by working together, we can develop a model that becomes a beacon of hope for rural America." St. Regis is in Node 8 of the Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Hub which was awarded \$1 billion for infrastructure development.

Sure, that's across a region, but that's not a small vision or award. When Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority gets going, it can employ scalable Diesel Modular Unit (DMU) trains that could be engineered for hydrogen power. To some extent it's still in infancy, but at the annual meeting of the Big Sky Rail Authority, a speaker suggested that they might be looking for a Montana site to create the DMUs.

Let's see: Ever hear of any cities in the area with large rail maintenance shops that could theoretically be put to use?

And Livingston to her credit is exploring things. Its environmental community has no difficulty seeing the opportunity either.

Local perspective can change our thinking about housing too. The city could

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,

With more and more states restricting access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion, it is so important to bring awareness to the connection between intimate partner violence (IPV) and pregnancy and show the devastating consequences of restricting access to safe and legal abortion for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Here is a statistic which might shock you (and it should): In the U.S., homicide is the leading cause of death among pregnant women, and 1 in 6 survivors are first abused during pregnancy. Again, HOMICIDE is the LEADING cause of death for pregnant women in the U.S. (according to a study published October, 2021, in Obstetrics & Gynecology). Let that sink in.

All too often, pregnancy and violence

are closely associated. Unplanned pregnancies increase the risk for violence, and violence increases the risk for unplanned pregnancies. A recent study found that a woman's odds of experiencing violence at the hands of her partner increases 10% with each pregnancy.

You may not realize that pregnancy is not always consensual—including between couples who are married. Over 10 million women have had a partner who tried to get them pregnant against their will or who refused to wear a condom during sex, and another 2.1 million have become pregnant due to rape by an intimate partner. This is called reproductive coercion—it is an attempt by the abuser to control their reproductive health (all abuse is based on power and control in a relationship). Here are 3 of the most common behaviors: manipulating or interfering with birth control

methods such as hiding birth control pills or intentionally breaking or removing condoms during sex; forcing a partner to get pregnant, carry a pregnancy, or to terminate a pregnancy against their will; and finally, forcing a partner to have unprotected sex.

Keep in mind this is not about wanting a child—it is about power and control. A baby becomes an unsuspecting pawn in possibly a volatile relationship. A term often used in human trafficking instances is an "anchor baby"—the baby is the anchor which keeps the victim tethered to the abuser.

Lack of reproductive autonomy (having the power to decide and control contraceptive use, pregnancy, and childbearing) further ties a victim to their abuser, making it even more difficult to leave an abusive relationship. Access to safe and legal abortion is absolutely critical to putting an end to reproductive coercion

and intimate partner violence.

All of this makes it more difficult for victims of abuse to access reproductive healthcare, therefore allowing abusive partners to control their victim's decision-making, their finances, and many aspects of their daily life.

Reproductive autonomy is imperative to the safety of victims. It offers a chance to break free from a cycle of violence. A society that supports the right to choose means a society with less violence and more empathy and resources for survivors. If you care about victims and survivors of violence, I hope you will take the time to learn the full consequences of what is a stake for those who are the most vulnerable among us.

Heidi Barrett, Executive Director
ASPEN (Abuse Support & Prevention
Education Network)
Livingston, Montana



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Heroes of The 1962 B-57

from page 1

request for information was submitted to the Authorities, and a 50-page document regarding the findings was received but half was redacted, [blacked out]. To this day, Bryan's team and friends aren't sure what that was about, but of course any sensitive equipment was removed from the site, and it was suggested that the right thing to do might have been to shelve any human errors that, sadly the case too often, might have been found, and would have been needlessly painful for the families. What, however mattered to Bryan's team, was a memorial, and came these resulting side stories that are rich, funny in spots, and "heartful:"

2015 – retired Air Force pilot, Joe Mackilin, Assistant Director of Operations, was curious, and got Bryan's' name from the Park County Sheriff who said Bryan would know about the crash. So Joe contacted him and later flew over the site, and Bryan took him up the mountain. Joe's appearance "on the stage," at this point, was a spark that helped fan the flame of its success. Because, what should have been a natural action from authorities—a memorial—was not allowed on Natl. Forest land, even though not strictly enforced in other places,... Bryan was told It would literally "take an act of congress," and years, "to pull it off."

2016 – In the meantime, *What he could do for the Airmen and their families* was to build a Memorial gazebo and arrange a Service at nearby Chico Cemetery, whose caretakers were excited about the project. Bryan got his cousin, a genealogist, to locate existing families of the Airmen. He found them all. One was on FB, the Co-pilot's son, a professor, who used a photo

of a B-47 jet bomber flying past E Peak on his profile banner. Little did he know that he would soon fly over the crash site.

The Chico Cemetery event drew around 250 people including 28 family members. Bryan thought some light snacks would be nice for a reception afterwards at Emigrant Hall, but our women's auxiliary rustled up something like a five-course banquet. Senator Daines and wife attended, and visited extensively with the Airman's families. Regarding getting congressional backing, he told Bryan at the end of the evening: "*We are going to get it done*, and its been said of Senator Daines,... "when he says he's going to do something, he does it." And he did, with Gov. Gianforte and Sen. John Tester on board too.

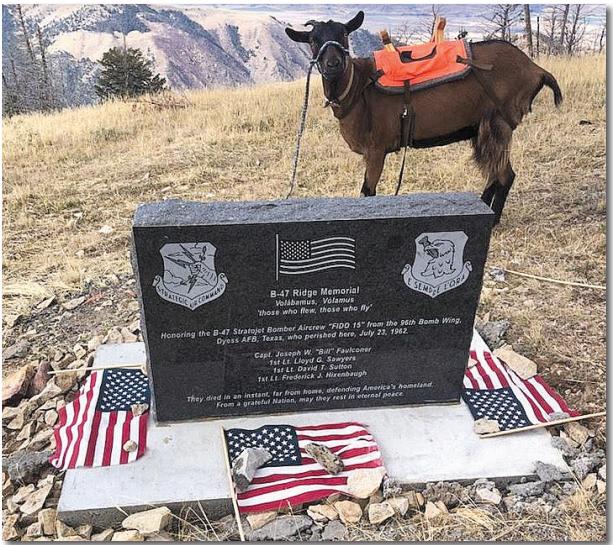
Oct. 2020 – The B-47 Ridge Designation Act. Finally the Bill was signed into Law, by President Trump, permitting the public memorial to be installed that honored those Airmen who sacrificed their lives that day, in the line of duty. And, further, created a precedent for future honoring of all Veterans here in Montana.

The final installation and ceremony was in July of 2021. "Nip" & "Tuck," Bryan's 2 goats carried installation tools up the mountain on their backs, a chopper pilot named Mark Taylor did a long drop of equipment at the site and lifted the 560 lb. black marble monument,that took 8 men to carry to the concrete base with big metal bolts that would support the permanent Memorial on Emigrant Peak. Footage of all this and more is on a YouTube. Type in search box: B-47 Ridge Documentary by Art Taft, [who by the way, like nearly all the contributors, didn't charge a dime for any service].

Memorial Service on a Mountain – A 36-member group of people came to Emigrant and hiked to the crash site, including nieces, nephews and grand

children of the Airmen. One of the widows, and those who were not able to make the climb were lifted in the chopper by Mark Taylor in six batches. The Governor and his wife, Susan, attended. Many found final closure with the formal honors given to the young Airmen who died on Emigrant peak in 1962, 62 years ago this week, on July 23. For decades, the Airman's families thought of Montana as a dark place of tragic loss, but when they came up here and "met" Montana, and the community, Bryan said peace was found, and life friendships were formed. Healing, and even joy happened, and like us, they fell in love with the place, and came back to visit. For instance the great nephew of the co pilot, who came back to stay and is working near the Peak at the Sage Lodge. Bryan heard the other day that the young man hiked up alone to the site recently. In bear season...

Bears aside: Emigrant Peak has a timeless tangible presence whose strength sort of gets all over you. E Peak is the Sentinel of Paradise Valley, I think, respected and loved by all of us. Powerful, inspirited, and majestic; testy and unpredictable say the hikers; an ancient provider, and a hunting ground. It holds the records of history and legend, of interactions with Native tribes, pioneers, miners, and mountain men. Bert Olsen of Emigrant G. Store says it is the most photographed mountain in Montana, (besides kids riding his smiling plastic green Dinosaur...).The mountain is well protected too, *by us*, the community, from commercial exploitation, with impressive support and legal defense work of valley locals and leaders,



who step up when the goin' gets rough. Emigrant Peak is also protected in "spirit" by Bryan Wells, volunteer Valley Fireman, and Park County Commissioner. He has lived near or literally up in that Mountain, Old Chico, for close to half a century; now with his kids and grandchildren close by, as well as the spiritual presence of their mother, Bryan's wife of 50 years, Sally, a very talented creative, who passed away only a few weeks ago.

This month has been full of Veteran appreciation, American tradition, historic revival, parades and patriotism, solemn farewells of loved ones, and, the rewards of Community Caring, Courage, and Commitment to right action. It was at times hard to watch the online video of this story, for stinging eyes, but with a feeling in my heart that the 1962 crash of the B-47, and the four men taken, drew the best out of everyone and united them in integral purpose, here in Emigrant. The Airmen did not die in vain. Their champion, Bryan Wells is rightly proud of Montanans: Mission accomplished, by a whole community. May we never forget its message.



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Tuesday, July 23rd - Orange chicken over rice, eggroll, fruit, milk

Wednesday, July 24th - Ham salad, crackers, cucumber salad, fruit, dessert, milk

Thursday, July 25th - Corn chowder, ½ turkey sandwich, fruit, milk

Friday, July 26th - Fish fillet, fries, coleslaw, fruit, dessert, milk



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Community School Collaborative: A Pioneering Force in Early Career Exploration

Introduction

Community School Collaborative (CSC) stands as an exemplar of innovation in Park County, Montana, a region grappling with profound socio-economic and mental health challenges.

Amidst high youth and adult suicide rates, an affordable housing crisis, and a struggling tourism-based economy, CSC emerges as a critical player in providing youth with the tools and opportunities needed to navigate these difficulties and secure a promising future.

By offering comprehensive, evidence-based career exploration programs starting in middle school, CSC is not only addressing a crucial gap in the education system but also paving the way for long-term community resilience and prosperity.

The Case for Early Career Exploration

Experts widely acknowledge the importance of initiating career exploration at an early age, yet few schools or programs have effectively implemented this practice.

Research highlights the significant benefits of exposing students to various career paths during their formative years, including increased engagement, motivation, and academic performance. According to a report by The Journal, there is a pressing need for more oversight and structured programs to ensure middle school students receive adequate career exploration opportunities. Similarly, the National Career Development Association emphasizes that early career interventions can foster self-awareness and informed decision-making, critical components for future success.

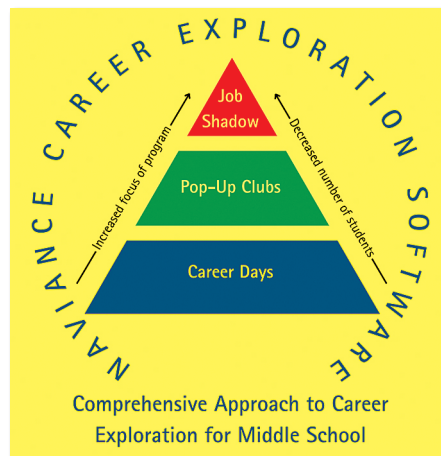
What Sets Us Apart

We have developed an innovative solution for providing career exploration for

middle schoolers in our rural community. Our schools are constantly facing budget cuts and often struggle to be fully staffed, making it difficult to start and sustain programs. As a nonprofit, CSC contracts with the school, independently raising all the funding, providing staff, and handling all logistics for our programs. We work closely with the school and are housed within it, ensuring that these essential programs are implemented with minimal effort required from the school itself. This model has proven to be effective in ensuring that career readiness programs can thrive even in resource-limited settings.

CSC's innovative approach to career exploration is multifaceted, designed to meet the diverse needs of middle school students. The organization operates several key programs:

- 1. Cougar Career Days:** These school-hour events provide broad career exploration opportunities, exposing students to various professions and helping them understand the breadth of possibilities available to them.
- 2. Pop-Up Clubs:** Smaller, more intimate career exploration experiences held after school or on weekends, engaging students in specific careers through hands-on activities and interactions with professionals.
- 3. Job Shadow Program:** An intensive experience where students are placed with local businesses once a week for a quarter, offering a deep dive into real-world work environments.
- 4. Naviance Integration:** Utilizing a



nationally recognized career exploration software, CSC enhances its programs by helping students explore their interests and skills, guiding them through assessments and personalized career planning.

These programs are carefully designed to provide meaningful and practical career insights, ensuring students are well-equipped to make informed decisions about their futures.

Proven Impact and Need for Support

Despite the clear benefits, early career exploration programs often struggle with underfunding. CSC's innovative model has already demonstrated significant positive impacts on student engagement and outlook. For instance, students who participate in CSC programs show better understanding of career options, and higher aspirations for their future. This aligns with findings from the Hechinger Report, which underscores the transformative potential of career readiness programs in middle school.

However, to sustain and expand these

programs, CSC requires additional funding. Increased financial support would enable CSC to reach more students, provide more resources and support, and ultimately enhance the well-being of Park County youth by offering them hope and a clear pathway to a fulfilling future.


Conclusion

The Community School Collaborative is at the forefront of addressing a critical gap in the education system by providing innovative, evidence-based career exploration programs for middle school students. In a region beset by significant challenges, CSC's work is not only transformative for the youth it serves but also essential for the long-term health and prosperity of the community. By investing in CSC, donors have the opportunity to support a proven, impactful initiative that empowers young people to envision and achieve a brighter future. The time to act is now, to ensure that every child in Park County has the chance to thrive.

"Purposeful career education develops a young person's capacity to navigate the pathways they must follow to reach their potential and succeed and flourish as adults. Schools are beginning to respond to the groundswell of demand for these programs. But genuine change requires real investment. In our rapidly shifting education landscape, donors would do well to use this framework to guide their financial support for career education and pathways programs."

- Bruno Manno, The Walton Foundation

To learn more about supporting CSC, please contact Emily Kempe at emily@csc4kids.org, or call 406-823-0444.



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City Manager's Message

With temperatures forecast above ninety degrees for the foreseeable future, the first heat wave of the summer is officially upon us. I hope that everyone will take extra precautions this weekend to stay cool and safe.

There is no better way to stay cool in Livingston than visiting the City's outdoor public pool. Go grind some laps in the morning or enjoy the diving board during afternoon public swim on Saturday and Sunday starting at 12:30 pm! More information about the full pool schedule and our programming is available on the Facebook page.

As the mercury stays high next week, I encourage residents to stay in the shade and periodically visit air-conditioned spaces to keep cool. One of our great air-conditioned spaces, the City-County Building at 414 E. Callender Street, will be open next Tuesday night for a City Commission meeting starting at 5:30 pm. In addition to finalizing the budget, the Commission will also be asked to take the first step in creating Gateway Overlay Zoning Districts, more info below, and the building is air-conditioned!

Enjoy the shade, keep the fireworks in the closet and be sure to drink plenty of water!

Tips for Reducing Outdoor Water Use

The heat wave is also taking its toll on our water system. As it heats up, and lawns need more water, the City urges its residents to take a moment to evaluate your outdoor water usage. Doing so will help ensure that the City's system can keep up with our needs this summer. A few easy steps you can take are:

- **Check sprinkler system run times.** Check the programming on your sprinkler system to ensure that you are not over-saturating your lawn or watering hardscape areas. This can prevent excess water runoff. Visual inspections after a watering cycle will make apparent any necessary changes.
- **Don't water in the sun.** Watering landscapes overnight or when in the shade will help reduce water loss. In the daytime sun, less water will be available to plants due to loss from evaporation. Direct sun with water also

risks scalding greenery and should be avoided.

- **Let grass grow longer before cutting it.** Raise lawn mower blades and protect lawns from the heat by letting the grass grow longer (4 inches is better in the hottest months). A taller lawn provides shade to the roots and helps retain soil moisture, so your lawn requires less water.
- **Fix leaks.** Check your sprinkler system for broken sprinkler heads and damaged irrigation lines. A well-maintained system will save both money and water.

As a reminder, the City instituted a drought management plan in May. While we are currently encouraging voluntary measures to curb water use, more stringent restrictions may come if current high temperatures and water usage patterns persist.

Livingston Downtown Master Plan

Last summer, the City embarked on a Downtown Master Plan effort assisted by Crescendo Design. Your feedback has been instrumental to the process, thank you.

In the coming weeks, Livingston will have several opportunities to see a draft of the plan and interact with the study team. Please join the Urban Renewal Agency (URA) on July 23rd for a conversation on the downtown master plan to learn more about how the URA may be a partner. Then, on August 18th, the Consolidated Land Use Board will be presented a draft of the plan for public review and comment. Depending on the outcome of those two meetings, and feedback received from the community, we expect that the City Commission will have an opportunity to hear from the folks at Crescendo at the Commission meeting on September 3rd.

All Commission meetings are hosted in the Community Room downstairs in the City-County Building and all agendas are posted on-line the week before.

Upcoming Initiatives

We know it has been a while since the last newsletter. Fear not, we've simply been busy planning for upcoming initiatives that will solicit community input to ensure that our future efforts are meeting the needs of the

community. Over the coming months, we have several exciting initiatives planned including:

Protecting our Gateways

In 2021, the City adopted a Growth Policy that included recommendations for the establishment of Community Gateways near Livingston's three Interstate exits. To date, no Gateway Overlay Districts have been established or incorporated into the Zoning Code.

The creation of a Gateway Overlay Zoning District supports the following goals, objectives and strategies in the 2021 Growth Policy:

- Goal 2.1: Preserve and enhance Livingston's unique community character.
- Objective 2.1.1: Establish community gateways to indicate entrances into Livingston and celebrate its character.
- Strategy 2.1.1.1: Identify key roadway and non-motorized entry points or gateways into Livingston.
- Strategy 2.1.1.2: Review, update, and enforce the policies, procedures, and building design guidelines in Livingston's gateways.
- Strategy 2.1.1.3: Explore adopting design overlay zones in gateways.
- Strategy 2.1.1.4: Develop effective wayfinding signage for locals and tourists to easily find destinations, trails and parks, and parking within and nearby gateways.

On February 26th, the City of Livingston hosted a public Gateways Visioning Workshop to jumpstart planning for gateways following the process that originated in 2021. The results of that workshop were transmitted to the City Commission in May and staff has been working to implement those recommendations. One recommendation is that the City should utilize the existing Building Design Standards in the Zoning Code as a tool to guide commercial development and redevelopment in Gateway Areas.

On June 24th, the Consolidated Land Use Board was presented with a proposed Zoning Map Amendment to create a Gateway Overlay Zoning District that includes the locations of community gateway areas at the entrances to Livingston. The proposed Gateway Overlay District is based on the 2021 Growth Policy; however, only commercially zoned parcels located within the municipal boundaries of the City of Livingston are included in this Map Amendment.

- **Energy Action Plan:** The City is finalizing an agreement with a team that will engage the community on sustainability goals. Once we establish those goals, the consulting team will work with the Community and City to identify and prioritize projects to achieve those goals. More information will be available in the

coming weeks as the project kicks-off.

- **Parks Master Plan:** The City will also be initiating a Parks Master Planning process later this summer. The City has tapped Stockwell Engineers to lead the community through this effort which will kick-off with a series of community meetings to understand how the community uses the parks now and hopes to do so in the future. At the conclusion of this process, the City will have a roadmap of projects to pursue to help ensure that the City's parks meet the needs of all users.
- **Reservoir Park Geo-Design:** The City is partnering with CV Studio to embark on an innovative process to guide the visioning and enhancement of Reservoir Park. In August, CV Studio will kick off the project with a community meeting. More information on each of these exciting initiatives will be forthcoming.

Tell Us Your Thoughts

The Livingston City Commission is engaging in a summer of listening sessions. Commissioners will be present at the Farmer's Market on August 14th and September 11th and they look forward to hearing from the community from 4:30 to 7:30 pm at the Market.

If you can't make it on Wednesday afternoons, the Commission will also hold monthly sessions on Saturday mornings. We hope that you can join at 9 am on July 27th or August 24th at an in-town location to be announced.

City of Livingston was awarded a MCEP Planning Grant of \$40,000

We're thrilled to share that the City of Livingston has received a \$40,000 Planning Grant from the Montana Coal Endowment! This grant will help the City complete a preliminary engineering report for water improvements in the northeastern part of the City including in Green Acres, Montague and the Sleeping Giant Community.

The Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) will help us plan the project and secure more funding for the design and construction of the new infrastructure. This project will build upon the recent improvements of the regional sewer project in the neighborhood and fulfill a City promise to extend all infrastructures to our recently annexed areas. For more information, please reach out to the City of Livingston.

I hope that you can join us in this effort to ensure that the City is focused on meeting community goals and needs.

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Heat and Sun Safety: What You Need to Know

by Nurse Jill

With scorchers forecast for this week, it's time to talk about heat safety. Over exposure to heat and sun can cause heat-related illnesses that can range from mild to severe. The best treatment for all of them is prevention.

If you aren't from Montana you may be fooled by our lack of humidity. Our 90 degrees can feel like a mere 70 in Texas or Georgia. Humid or not, heat can still be dangerous.

Just because it feels less intense than "back home" you still need to take precautions to avoid heat-related illnesses.

There is a spectrum when we talk about heat-related illnesses but there are two main types that are recognized in the medical community, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. These result from prolonged exposure to high temperatures without adequate fluids or relief from the heat.

Heat exhaustion is a progression of the body's lack of adjustment to the heat. It results not only from loss of fluids but also loss of salt through the sweat. The body is eventually unable to cool itself through normal means such as sweating and "flushing" (a result of widening the blood vessels close to the surface of the skin to cool the body). Symptoms of heat exhaustion can include; fever (at least 100.5), feeling worn out, feeling dizzy or faint, heavy sweating, moist skin, rapid pulse, muscle cramps, headache,

irritability, thirst, and nausea.

Heat stroke is when the body's coping mechanisms fail under the challenge of heat and is a life-threatening medical emergency. The body's systems have lost the ability to cool the overall temp of the body and if treatment is not administered immediately permanent disability or death could occur. Symptoms of heat stroke can include; confusion, slurred speech, loss of consciousness, hot, dry skin, seizure, high body temperature (usually 104 degrees or higher).

Treatment for both heat exhaustion and heat stroke includes:

- Have the victim stop all activity -moving the victim to a cool shaded area (or inside to air conditioning, if possible)
- Remove excess clothing (shoes and socks, too) use cool washcloths to the face, head, neck, and armpits
- Encourage fluids for heat exhaustion; take the individual to a doctor to be evaluated. Don't let them go alone.

If you are with someone who is experiencing heat stroke you need to call 911 to get immediate assistance. Heat stroke can increase a body's core temperature to 106 within 15 minutes. Follow the above advice and stay with the person until help arrives. If they are still conscious you can encourage fluid intake but if they have lost consciousness you should not put

anything in their mouth. Concentrate your efforts on cooling them down with water on the skin, wet cloths to head, neck, and face, wetting the clothes they still have on, and fanning the air around them. You can also put ice in wet washcloths to put in the armpits, groin, head, and back of the neck.

Of course, there are some factors that increase your risk for heat-related illnesses. One is humidity which we thankfully don't have a lot of in Montana. Another is age—both the younger and the older are more susceptible to the cooling mechanisms not being as effective.

Things you can do to reduce risk:

- Monitor alcohol intake while in the sun.
- Be aware of medication side effects. Some meds make you susceptible to heat exposure.
- Dress in lightweight, loose, cool clothing
- Keep hydrated with appropriate fluids.
- Avoid sunburn. Sunburned skin reduces the efficacy of the body's cooling efforts.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the hottest part of the day and

take frequent breaks in shaded areas to rehydrate and give your body a break.

- Start small. If you do need to spend a lot of time in the heat start with small increments and work up to longer episodes, always keeping in mind the break and hydration guidelines.
- Use fans or cold packs if available.
- Monitor the weather and make plans according to the forecast.

While Montana isn't exactly known for its high heat index or oppressive humidity; it is still prudent to pay attention to heat safety during the height of the summer. A lot of folks power through the hot days with the rationale that there "aren't that many" during a Montana summer but heat exhaustion can make you feel lousy and come on pretty quickly and heat stroke is just not worth taking the risk. Stay cool, stay hydrated, and avoid heat-related illnesses.



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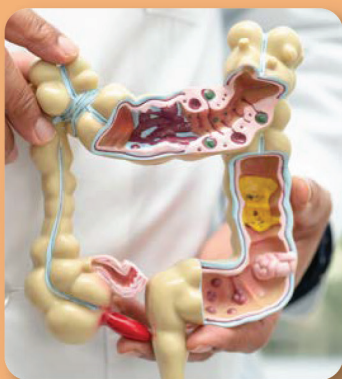
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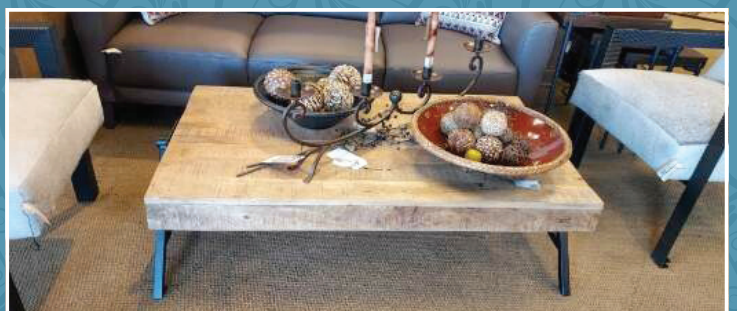
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It's Healthy Soils Day at the Farmers Market!

Livingston, Montana – July 24th, from 4:30 – 7:30 pm, is Healthy Soils Day at the Livingston Farmers Market, held on River Drive at Miles Park Band Shell, sponsored by Western Sustainability Exchange (WSE), Sun Mountain Lumber, and Signe Lahren with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. Healthy soils can increase drought and flood resilience,

improve human health through healthy farms/ranches/ecosystems, and promote our biodiverse landscape. And the best part? Learning how is not just informative, but also a lot of fun! USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Health Specialist Keela Deaton will be onsite to demonstrate what soil health is and how it affects the landscape. Through a rainfall simulator



demonstration, attendees will gain practical knowledge about the importance of covering bare ground, having multispecies vegetation, and how the health of the soil determines how much water it can hold—another fundamental lesson with the current drought and torrential rain events. Attendees will also learn what a pair of cotton undies can tell you about your soil health. It's a unique and entertaining way to understand soil health. "Who would have thought you could determine how healthy your soil is by burying a pair of cotton underwear?" said Chris Mehus, Executive Director of Western Sustainability Exchange. Thanks to the USDA's *Soil Your Undies Challenge*, backyard gardeners, farmers, and ranchers can determine how alive their soil is by how fast it breaks down the underwear. Healthy soil contributes to nutrient-dense food and forage. Market-goers can ask questions and observe the various underwear brought



in by participating landowners. Doc Tari will perform starting at 5 pm, sponsored by the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott and Home2 Suites by Hilton. Doc Tari is a one-man band formed under the influence of New Orleans busking acts. He will be driving out feel-good rhythms on foot pedal drums, guitar, and harmonica, singing songs that trace the roots of American music back through the annals of country, blues, gospel, and folk music. His performance promises to be a unique and entertaining addition to Healthy Soils Day. See you there! For more info visit WesternSustainabilityExchange.org/livingston-farmers-market/

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CANINE CORNER

by: **Kylie Purcell**

Kylie has been actively training Livingstons dogs since 2009. She began teaching dog obedience with the late, great Jo Sykes, and the rest is history! Montana Dog Company is proud to offer retail, 24-hour self dog wash, dog training, and so much more. Kylie has competed with North American Dog Agility Council for over 25 years and with many different breeds of dogs. Even though training is her passion, she enjoys the outdoors with her husband, toddler, and baby boy. Livingston is her home and she is here to work for you and your pup! Contact her today!

A Dogs Dream at Summer Camp

A few weeks ago I had the privilege of teaching at the Yellowstone Dog Sports Dog Summer Camp. The camp is a couple days surrounded in mountainous beauty for learning new tips and tricks with your furry best-friend. People come from all over to attend this camp located in the small town of Roberts just north of Red Lodge. You can stay in one of the dorm rooms attached to the indoor dog arena or you can bring a camper. The instructors are also first-rate coming from all over the United States as well. Whether you are trying to hone your skills in a specific sport or just want to try them all, there are options for both. The camp begins with a meet and greet followed by a sign-up event. The campers get to choose their own schedule with four class periods each day and half a dozen options for each of those. While this may sound like a great advertisement for the class, my better points are coming up. One of the more caring moments I witnessed was the friendships made. In the end we are all alike whether we come from North of the Border or across the states, we all came to camp and to love on our pups.

Sometimes we get stuck in a rut with our pups and are looking for more ways to improve that bond. What's fun is all the different activities you can try. It really shows the teamwork. Such as stand-up paddle boarding having the foundation of a sit and stay comes in handy to keep your dog from causing a ruckus on the board. Or shed hunting (taught by yours truly) having the ability to trust your dog off leash is very important to allow them the space to search. You may say oh well my breed, age, etc of dog can't do those things. I saw 14-year-old dogs doing tricks, small dogs doing weight pulling, and herding dogs doing nosework. All in all, sometimes it's good to push out the comfort zone to see what else is fun! By the end of each lesson, the campers were laughing and enjoying either their success of the class or what they were looking forward to next! Try everything, you never know how it may go!

local food matters

by Mary Rosewood

The Clyde Park farmers market is truly a community event. On opening day this year, I saw a smile on every face – from babies to a woman who proudly told me she’s 90.

Folks were enjoying live country music, hamburgers right off the grill, and a children’s parade – with about 30 bikes decorated for the Fourth of July – that wound through the park where the market is located. Two ponies pulled a wagon ride around the block.

“We have all kinds of fun stuff,” said market manager Jessica Stillman. “Every week we have a different kids activity, a different hot food vendor, a different band, a different set of vendors even. We have some people who will only do Wilsall, some people who will only do Clyde Park. It’s very community-driven.”

The Clyde Park farmers market is half of the Shields Valley Farmers Market. During the summer, it alternates weekly on Monday, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., with the market in Wilsall. For specific dates, check the website at shieldsvalleymarket.com.

This is a fairly small market, with about 20 vendors, but you can find a lot of variety. On the first day, I saw herbs, salad fixings, meat, eggs, soap, jewelry, art, and more.

Nonprofits set up booths to share what they do, like the Clyde Park Women’s Club, selling delectable baked goods; the Shields Valley FFA, offering cold drinks; and Friends of the Livingston–Park County Public Library, with piles of used books for sale.

I chatted with Will Gaisford, 12, of Willy Good Lemonade, a business he’s run for four years at the market as part of his homeschooling curriculum.

He started it because he “wanted a little extra money to save for stuff. And I also find making lemonade pretty fun.”

The lemonade, which is outstanding, traditionally sells out quickly. I asked Will what his secret is.

“The recipe is lemons, water, and sugar.” That is, organic sugar and lemons from Glens Shopping Center in Clyde Park.

This sounds simple, but it took a lot of math to figure out how to convert a recipe for two cups of strawberry lemonade (that Will found in a magazine) into three gallons of plain lemonade for market customers.



Will Gaisford

Will added his own twist by caramelizing the sugar to create a simple syrup, which solved the problem of dissolving the sugar in a large amount of water. The syrup is mixed with lemon juice, which Will and his sister squeeze by hand.

To serve his flavorful beverage, Will uses lidded jars that he hopes you’ll return for a 50-cent discount on your next purchase.

Summing up the success of his business, Will said, “I’m financially stable.” He added some advice for other kids: “If you like money, you should start a business.”

On the other side of the market, I found Becky Amunrud surrounded by colorful piles of crocheted items. “It was a long winter,” she explained, “and the stuff on TV was crappy.”

Becky has been having a delightful time at the market for about four years. As we talked, a young customer politely interrupted to purchase a purple crocheted squid.

“I collect them, this will be my third one,” he explained, referring to the ones Becky makes. “I come here every year.”

“I think I’m up to 45 I’ve made and sold to the kids,” Becky said. “Every year I have a batch of kids who buy ’em. It’s crazy.” Crazy in a good way. So if you’re a squid admirer, here’s where to add to your collection.

Becky also sells a lot of scrubbies and towels, which she makes double to increase their durability.

Her passion, however, is her collection of “thousands” of paper dolls. Young girls often don’t know what they are, but she has a few to sell to grandmothers who want to share them with a new generation.

Randi Bresciani, chair of the market steering committee, summed up the spirit of the market: “Eighty percent of this crowd know each other. But they’re friendly. If you come here as a stranger, you leave knowing people.”



Becky Amunrud

Recipe by
Carla Williams

RECIPE CORNER

Mediterranean Bean Salad

Ingredients

- For the Mediterranean Bean Salad:
- 1 - 15 ounce can of chickpeas, drained and rinsed.
 - 1 - 15 ounce can of white beans, drained and rinsed
 - 1/4 cup kalamata olives, halved {you will want to use pitted olives}.
 - 1/3 cup roasted red peppers, drained, chopped
 - 1/2 of a small red onion, chopped.
 - 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved.
 - 1 green bell pepper, seeds removed, diced {or color of your choice}
 - 1/2 of an english cucumber, diced.
 - 1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese {optional}.
 - Handful of fresh mint, chopped
 - Handful of fresh parsley, chopped.
 - 4 green onions, chopped.

For the dressing:

- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2 Tablespoons red wine vinegar.
- 1 lemon, juiced.
- 2 garlic cloves, minced.
- Salt and pepper to taste.
- Optional spices: 1 teaspoon of any spice you like {try sumac, za'atar or oregano}
- Crushed red pepper for extra spice.

Instructions

- In a large bowl mix together the chickpeas, white beans, olives, roasted red peppers, red onion, cherry tomatoes, bell pepper, cucumber, feta cheese, mint, parsley and green onions.
- In a large mason jar or salad dressing container add the olive oil, red wine vinegar, lemon juice, garlic and whisk together.
- Add salt and pepper to taste and 1 teaspoon of an additional spice if you like {try sumac, za'atar, oregano}. Drizzle the dressing over the salad and toss gently to coat with the dressing.
- Serve with hummus and pita bread or use this salad as a topping for pita wraps, hummus plates or falafel.

Notes

This salad will keep in the refrigerator for up to 4 days in an air tight container. I do think because of the white beans this salad is best the first couple of days otherwise the white beans do get pretty soft. If you plan to use it throughout the week you could leave the white beans out and just add them when you are ready to eat the salad.

This salad is easily modified to your tastes. Try adding artichokes, a different beans or green olives.

Enjoy These Museums!



Family Days at Yellowstone Gateway Museum



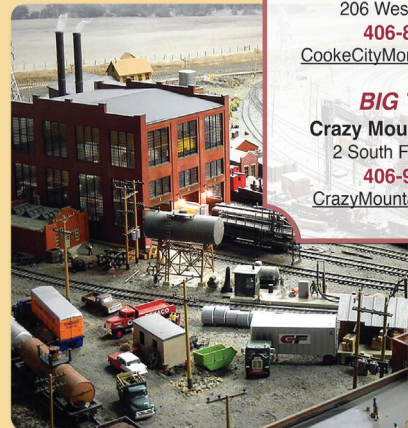
Native Wildflowers Named by Capt. Clarke at Crazy Mt. Museum

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Model Railroad Exhibit at the Livingston Depot Museum



Miner's Cabin Exhibit at Cooke City Montana Museum

Teen Phenom Jack Barksdale Performs at Free Shane Center Summer Outdoor Concert Series

The last show of the Shane Center's free and family-friendly Summer Outdoor Concert Series (SOCS) presents Americana/Blues/Folk by Jack Barksdale and Mike Meadows on Thursday, July 25th from 5-8 pm. Concessions are available for purchase beginning at 4 pm.

Jack Barksdale is a 17-year-old folk/blues/americana singer/songwriter from Texas. Inspired by folk, rock, and blues legends, Jack started performing original music at the age of nine and has already shared the stage with Wynonna Judd, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Junior Brown, John Fullbright, and Hayes Carll.

American Songwriter wrote "Jack Barksdale has insights and awareness

far beyond people twice his age, and he's able to put them into songs that touch listeners." NPR.org said "Jack Barksdale is special." and *Premier Guitar* said "Barksdale's talent is rare. He shines with earnest, unjaded passion on a foundation of will and an ability to connect." He is joined by superstar percussionist Mike Meadows who tours with Hayes Carll, Shawn Colvin, and Willie Nelson, among others.

In 2023 Jack released a single "Dreamer" which was added to Spotify's Emerging Americana Playlist. His previous single "Gone" has garnered well over 2.2 million streams on Spotify and was featured on Apple Music's 'Southern Craft' playlist. In March 2022, Jack released

his first full length album, "Death of a Hummingbird."

Jack tours nationally and wows audiences with his lyrics. Jack plays guitar, slide guitar, harmonica, mandolin, piano, and ukelele, but identifies primarily as a songwriter. His musical influences include Lead Belly, Howlin' Wolf, Townes Van Zandt, Guy Clark, Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen, Johnny Cash, The Carter Family, and Willie Nelson.

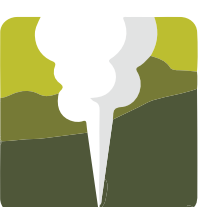
Bring along a chair and find a spot close to the stage while enjoying a selection of beer, wine, and other refreshments by the Shane Center and grab a delicious meal from Bad Burger or Hot Dog Champion. Please no outside food or drink. Bike parking is available at the Shane Center with additional parking available at the Lincoln School.



The Summer Outdoor Concert Series is sponsored by Donald B. Gimbel, Livingston Healthcare and Marcia McCrum, in Memory of Bliss McCrum. The July 25th show will be sponsored by the Park County Community Foundation.

The Shane Center thanks Mighty Fine Time Live Events for their partnership in procuring talent for this concert series. For more information on the Shane Center for the Arts, please go to www.theshanecenter.org.

Voices of Yellowstone: First Peoples Celebration



YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

"Voices of Yellowstone: First Peoples Celebration" will take place Aug. 4-10, 2024, in Gardiner, Montana. This week-long event, hosted by Yellowstone Forever in partnership with Yellowstone National Park and in collaboration with the Pretty Shield Foundation, Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council, and Gardiner Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, aims to honor and celebrate the diverse cultures of the Indigenous Peoples of Yellowstone—past, present, and future.

The event will commence on the evening of Sunday, Aug. 4th with an opening ceremony featuring a blessing, drumming, and opening remarks, marking the beginning of a week filled with cultural immersion and community engagement.

Event Highlights:

- Illuminated Teepees: Each evening, the Pretty Shield Foundation and Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council will host the Illuminated Teepees, with this year's theme, "Building Bridges of

Peace," symbolizing unity and understanding.

- Cultural Demonstrations: Teepees Tribal cultural demonstrators will share traditions and knowledge throughout the week.
- Indigenous Art Market: Located at the Yellowstone Forever headquarters (across from Arch Park), the market will feature a variety of arts and crafts for sale, showcasing the talent and creativity of Indigenous artists.
- Native Games: On Wednesday, Aug. 7th, the International Traditional Games Society will offer an evening of Native Games at Arch Park, open to participants of all ages, offering a fun and educational experience.
- Cultural Tours: Throughout the week, cultural tours led by Native American experts will provide deeper insights into various aspects of Indigenous culture throughout Yellowstone

National Park.

- Community Potluck: The evening of Friday, Aug. 9th, the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center will host a community potluck, fostering a spirit of sharing and togetherness.

The event will conclude on Saturday, Aug. 10th with an evening closing ceremony featuring guest speakers, a drum circle, and the final

lighting of the Illuminated Teepees, bringing the celebration to a poignant and powerful close.

Yellowstone Forever is excited to host this celebration, offering an opportunity for all to learn, appreciate, and engage with the vibrant cultures of the First Peoples of Yellowstone. For more information and a detailed schedule of events, please visit Voices of Yellowstone.

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Sunproof Your Home to Keep it Cooler

Don't just crank up the AC to get comfortable, protect your home from the sun's rays. Depending on where you live, the summer months might mean getting out to enjoy the beautiful weather, hiking, boating, cooking out by the pool, or perhaps a lazy afternoon's binge-watching TV to stay out of the heat. The house's sun exposure plays a huge factor in your home's overall temperature. There are many things you can do to reduce the heatprint on your living space.

When I was a kid growing up in New England, the whole family knew the routine of keeping the house cool, otherwise sleeping on the second floor would be miserable especially with no air conditioning. We kept that routine daily during the summer—especially when it got over 90° outside.

Every morning, we would open the windows on the north and west sides of the house (sometimes putting box fans right on the sill) and close the windows/blinds/shades of the east and south facing windows. This pattern would reverse as the sun moved overhead. I remember how dark and cool the house felt. The summer heat is tough when you only want to stay inside and cowering in a dark house with fans.

Even if you don't live in a cool, shady place you can take steps to sunproof your abode. Air conditioning is a great luxury—and here are five options to consider for

homeowners or renters.

First, let's look at options for homeowners:

Paint your home exterior in a color that reflects the sun's rays. The color of your house has a big impact on the ambient temperature inside. White paint has been shown to be most effective in reflecting the sun's rays, as it will reflect about 80% of visible light, though it will still absorb the non-visible radiation that warms up surfaces.

Fun fact: Scientists went to the effort of creating the most-white paint possible in the hopes it could have a dramatic impact on cooling our houses and therefore reducing energy costs on a national level. If you're lucky and already have a white home, much of the battle is won! If your home currently has a darker exterior color, choosing a lighter color of any significant degree will have at least some impact on the amount of heat it absorbs.

Add a reflective coating to your roof. Yup, that's right—you can paint your roof. A reflective coating on your roofing tiles or metal roof can bounce the heat away. This means a lot less



heat being transferred down into the interior of your house through the roofing materials and attic space. Coating your roof is a relatively easy DIY job, but you can also hire contractors to take care of it for you.

Add some shade. If you stop the sun from reaching your house in the first place by increasing the amount of shade cover it enjoys, then all the additional strategies you pursue to mitigate the impact of the sun will be even more effective. There are a variety of ways to do this. Here are two relatively simple solutions:

- **Landscaping** is really effective to add shade while enhancing your home's curb appeal. Leafy trees do a great job of blocking the sun, but a quick-growing vine on a trellis along the sunny side of your home is another way to create a

living wall between you and those damaging rays while you wait for shade trees to grow.

- **Awnings** installed on the exterior walls of the home will keep the sun off the walls and windows of your house. A retractable awning offers flexibility because you can roll it up when it's not so hot or when you're willing to trade heat for light. You can also consider a seasonal side awning for the later afternoon hours when the sun's heat is blasting from the side instead of overhead.

Options for Renters or homeowners:

Even if you rent, you can **pick the best window treatments** to cool your space. Your windows allow all the heat-producing solar radiation from the direct sun to stream right into your home. About 76% of the sunlight that hits your window will transform into palpable heat. Keeping that sun out of your house is key to cool things down, so invest in some window treatments. Blackout shades or curtains are effective because they stop the sunlight from getting into your rooms, but they do make the house dark. Heat blocking films can also block out the ultraviolet (UV) rays that heat up your house. They're relatively easy to apply and

See Sunproof, Page 12

OP-ED

from page 2

either disband or reform the outdated, power (and Bozeman-influenced) "Housing Coalition," or at very least cutting its significant Bozeman roots. Its members include entities from PFL (with its heavy Goldman-Sachs ties and interests), Park County Community Foundation (with in ways tenuous local rootings), MRL (today owned by the national entity BNSF), and the very Bozeman-based HRDC, whose character would be very different if its local face were once again locally rooted instead. Our local board, such as it is, is subordinate to the Bozeman board and director. But we have great people locally, and we sometimes come up with potentially creative ideas, for example, I could imagine something like repackaging the Washington School as a site focused as a homeless shelter and services like mental health treatment, winter emergency housing, etc.

With local people calling the real shots, things are just different. I had once tried to contact Livingston people with HRDC and was told that the only people the public can contact are in Bozeman. All monies raised in Livingston go to Bozeman, because external entity-rooted organizations like the Housing Coalition don't grasp that

suburbanizing this lady, Livingston, is her weakness and death. There's a reason the Growth Policy prioritized keeping Livingston a "real town."

If she were truly allowed to think for herself instead of being dictated to, we'd never again see a land grab at Miles Park. Put a deed restriction in the prenup, and that local beauty and Sacajawea need fear little again. In my not-entirely-humble opinion, valuable land and deliberate subversion of our Growth Policy lay in the corporate mind under the first version proposed for the Wellness Center. The last administration even took down the historic Miles Park sign itself and actually hid it, to be rediscovered later by our current city manager. The park's original donor family has now asked it be repaired and put back.

Local people would never have prioritized destroying but instead revitalizing our wonderful Civic Center, including a freshening for its unique Parks Reece mural at the west as well. If the recreation department moved elsewhere, the space might house nonprofits like environmental groups could move in, and our schools could help provide collaborative education.

Livingston deserves vision. We've had wonderful programs before like the fifth grade "Watershed Warriors." Someone suggested turning the old swimming pool into a small ice-skating rink, or making park accommodation for cross-country skiing.

Groups are looking at designing the area behind the Civic Center, particularly where we took the old skate park out, but maybe more later on that.

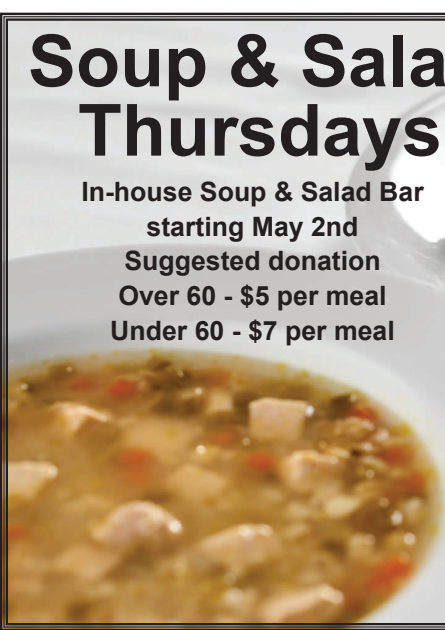
With that and a replacement general retailer like a mini-Target somewhere like

behind Kenyon Noble, and our beautiful home is no longer a kept woman on a short chain, but her own person again.

Aretha had the right idea. *Just a little more R-E-S-P-E-C-T. Just a little bit, and I ain't lyin'.*

Soup & Salad Thursdays


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Suggested donation
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AN EVENING WITH DARRELL SCOTT

On August 13th at The Dulcie Theater in Livingston

"Imagine the talent you must have if Robert Plant thinks he should step aside so you can sing a song. Darrell Scott doesn't have to imagine that." - American Songwriter.

Award winning songwriter and singer Darrell Scott will take the stage at the intimate Dulcie Theater at the Shane Lalani Center for the Arts on Tuesday, August 13th at 7:30 pm. The concert is presented by Mighty Fine Time Live Events in association with The Shane Center.

Joanne Gardner Lowell with Mighty Fine Time said, "Darrell Scott is simply one of our most beloved performers. His songwriting is legendary, his voice singular and he can play literally anything with strings. To see him in that intimate Dulcie Theater is an amazing opportunity. The last time he performed in Livingston, the show sold out in two days!"

Darrell Scott comes from a musical family with a father who had him smitten with guitars by the age of 4, alongside a brother who played Jerry Reed style as well. From there, things only ramped up with literature and poetry endeavors while a student at Tufts University, along with playing his way through life. This would never change.

After recently touring with Robert Plant and Zac Brown Band (2 years with each), producing albums for Malcolm Holcombe and Guy Clark and being named "songwriter of the year" for both ASCAP and NSAI, these days find him roaming his Tennessee wilderness acreage hiking along the small river, creating delicious meals with food raised on his property, and playing music. He often leads songwriting workshops to help people tell their own truths with their stories, and is as busy as always writing, producing, performing, and just plain fully immersing himself in life.

Career Highlights include a Grammy Nomination for Best Country Song – "Long Time Gone" (The Chicks), Best Country Instrumental Performance – "The Second Mouse," Americana Music Association Song of the Year – "Hank Williams' Ghost," Rolling Stone Magazine Critics Top Albums – "Theatre of the Unheard," ASCAP Songwriter of the Year and NSAI Songwriter of the Year.

His songs recorded by over 70 artists including: The Chicks, Keb' Mo', Faith Hill, Guy Clark, Sam Bush, Maura O'Connell, Kathy Mattea, Brad Paisley, Sara Evans, Garth Brooks, Patty Loveless, Trace Adkins, Tim McGraw and dozens more. Fans may remember the show stopping "You'll

Never Leave Harlan Alive" performance by Chris Stapleton and Patty Loveless on last year's CMA award show. He's recorded with Steve Earle, Kate Rusby, Joan Baez, Jim Lauderdale, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Jon Pousette-Dart, Ginny Hawker, Malcolm Holcombe, John McCusker, Allison Moorer, Jessie Alexander, Randy Travis, Guy Clark and dozens more. Of interest to Montana audiences is his release, "10, Songs of Ben Bullington." Darrell and Montana singer/songwriter Ben Bullington became friends before Bullington tragically died of pancreatic cancer in 2013. Darrell created a tribute to his friend to keep his music in the public eye.

Tickets are \$50 for reserved seats and available at the Shane Center box office. More information is at www.TheShaneCenter.org or by calling 406-222-1420. You can learn more about Darrell Scott at www.darrellscott.com.

"Highly regarded as a performer, multi-instrumentalist, producer and songwriter, Darrell Scott has seen his songs covered by more than 70 artists in various genres." - NPR

"Darrell Scott's been a jack-of-all-trades when it comes to Nashville songwriting: a solo artist, a hitmaker (Dixie Chicks' "Long Time Gone"), a session guy and a collaborator to folks like Guy Clark.

An Evening With
Darrell Scott



August 13 at the Dulcie Theater
in the
Shane Lalani Center
Reserved seats \$50
Doors @ 7:00, show @ 7:30
www.theshanecenter.org 406.222.1420

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For nearly 30 years, he's been making Americana before it turned trendy and watched as the country went from the Quonset Hut soundboard to the Pizza Hut speakers."

- Rolling Stone on 40 Best Country Albums of 2016 (Couchville Sessions #26)

A deft lyricist who works in the idioms of folk, blues and classic country, singer-songwriter Darrell Scott has always been a quintessential Americana artist, long before Americana became the inflationary coin of the realm in alternative Nashville.

- Caine O'Rear, American Songwriter



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Sunproof

from page 11

remove, they're affordable, and they can be a better option than shades or curtains because they don't obscure your view or make you feel like you're living in a cave.

Install skylight covers or films. Skylights are wonderful if you lack exterior windows or just love your home awash in natural light, but they also act as heat beams during the summer. Just like your windows, you can cut some heat-blocking film to fit your skylights—though it can be tricky applying it above your head on a ladder. You can seek out a professional help especially if you have a bubble skylight or really high ceilings. You can also buy removable, exterior, waterproof covers that will block the sun during the hotter months and then be



removed when temperatures fall. Keeping your home cooler in the summer isn't just about cranking up the HVAC settings. Let's do our part in using less electricity and work smarter at keeping an overabundance of sun away from and out of our homes. We all want a comfortable and inviting living space and indoor temperature has a lot to do with it. Give your air conditioner a bit of a break and utilize one or more of these options while you reduce your financial output on energy.

Parts of the article were excerpted from Jeff Somers article in LifeHacker

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Crossword Puzzle Number 340

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20					21	22					23			
			24	25					26					
27	28						29	30						
31						32						33	34	35
36						37						38		
39					40						41			
			42							43				
44	45	46						47						
48							49	50				51	52	53
54						55					56	57		
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

- Across**
1 Biblical near-sacrifice
6 Perversely, The Rolling Stones certainly gathered it
10 Herring-like food fish
14 Pertaining to punishment
15 "Here comes trouble!"
16 Angler's decoy
17 Buffett is its sage
18 Location
19 The Emerald Isle
20 Belittle, to a rapper
21 Lush CEO sobs about yellow carriers
24 Rob Peter --- Paul
26 Comet Swift - ---
27 Venus, not Serena
29 Kind of nut
31 Relaxed
32 Recordkeeper
33 Harper's Ferry state
36 Essential equipment for the Grand Traverse
37 Genoas and jibs
38 Quarter, for example
39 "--- for Two"
40 "Tam o' Shanter" author
41 Originate
42 Quick and active
43 Non-bouncing court shot
44 Optimistic
47 Pink-slipped
48 They precede deliveries
51 "A likely story!"
54 Vocalize melodically
55 "--- the alert!"
56 Crockett's Waterloo
- Down**
1 Portable tune carrier
2 Big rig
3 Russian duchess who was murdered - probably
4 Exclamation of surprise
5 Held tightly
6 Pulpy
7 Cairo/Pittsburgh river
8 " ... and --- bed"
9 Protects
10 Caine-Olivier thriller movie
11 "Lummox" author Fannie
12 Spirit in "The Tempest"
13 Compact
22 Twin-hulled boat
23 It stopped on HST's desk
25 Individuals
27 Pain in the neck
28 Pontchartrain, for example
29 Lose one's nerve
30 Long fish
32 Elevator compartments
33 "As good luck --- it, comes in one Mistress Page" (Shakespeare, "The Merry Wives of Windsor")
34 Tarzan's transportation
35 Tennis star --- Murray
37 Meet
58 Falco of "The Sopranos"
59 "Shane" actor
60 Some dungarees
61 Be inclined
62 Parts of eons
63 Put forth

Crossword Puzzle Number 339 Solutions

1	V	2	A	3	M	4	P		5	S	6	C	7	R	8	U	9	B		10	L	11	C	12	D	13	S
14	O	N	A	T					15	C	R	E	P	E						16	T	H	O	U			
17	I	N	K	S					18	H	O	I	S	T						19	C	A	L	M			
20	D	I	E	D		21	D	O	W	N					22	W	23	H	O	R	L	S					
24	S	E	A			25	N	O	S				26	B	E	A	L	L									
				27	D	28	U	A	L			29	B	L	E	D				30	O	31	L	32	E		
33	C	34	L	I	P				35	P	E	R	O	N					37	A	T	I	T				
38	R	A	F	T					39	R	E	A	C	T					40	A	T	T	A				
41	I	N	F	O					42	I	R	I	S	H					43	R	E	E	L				
44	B	E	E			45	E	N	I	D					46	E	47	P	P	S							
				48	R	49	O	Y	C	E			50	E	L	F			51	V	52	H	53	S			
54	A	55	L	E	X	E	I				56	E	V	I	C			57	T	I	O	N					
58	M	I	N	I					59	P	60	A	E	A	N			61	A	L	T	O					
62	O	E	C	D					63	A	B	O	D	E				64	C	L	E	O					
65	K	N	E	E					66	L	A	C	E	S				67	K	E	L	P					

- 38 "Anything Goes" songwriter --- Porter
40 Grain husks
41 Loafers mess about with vendor's sign
42 Implored
43 Contend
44 Overturn
45 A deadly sin
46 Nation once known as Dahomey
47 Ascertains
49 Scrooge-like
50 Musical conclusion
52 Muslim ruler
53 Inn-keeper
57 Roman law

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

- Ares

Argus

Chaos

Circe

Erato

Eris

Eros

Gaea

Gaia

Ge
- Graces

Harpy

Hector

Hestia

Ichor

Io

Jason

Leda

Lethe

Medea
- Oceanid

Pallas

Pegasus

Priam

Psyche

Sol

Sphinx

Styx

Titan

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

Sudoku Puzzle Number 314 "Easy"

1	9				3			
					2			3
	5					1		
8								
	7		2		6			
		1	3		4		8	
		9						4
6	1					8	9	
3		4		9			7	5

We here at PCCJ love bringing you this outlet where our community can share their ideas, thoughts and events to everyone in Park County.

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You can make donations online at www.pccjournal.com - Thank you!

Sudoku Puzzle Answers 313

4	5	8	1	6	7	9	3	2
1	2	9	3	8	4	5	6	7
3	7	6	9	5	2	4	8	1
8	1	5	2	3	6	7	4	9
7	3	4	5	9	8	2	1	6
9	6	2	4	7	1	3	5	8
5	4	1	8	2	9	6	7	3
2	8	7	6	4	3	1	9	5
6	9	3	7	1	5	8	2	4

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Emigrant People's Market, located at 8 Story Road, Emigrant, MT 59027, on the lawn of St John's Church. Saturdays 9-1 pm. June -October, weather permitting. Locally created goods and eclectic curated items. New vendors welcome. Email emigrantpeoplesmarket@gmail.com for information.

Opportunity to serve your community on the Board of Trustees!

The district is looking for two individuals who are willing to serve as a part of the Arrowhead School Board of Trustees.

- Appointed until next school election May 2025
- One-year terms

Send questions or request for application to: Cinda Self, District Clerk csself@arrowheadk8.org.

HELP WANTED

Coffee Creek Espresso is hiring full and part-time Barista positions. This is a fast, friendly, fun environment. Come join our team!! Please pick up an application at Coffee Creek if you are interested. Located in the Albertson's Parking Lot.

2024-2025 Vacancies Arrowhead School District #75

- **2 Elem Teaching Positions** (1 with P endorsement preferred)
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- **Paraprofessional** Monday-Thursday some Fridays, \$18/hour, health, dental, and/or vision
- **High Needs Paraprofessional** Monday-Thursday some Fridays, Hourly Wage D.O.E., health, dental, and/or vision
- **Bus Driver**
- **After School Coordinator**
- **After School Assistant**

More details and Applications for all vacancies may be picked up at the Arrowhead Elementary School in Pray, or visit our district website at: Arrowheadk8.com. Questions please reach out to Johanna Osborn, Principal 406-333-4359 or josborn@arrowheadk8.org.

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Key Insurance in Livingston is looking to hire a **Licensed Insurance Agent** to our team. We are dedicated to providing individuals, families, businesses and their employees with the very best in supplemental benefits. Working hand-in-hand with our customers, our dedicated sales force provides personal face-to-face service that is almost unheard of in today's business world. We are committed to providing our clients with the right protection, customized to their needs. We offer \$55K to start depending on qualifications. Please contact Alice at 406-222-0944 to schedule an interview or email resume to alice@montanainsurance.net.

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shop, 908 East Park Street, Livingston, calling 406-222-0214 or email: bob@oconnorautobody.com. O'Conner's Auto Body is a busy shop, and has been making the community's autos look like new for over 50 years.

Come Join Our Kenyon Noble Team! Kenyon Noble Lumber & Hardware's Livingston location is currently accepting applications & hiring for Warehouse Associates and Delivery Drivers. No experience necessary—we will train! Offering competitive wages and great benefits packages. For more information and to see the complete job listing visit us at kenyonnoble.com/jobs. You can also apply online!



911 Communications Officer
The City of Livingston, Montana, is hiring for two full-time 911 Communications Officers who will be responsible for performing dispatch duties for first responders throughout Park County.

The most important qualities for success are: ability to work well under pressure and ability to communicate effectively with callers and emergency responders. High attention to detail, strong customer service skills, familiarity with city and county geography and locations and the ability to type 40 WPM. The ability to multitask, work with frequent interruptions, handle complex customer calls, and maintain highest standards of confidentiality and integrity. Benefits include health insurance, paid time off, retirement, holidays and ongoing professional training and development. Join an amazing team of first responders and serve your community! Apply online at <https://www.livingstonmontana.org/jobs>.

Firefighter/Paramedic – Full-time
The City of Livingston, Montana is seeking a highly-motivated individual to perform the role of Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic within the Livingston Fire Rescue (LFR). This is a full-time, benefit eligible role in LFR with the primary duty assignment in a shift staff role participating in and making a positive contribution to the operations of your assigned shift. This position reports to the Shift Captain, under the direction of the Fire Chief and helps with cross staffing and performs other duties as assigned.

Livingston Fire Rescue is a unique fire department nestled in the mountains of Southern Montana with one of the most advanced EMS systems in the state. We are a growing city situated along the Yellowstone River with our own unique challenges in the Montana

rural/urban interface. We offer structural fire suppression, all-hazard rescue response, advanced EMS (Critical Care Paramedic and Community Paramedic services), technical rescue opportunities, airport ARFF, HAZMAT, and wildland response teams. Come join our team and live and work in one of the most beautiful places in America. Less than one hour from Yellowstone National Park and the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport. For outdoor enthusiasts this is an amazing destination for hiking, hunting, fishing, skiing and other outdoor winter or summer sports! Apply online at <https://www.livingstonmontana.org/jobs>.

Yellowstone Forever is hiring several full-time, year-round positions with benefits. Complete position description and applications are available on our website <https://www.yellowstone.org/who-we-are/jobs/>. Maintenance Manager, Salary range \$76,523 – \$84,538 based in Gardiner. Warehouse and Logistics Manager, \$78,867 - \$87,803 based in Gardiner. Development Coordinator, \$25.73 – 28.12 per hour based in Bozeman, MT.

The **Gardiner School** has openings for the following coaches for the 2024-2025 school year: Head junior high volleyball & Asst. H.S. Football coach. The coach's responsibilities include developing practice plans and leading practices, providing motivation and advice during competitions, and fostering good mentorship with the Bruin athletes and staff. Outstanding candidates are highly-motivated, committed, disciplined, and patient. Please send a letter of interest to Carmen Harbach at Carmen@gardiner.org or call the Gardiner school 406-848-7563.

Gardiner Public School is looking for a part time classroom aide for teacher support and other student centered activities. Hours will be from 10:00-3:00, Monday through Thursday, beginning August 21, 2024. Our school is a great place to work, email Laurie Smith at lsmith@gardiner.org if you have any questions or call 406-848-7563. Job applications can be found on our website at www.gardiner.org or at the front desk of the school (510 Stone Street, Gardiner, MT, 59030).

Windrider Transit Relief Bus Driver
Park County is seeking a Transit Relief Bus Driver to join the Windrider Transit team. This part-time position (10-15 hours/week) involves safely operating buses, providing excellent customer service to passengers, and ensuring compliance with safety regulations. Ideal for those who enjoy interacting

with diverse community members. Candidates must have a valid Montana Driver's license and will be subject to comprehensive drug testing. Join us in serving the community with friendly, reliable transportation services! This job will be open until filled with priority given to applications received by July 2, 2024. To apply go online to: <https://jobs.parkcounty.org/jobs>.

Museum Curator - Immerse yourself in the captivating world of history and culture as the Museum Curator at Yellowstone Gateway Museum. Join our dedicated team in preserving and showcasing Park County's rich heritage through artifact collections, engaging exhibits, and educational programs. With a dynamic work environment and opportunities to collaborate with passionate individuals, this role allows you to make a meaningful impact on our community's understanding and appreciation of its past. Apply now to embark on a fulfilling journey with us! This position will be open until filled. To apply go online to: <https://jobs.parkcounty.org/jobs>.

Short-Term Road Worker - Join our dynamic Public Works Department as a short-term Road Worker, where you'll be at the forefront of maintaining county roads and bridges. From operating patching equipment to mowing scenic routes, your days will be filled with diverse tasks. With opportunities to work independently and collaborate with various stakeholders, including the public and governmental agencies, this role offers a blend of autonomy and community engagement. Embrace the challenge and make a tangible impact on the infrastructure that shapes our county's landscape. Apply now to drive change, quite literally, in Park County! There are multiple short term or seasonal positions available and this job will be open until all are filled. To apply go online to: <https://jobs.parkcounty.org/jobs>.

Public Health Nurse/Prevention Specialist - Join the dynamic team at Park County Health Department as a Public Health Nurse/Prevention Specialist! With flexible part-time or full-time options available, this multifaceted role offers a diverse range of responsibilities tailored to meet the ever-changing needs of our community. From organizing and conducting immunization clinics to coordinating chronic disease prevention programs and conducting home visits for maternal and child health, this position provides an opportunity to make a real difference in public health. Enjoy the chance to work with diverse populations, and the satisfaction of contributing to innovative approaches aimed at improving community health outcomes. Apply now to be part of this vital public health initiative! This position will be open until filled. To apply go online to: <https://jobs.parkcounty.org/jobs>.

How to place your Classified Ad!



We have three classified ad packages to choose from, your ad will be displayed for 7 days, will also be added to the Park County Community Journal website AND the Park County Dugout website.

1-40 words \$10 • 41-50 words \$12 • 51-70 words \$15

To place your ad go online at www.pccjournal.com or email community@pccjournal.com and someone will call you back for payment.

If you need more space, please call Steph at 406-220-0919 or email Steph at community@pccjournal.com for more information on placing a larger classified ad.



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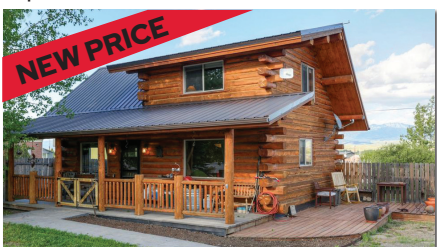
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Deb Kelly | 406-220-0801



306 Elliot Street
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#393158 | \$319,000
Jessie Sarrazin | 406-223-5881



12 Lovers Lane
3 beds 3 baths | 2,800 sq ft
#390978 | \$798,000
Jessie Sarrazin | 406-223-5881



27 Royal Wulff
3 beds 2.5 baths | 2,668 sq ft
#390722 | \$1,794,000
Gillian Swanson | 406-220-4340



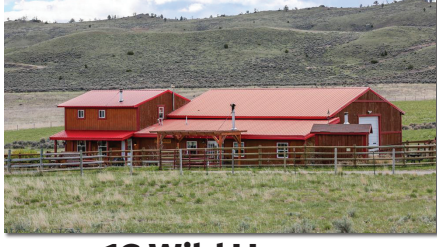
1003 Ridgeway Drive
4 beds 2.5 baths | 2,150 sq ft
#392480 | \$399,000
Jon Ellen Snyder | 406-223-8700



30 S Woodard Ave, Absarokee
Commercial Sale | 2,560 sq ft
#388822 | \$223,000
Jessie Sarrazin | 406-223-5881



49 Two Dot Highway
2 beds 1 bath | 1,160 sq ft
#389858 | \$350,000
Rachel Moore | 406-794-4971



16 Wild Horse
3 beds 2 baths | 2,016 sq ft
#390156 | \$1,400,000
Tammy Berendts | 406-220-0159



111 S 9th Street
3 beds 2 baths | 1,746 sq ft
#393677 | \$355,000
Jon Ellen Snyder | 406-223-8700



16 9th Street Island Drive
4 beds 2 baths | 2,451 sq ft
#391597 | \$999,000
Theresa Coleman | 406-223-1405



320 South C Street
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#385422 | \$320,000
Ernie Meador | 406-220-0231



907 Meriwether Drive E
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4TH Friday Art Walk

Artist Reception & Book Signing

Bugs, Blooms & BroadSides

Wheatgrass Books will host an artist reception for the 4th Friday Art Walk on July 26th from 5 to 8 pm and two authors for a book signing.

Join us in celebrating Livingston artist, Linda Barnsley, Billings photographer, Marian Lyman and Billings poet, Cara Chamberlain and their group exhibit: Bugs, Blooms, & BroadSides.

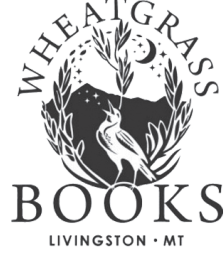
Bugs, Blooms, & BroadSides will feature a presentation and reading at 7 pm.




In Linda Barnsley's series *Blooms Amid the Stars* she contrasts the color and temporary nature of blooms against the dark and vastness of the universe. Billings entomologist, spider enthusiast, and insect photographer, Marian Lyman catches insects she finds and then brings them home and uses extreme close-up photography to capture their unique beauty. Cara Chamberlain is a conservationist and advocate of animals of all kinds. In 2023, her latest collection of poems, *To Gaze Upon Their Loveliness*, was released by Finishing Line Press in Kentucky. The collection is full of poetic love letters, not to the natural world, but from the natural world. Chamberlain has long written about her love of animals and the natural world in her poetry, and she is also the author of *Hidden Things*, *The Divine Botany*, and *Lament of the Antichrist in a Secular World and Other Poems*.


The book signing includes Craig Lancaster, Scott Bealer and Lea Frye. In his latest novel, Lancaster, who has been hailed as "one of Montana's most important writers," goes deep into how history shapes and confines us and how hope sometimes stubbornly abides. Accompanied by

the photography of Lea Frye, Scott Bealer leads you on a journey of discovery, recalling occasions when he, or sometimes his clients, learned important lessons. His stories are warm, funny, and full of great advice to improve your fishing skills and better enjoy your time on the water. His comments on gear, guides, and other aspects of the sport are based on decades of practical experience.

Wheatgrass Books is a woman-owned independent bookshop that celebrates the beauty of the written word and the art of illustration. At Wheatgrass, we place a strong emphasis on under-represented voices in literature, with a focus on new releases, regional authors, and children's authors, while maintaining an excellent selection of classics.





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The Park Wolves

The balance of nature is awe-inspiring. The story of the Yellowstone National Park (YNP) wolves is also that. Gray wolves were reintroduced back into the Park in 1995, resulting in an all-encompassing, trophic cascade through the entire ecosystem. A total of 41 wolves were brought to the Park to call it their home.

After the wolves were driven almost to extinct in this region nearly 100 years ago, scientists began to more fully understand the role wolves play as a keystone species in the food web.

After their reintroduction, researchers began to observe the widespread changes.

How did this happen? As early as the 1920s, the wolves were narrowly viewed as predators to livestock and people. Wolf hunting was practiced almost to extinction. It is true wolves are predatory, especially to elk. Once



the wolf population had been massively reduced, the elk population almost doubled because their main predator was gone. Elk are grazers and browsers; they eat brush, berries, grasses, etc. Due to their population explosion, it became clear that too many elk were upsetting the ecosystem.

Mice and rabbits couldn't hide

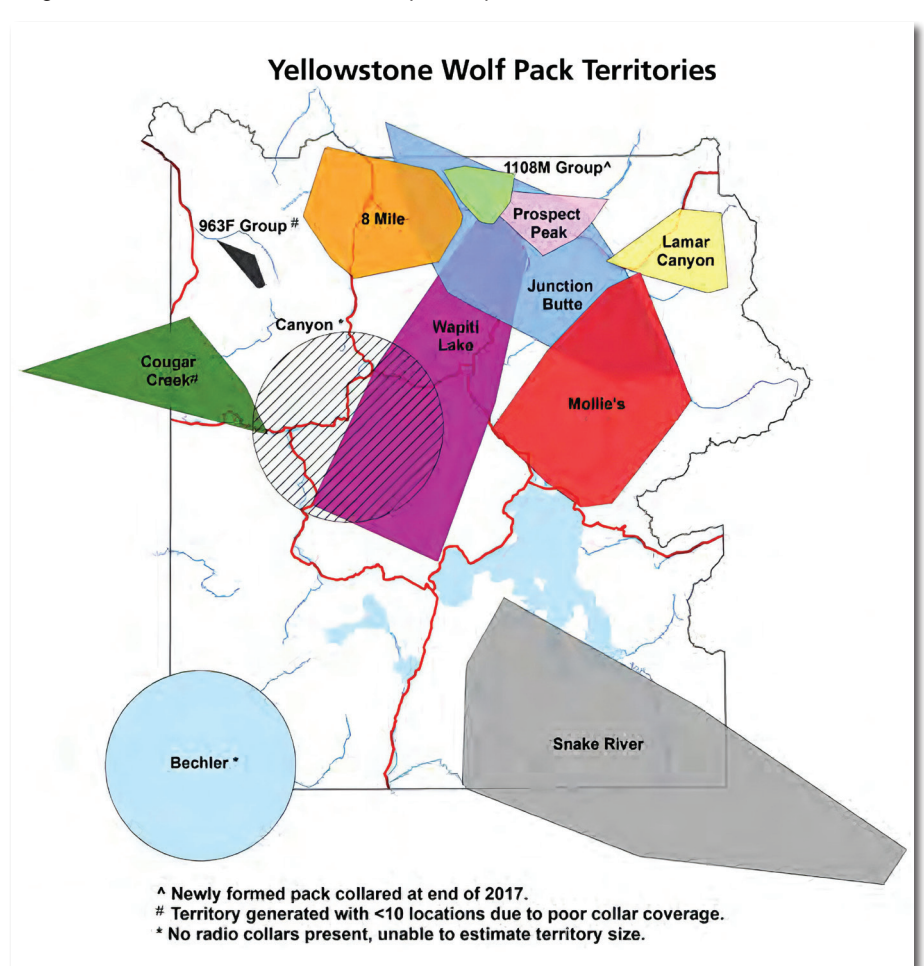
from their predators because too many shrubs were eaten, so their numbers fell. Bears didn't have berries to forage. Pollinators like bees and hummingbirds had fewer flowers. Songbirds didn't have nesting sites. Riverbanks were the main hunting grounds where wolves killed elk. When the wolves were gone, the elk ate their food faster than it could grow. Elk gorged themselves while hanging out on the lush riverbanks. Their massive hooves eroded these riverbanks. There were fewer trees and less clean water for the fish and the beaver. Without beaver dams, the fish and otters suffered.

Present day wolf population in the Yellowstone area is between 83 to 123 grey wolves. In ten distinct packs, they roam freely. (See map.) It's surprising that the elk population went from over 17,000 down to 4,000 today. Only the healthiest elk survive. Coyotes, eagles, and ravens have food readily

available on carcasses. The grizzly-bear population has improved. Songbirds are singing in the trees. Trees and shrubs growing near the riverbanks have improved root systems, firming up the strength of the banks. The water is cleaner. It's a beaver's paradise, which is creating better environment for fish, reptiles, and otters.

The successful trophic cascade of the wolves is drawing crowds of visitors and locals, which is pumping an estimated 30-million dollars into the tourism economy. It is staggering to think all that we have gained from simply moving 41 wolves to Yellowstone Park!

These wild wolves have served to rebalance and reestablish our first national park. To observe them on any given morning, it's best to drive through the northern range of Yellowstone National Park from Gardiner to Cooke City. Wherever you see lots of cars parked—there are the wolves!



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