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Week of October 13, 2024

# The Annual Lutefisk Dinner

# at the Shields River Lutheran Church in Wilsall

The Lutefisk Dinner has been a tradition in the Shields Valley for almost seventy years. Join them on November 3rd at the Shields River Lutheran Church in Wilsall from noon to 3 pm.

The menu is lutefisk (codfish), lefse (potato pancake), ham, potatoes, corn, cranberries, and Norwegian slaw. There's a wonderful cream sauce and they have lots of butter! Dessert is homemade pie. The meal is served ranch style, and all you can eat. It truly is a wonderful meal and a unique experience. The Shields

River Lutheran Church Ladies Aid sponsors it. The price is \$20 for adults, and less for young-



er kids. Under 6 is free.
The first Lutefisk Community Dinner was

in 1955 in the evening at the church parsonage. Over the years, the dinner was skipped a few times due to circumstances beyond their control, but it has been a mainstay in the community nonetheless. The dinner moved from the parsonage to the church hall and from night time to day. Last year they changed when it is held each year from the first Sunday of December to the first Sunday in Novem-

What hasn't changed is the community effort involved. They have a crew of men from the church that have been cooking the lutefisk for years.



They are in the process of breaking younger folks in to ensure the future of this small-community tradition. Church members also cook different items at home and bring them to share.







You can buy tickets at the door. The church is located at 105 South Ordway Street in Wilsall. If you have any questions, call or text Cheryl at 406-223-9014. Hei! See you there!

# Park County Election Candidates Participate in Beaver Creek Forum

by Tony Crowder, Managing Editor

Roughly seven miles down Swingley Road sits the Beaver Creek community hall. The former one-room schoolhouse was built in the early 20th century and was home to the final graduating

class of 1957 before students from Beaver Creek began attending Park County High School. The schoolhouse has since been preserved and repurposed primarily for hosting community events.

On Sunday, October 6th, candidates competing for the office of commissioner in Park County districts two and three sat beside their opponents at two tables arranged at the back of the schoolhouse. The candidates faced a group of locals who had gathered to view a forum hosted by Anne Nichting of the Beaver Creek Community. Approximately 30 attendees were seated on either foldable chairs organized across the room in rows or benches mounted

along the interior walls of the schoolhouse.

The forum, which included candidates Bryan Wells, Sabina Strauss, Jen Vermillion and Carl Berntsen, resembled a debate and comprised seven questions addressed to each candidate on various matters related to the commissioner position. Questions were delivered by a moderator and each candidate was permitted a maximum of two minutes to respond

of two minutes to respond.

The forum began with an introductory question concerning each candidate's perspective on the commissioner's role and ended an hour later with a comprehensive question about how each individual would approach the eventual adoption of a new growth policy. Other questions concerned roads, the budget, and candidate qualifications and priorities (recently detailed in the journal's special edition on candidate profiles published in our previous issue and available for pickup at The Main Print located at 108 N. Main in Livingston)

Candidates mutually agreed that the role of a commissioner is to function as a liaison between each of the county's department heads and the public and to support the overall health, safety and well-being of the county and its

constituents.

Incumbent commissioner Bryan Wells opened by stressing the importance of creating and promoting a strong culture within and between each of the county's departments. His challenger, Sabina Strauss, added that a

commissioner

is in essence the chief executive officer of the county and therefore responsible for driving the budgeting process, which on several occasions she invoked as being markedly complicated. District 3 challenger Carl Berntsen expanded on this response by insisting that the budget is crucial for enacting and representing priorities advanced by the commission in response to constituent desires and needs.



Photo Credit: Jacob Schwarz/schwarzcaptures.com

Candidates provided unique responses to a question regarding their foremost priority as commissioner, if elected. Berntsen-rival Jen Vermillion proposed relieving the tax burden imposed on residents by the impact of tourism on public safety and roads by exploring the possibility of a local option tax—a suggestion met with a degree of opposition from Berntsen,

See Election Candidates, Page 12



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Cross Country Kids



## Park County Community Journal

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**Disclaimer:** While attempts are made to ensure the accuracy of all information, errors will occur.

Independently verify all vital information before events.

We gladly accept the following cards:



# Clyde Edward Campbell

Obituaries

<u>Obituaries</u>

Clyde Edward Campbell passed away peacefully, at home, surrounded by family on October 5, 2024.

Clyde was born in Catlett, Virginia, on November 3, 1941. In 1959, he enlisted in the Navy and was honorably discharged in 1962. After serving his country, he met the love of his life, Rose Corun and they were married in Ellicot City, MD. They went on to have four children that they raised in Maryland until 1981.

At that time, Clyde was offered a job in the San Francisco Bay Area and he took his family on a cross-county adventure as they moved to the west coast.

Clyde was an avid outdoorsman. He loved hunting, fishing and anything that got him outdoors. He shared that love with his family. It was this love of the outdoors that brought Clyde and his family to MT. In 1992, Clyde and Rose purchased the Guest House

Hotel in downtown Livingston, and ran it with their family until they retired in 2004.

Clyde enjoyed his retirement traveling, hunting, fishing, doing jigsaw puzzles and spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Rose; sons Jeff (Vicky) Campbell of Vacaville, CA, Steve (Alicia) Campbell, and Mark Campbell; daughter Sue (Rod Lee) Smith all of Livingston. Grandchildren Chrissy (Melo) Smith, Kevin Campbell, Scott Campbell, Kyle Campbell, Tony Smith, Tyler and Justin Lee and great-granddaughter Kaylie Smith and grand dog, Lucky.

He was preceded in death by his inlaws Paul & Alice Corun, mother, Thelma Fowler and cousins Sonny and Reggie Byrns.

A special thanks to Livingston Hospice and Rebecca Sulages. It was with their help that Clyde was able to spend his final hours at home.



To offer condolences visit www. franzen-davis.com.

# Claudia Josephene (Mittelstedter) Martz

With heavy hearts, we are saddened to announce the passing of Claudia Josephene (Mittelstedter) Martz.

Claudia passed away unexpectedly on October 3, 2024 at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital at the age of 75.

She was born on June 10, 1949 to Otto and Priscilla Mittelstedter in Livingston, Montana. Claudia grew up in Livingston where she spent her life. She attended Livingston public schools and also attended vocational school in Billings, MT studying accounting. She worked various jobs throughout her life. She helped her husband, Bob with his painting business throughout the years; she worked as a laborer for the railroad; co-owned CG's Apparel in downtown Livingston; and, was head housekeeper at the Murray Hotel for ten years. She enjoyed all the interesting and sometimes famous guests she met at the hotel. She retired from the hotel in 2018. Throughout her life, Claudia took the most pride in raising her children.

On September 8, 1972, Claudia married the love of her life for 53 years, Robert "Bob" Martz of Livingston. Together they raised

seven children: Cindy (Fred Bakosh) of Wilsall; Daniel Martz of Livingston; Ross Martz (Beverly) of Billings; Robert Martz of Oregon; Allen Martz of Helena; Jesse Johnson; and, Angela Taylor of Bozeman.

Claudia had many talents and interests. She was a wonderful and especially talented seamstress. Claudia loved her horses and spent many years riding and caring for them. In her younger years, she was known to be quite a mechanic. She loved thrift store shopping for treasures. She was a very generous person who would help or do anything for anyone in need. She was considered "Mom" to many.

Claudia is survived by her 6 children; 18 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; her dear friends, Birdie and Wilky Wilkinson; many life-long friends; and, her beloved dog, Patches.

Claudia is preceded in death by her parents, Otto and Priscilla Mittelstedter; husband, Robert "Bob" Martz; brother, Jacob Mittelstedter; sister, Shirly McLees; and son,

Words cannot express how much she will



be missed by her family and many friends.
Please join us for a celebration of
Claudia's life 2 pm Sunday, October 13,
2024 at the family home - 242 Meigs Road,
Livingston, MT.

To leave condolences for the family please visit www.stenbergfuneralhome.com

# Harvest Dinner Take Out

# Holbrook United Methodist Church

Corner of 5th & Lewis, Livingston, Montana

Wednesday, October 16, 2024 Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM (Until Sold Out!)

Come in at the 5th Street Parking Lot

Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings

Adults \$15 Children \$10

# Update on The Hub Fitness Center

# At the Park County Senior Center

By Jill-Ann Ouellette

I ran into Garrick Faust, Senior Center Coordinator the other day and asked how The Hub is coming along. Garrick said, "The gym is coming along nicely. We have to get two rows of the fire sprinkler systems raised, which will set us back \$7000.00. That installation will happen on October 11th. The next step after that is to install carpet (already purchased), then the rubber flooring, (also purchased) then a few finishing details before the equipment comes in."

Garrick mentioned that he found some good bargains on pre-owned equipment from the Ridge Athletic Club and a martial arts studio in Belgrade—all in excellent condition. The Hub does need to purchase two more specialized pieces (which they have funding for).

The big push for completion will require approximately another \$15,000.00 to open the doors. This would cover the cost for furniture, mirrors, and a computer with software to manage and track members, an entryway security system, and installation of another handicap stair chair lift. Garrick says, "We are hoping to receive this amount as soon as we can because I receive calls and in-person check-ins from several people on a weekly basis regarding



when we our opening."

If they stay on track, the projected opening is in December. The basic monthly fees to join will be \$25. Garrick shared, "Folks are serious about being more physically active and want to improve their health by becoming members. We want to open as soon as we can to fill this void for our 50+

year old population."

Donations to The Hub can be made through their website: ParkCountySeniorCenter.org from the home page click on Fitness Center, then click the Donate tab. You may also donate by check payable to: PCSC, 206 S. Main St., Livingston, Mt 59047 or drop it off to Garrick at the center.



Our dedicated staff is devoted to serve the families of our community with honesty, integrity, respect and compassion.

Donn Ross, Keegan Sarrazin-Jarvis

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Six times a year, the Elks in Livingston bring out the fine linen and put on their Rib Eye Steak Night for veterans. The special dinners are served usually in September, October, January, February, March, and April, on the last Friday

of the month (unless otherwise noted). This month the dinner is served on October

If you are a veteran and would like to be

25th.

like to be
honored with a delicious steak dinner,
this is the place to be. Seating times

are: 5:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm, and

6:30 pm. Veterans need to make reservations for your preferred time by texting or calling 406-220-9963. Let them know which one of the dinner seating times you want to attend. It's not free just for Veterage.

spouse who also eats free. If veterans wish to bring other family members, the cost is \$35 per person.

The full menu is Rib Eve steak

The full menu is Rib Eye steak, baked russet potato, and a salad bar, with fresh-baked rolls and a dessert.

The dinner is grilled, baked, tossed, and served by Elk members. They encourage you to wear your uniform hats! Call Heather at

406-220-9963 for reservations and questions. The Elks Lodge #246 is located at 130 South 2nd Street.

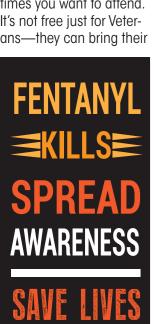
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# Livingston Farmers Market Voted Best Event in Park County & The Best Farmers Market in Montana

Western Sustainability Exchange is honored to announce that the Livingston Farmers Market has received two awards this season. It was voted the #1 Best Local **Event in Park County** for 2024 in Park County Community Journal's Best of Park

year, the Livingston Farmers Market has

County poll and, for the third consecutive

been named "Number One Market in Montana" based on voting during the 16th annual America's Farmers Market Celebration. Running from June 1st to July 31st, the annual event showcases the essential farmers markets across the nation making a difference

for farmers, ranchers, and communities. During that period, market shoppers and supporters were encouraged to vote for their favorite market by visiting markets. farmland.org.

Western Sustainability Exchange's Livingston Farmers Market 2024 summer season ran from June 5th through Sep-

tember 18th at the Miles Band Shell Park. At its peak, the weekly event hosted over 100 vendors each week, offering fresh local produce & meats, baked goods, flowers, artisans, live music, food vendors, and craft

beer. It also included ten special event days, offering a variety of free activities to the community, sponsored by different organizations, nonprofits, and businesses. In addition to other things, attendees could learn about wildfire preparedness, bear awareness, soil health, regenerative gardening, community services, and compete in a cornhole tournament for

Resource Center, Happy Trash Can Composting, Crazy Mountain Industries, Fairfield Inn by Marriott, Home2Suites by Hilton, July Hardesty of Edward Jones, Bank of the Rockies, Sibanye Stillwater, Kenyon Noble, and First Interstate

Environmental Council, Livingston Food

Bank. As well as our Special Day Sponsors: Childcare Connections, Sky Federal Credit Union, The Spur Line, Livingston Center for Art and Culture, Sun Mountain

Lumber, American Bank, Livingston Ace Hardware, Park County Health Department, Park County Community Foundation, The Office Lounge & Liquor Store, Livingston Dental Care, Signe Lahren with Berkshire Hathaway, and the Park County Fire Safe Coalition; And these businesses who graciously donated their services: Bozeman Inflatables,

Dairy Queen, FoodWorks, Livingston Bar & Grille, Livingston Golf Course, Yellowstone Sporting Goods, and the Teslow Art Center.

If you missed the market this year, mark your calendars for the 2025 season to ensure you don't miss it again! Vendor applications open in March, and the market will be in full swing

from June 4th through September 17th at the

Miles Band Shell Park. Applications for vendors, the full calendar of special events and live music, and information on how to become a sponsor will be available by visiting www.livingstonfarmersmarket.org.

WESTERN SUSTAINABILITY EXCHANGE Founded in 1994, Western Sustainability Exchange believes in preserving the best of the West... wide open spaces, fish and wildlife habitats, and farm and ranching heritage by providing sustainable solutions that promote environmental stewardship and rural economic prosperity. We accomplish this by advocating, teaching, and incentivizing regenerative ranching practices.





prizes. At the same time, kids could play on a bouncy house, participate in fun art activities, watch talented youth performances, participate in a bike rodeo with a chance to win a free bike, learn about bike safety, see a live milking demonstration with Milkshake the Cow, and even make a milkshake on Farm to School's blender bike; both brought to the Market by the Spur Line.

The Livingston Farmers Market would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, community partners, and donors. We would like to give a special thank you to our Community Partners and Program & Market Sponsors: City of Livingston, Park County



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**\* 8 YEARS PARK COUNTY COMMISSIONER ★ LONGTIME PARK COUNTY RESIDENT** 

# VOTE CARL BERNTSEN FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER VOTE NOVEMBER 5TH OR RETURN YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT

CARL IS A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF PARK COUNTY. HE EARNED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS FROM CARROLL COLLEGE, FOLLOWED BY A MASTER'S DEGREE IN MECHANICAL FROM THE University of Notre Dame. Carl, alongside HIS WIFE, REBECCA SWANDAL, AND THEIR FOUR YOUNG CHILDREN, NELS, THORA, WILLA, AND HOLTER, RESIDES OUTSIDE WILSALL, AND HIS CHILDREN ARE 5TH GENERATION PARK COUNTY RESIDENTS. HIS PRIORITIES, IF ELECTED, ARE TO PROTECT PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS, REPAIR AND MAINTAIN OUR ROADS, PRIORITIZE PUBLIC SAFETY, AND RESTORE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.



FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Nels Swandal, Treasurer 305 E. Lewis St, Livingston, MT 59047

# **Pumpkin - The Flavor of Fall**

by Jill-Ann Ouellette

As the leaves change color and the air turns crisp, it's the perfect time to embrace the flavors of the season. Everywhere you go you will find pumpkin-spiced flavored foods and drinks. Last year, I laughed every time I drove down Park Street because the lube center offered pumpkin-spice oil changes!

While the official beginning of fall was September 23rd, the season can arrive anytime in the general vicinity. When thinking about harvest season, our thoughts go to the garden; oh, those hearty root vegetables, the big, beautiful winter squash, and cabbages to the juicy fruits of autumn—a bounty of nutrition and deliciousness!

Let's focus on the best-known fall food—pumpkin. Did you know there are over 150 varieties in the world today? A pumpkin plant takes 90 to 120 days to mature from seed. The nation's largest grower of pumpkins is the state of Illinois, and the pumpkin is the official state fruit of New Hampshire.

Where did the name come from? While

pumpkins are believed to have originated in Central America, their name comes from the Greek word "pepon," meaning large melon. While commonly considered a vegetable, it's actually a fruit because it contains seeds. Although nutritionally speaking, it resembles the values of a

Pumpkin has an impressive nutrient profile; it is rich in beta-carotene, which your body converts into vitamin A. It's also a good source Vitamin C, which increases white blood cell production to speed up wound healing. It also has Vitamin E, iron, folate and antioxidants, which support healthy vision, skin, and bones, and boosts immune function, reducing risk of chronic diseases by neutralizing free radicals. Its high potassium level is linked to heart benefits like lower blood pressure and reduced risk of strokes. [Healthline.com]

The pumpkin is surprisingly low in calories—1 cup has only 49 calories because it's 94% water. It's considered a nutrient-dense and weight-loss-friendly food. It's known for its high fiber content, assisting with digestion and elimination. Some folks feel it suppresses their appetite.

Pumpkin is delicious, versatile and easy to add to your diet. It can be steamed, baked, boiled, or roasted. The yellow-orange flowers on the vine are also edible. Its sweet flavor makes it a popular ingredient



in dishes, such as custards, pies, muffins, and pancakes. However, it works just as well in savory dishes such as roasted vegetables, soups, and pastas.

As any pumpkin carver can tell you, pumpkins have a very tough skin, so it requires effort to slice. Once you cut it open, scoop out the seeds and any stringy parts, then slice the pumpkin into wedges. (Most recipes want the peel removed.) The seeds are also edible and packed with nutrients, which offer many other benefits. Seed roasting is an annual tradition in our family.

Pumpkin is available in most grocery stores canned, or more recently, fresh precut, giving you flexibility with your recipes and preparation. When buying canned, be sure to read the label carefully, as not all products will be 100% pumpkin.

The fastest and easiest way to eat pumpkin (once peeled) is to season it with salt and pepper and roast it in the oven at 350 " for 30 to 40 minutes depending if it is peeled or not. Many people also enjoy making pumpkin soup, especially during winter. Pumpkin is considered mildly diuretic,

which means eating a lot of pumpkin may induce a "water-pill-like" reaction, increasing the amount of water and salt your body expels through urine. This effect may harm people taking certain medicines such as lithium. Diuretics can impair your body's ability to remove lithium, causing serious side effects. [Healthline.com] A word of warning... although pump-

kin is healthy, many pumpkin-based junk foods—such as some lattés, candies, and pie fillings, are loaded with added sugar. They do not offer the same health benefits as consuming the fruit itself and should be avoided, like all junk foods.

So, whether you are enjoying a healthy pumpkin soup, carving a pumpkin, or eating a pumpkin-flavored dessert, get outside and enjoy the scents, weather, and scenery of fall!



### **Ingredients:**

- 1 can (15 oz) pumpkin
- 1 can (12 oz) evaporated milk
- 3 large eggs
- 11/2 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- 1 cup butter, melted
- Cool Whip, for topping

### **Directions:**

- 1. Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). Grease a 13×9 inch baking dish.
- 2. In a large bowl, combine the pumpkin, evaporated milk,

eggs, sugar, cinnamon, and salt. Mix until well combined.

- 3. Pour the pumpkin mixture into the prepared baking dish.
- 4. Sift the yellow cake mix and sprinkle it evenly over the pumpkin mixture.
- 5. Sprinkle chopped pecans over the cake mix.
- 6. Drizzle the melted butter evenly over the pecans.
- 7. Bake for 50-55 minutes, or until the top is golden brown and the cake is set.
- 8. Allow the cake to cool completely. Serve chilled or warm, topped with Cool







MEALS 🐽 WHEELS

# Looking Back with Lindie



**Park County High** School on the corner of 5th and Callendar streets. The first high school had a bad fire... This is the second high school built on this site during the art deco



Above: Nick Boesen and his granddaughter Marcia King at Sacajawea Park - 1950



Above: - Photo date unknown -Bob Gwaltney and Virgil Isbell in this photo - along with 2 unidentified men...



The Junior Prom 1947







Right: The High School Grocery (now a vacant lot with patio furniture on it) across the alley from the West Side school complex

# Update on Cooke City Fuels and Forest Health Project

Fuels and Forest Health Project Gardiner Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest USDA FOREST SER-

in fall 2025.

Templed Hills, Mill Creek

JULY 9 TO JULY 15, 1950

VICE Park County, Montana. This project is designed to reduce the fire intensity risk within the wildland urban interface surrounding Cooke City and Silver Gate. While also increasing forest resiliency to insect and disease infestation. The Gardiner Ranger District would like to share that the Cooke City Fuels and Forest Health Project timeline has been updated, reflecting a new proposed decision date

Several comments received during the July 2024, 30-day comment period expressed a desire to have more time and more information to better provide informed and relevant comments. Due to this, a second 30-day comment period

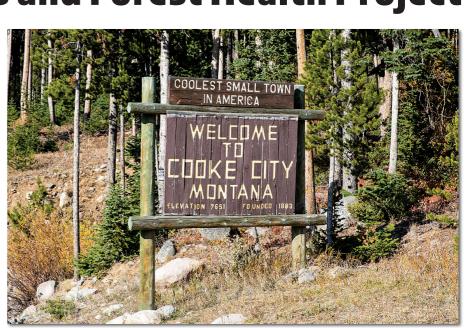


will be provided in early 2025.

Members of the public who provided comments during the July

2024 comment period, that followed the requirements of 36 CFR 218.25, will have standing. Individuals or entities (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) who submitted timely and specific written comments (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) about this proposed project or activity during this or another public comment period established by the responsible official will be eligible to file an objection.

A timely submission will be determined as outlined in 36 CFR 218.25 (a) (4). Comments should have been within the scope of the proposed action, had a direct relationship to the proposed action. and included supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to have considered



(36 CFR 218.2). All comments received throughout the project, regardless of standing to object, will be reviewed and considered by the Responsible Official. Another public meeting will be held,

virtually, in conjunction with the next comment period. Additional information about this project is available on the project website at: fs.usda.gov/project/custergallation/project=57361.





# OP-ED FORUM

# by Rob Watson

# The Road to Educational Vouchers in Montana Has Begun - Stay Informed Rob Watson, EdD Executive Director School Administrators of Montana

Educational vouchers are a mechanism designed to give families the ability to choose an educational path for their child, by using public dollars and redirecting those resources towards non-public education. Sometimes vouchers are used to pay for private school tuition and other times they are used to pay for homeschool programs or opportunities.

While universal vouchers have not yet made it to Montana, we are on the pathway to their full introduction. Please check out what is happening in other states, like Arizona, that shows the pathway to universal vouchers is paved with legislation such as open enrollment, tax credits, and education savings accounts. All of these markers have passed in Montana. HB393, the education savings account for special education students, is still in litigation as Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC) has challenged the constitutionality of this bill.

We are predicting that a push towards universal vouchers will start with the 2025 legislative session. To that end, we believe it is important that voters have some background

information and context.

### Types of Educational Vouchers

- 1. Traditional Vouchers: These provide families with public funding to pay for private school tuition. These vouchers are typically targeted at low-income families to enable their children to attend private schools that they otherwise could not afford.
- 2. Tax Credit Scholarships: These are slightly different from traditional vouchers. Instead of directly providing funds to families, tax credit scholarships offer tax credits to individuals and corporations that donate to scholarship-granting organizations. These organizations then provide scholarships to eligible students to attend private schools.
- 3. Vouchers for Disabled Students: Also known as special needs scholarships, these vouchers are designed specifically for students with disabilities. The funding can be used to attend schools that better accommodate their specific educational needs, whether these are

private or homeschool programs.

4. Universal Vouchers: Unlike targeted vouchers, universal vouchers are available to all students regardless of their family's income or specific educational needs. The idea is to give every family the freedom to choose the best educational environment for their children.

Potential Harms: While the concept of educational vouchers aims to provide families with more choice and improve educational outcomes, it also comes with several potential drawbacks.

- 1. Redirection of Public Funds: One of the most significant concerns is that educational vouchers divert public funds from traditional public schools to private institutions. This can lead to reduced budgets for public schools, which may already be struggling with limited resources. As public schools serve the majority of students, a decrease in funding can negatively impact educational quality.
- 2. Lack of Accountability: Private or home-

- school programs that receive voucher funds are often not held to the same accountability standards as public schools. This lack of oversight can result in varied educational quality and potentially misuse of public funds.
- 3. Equity and Access Issues: While vouchers are intended to provide more educational opportunities, they can sometimes exacerbate inequalities. Families with more resources and better knowledge of the system may be more able to take advantage of vouchers, leaving behind those who are less informed or lack the means to supplement voucher amounts for more expensive private school tuition.

Educational vouchers present a complex and multifaceted issue within the K-12 public education system. Understanding how they have been used and misused in other states is important. Engaging in informed discussions can help mitigate potential harms and ensure that all students have access to high-quality education.

# **LETTERS** TO THE EDI

# It Is Easy To Pick A Candidate...

To my fellow Park County residents:

I've been to several "meet the candidates" this election season to talk to the folks running for county commission. I surmised that the condition of the gravel roads in Park County is one of the top three concerns we all share. We are tired of the ruts, potholes, and washboard on the non-paved roads we travel. The question that must be asked of current commissioners is why does it seem to us that nothing is being accomplished to repair our gravel roads? What's the hold-up? Additionally, property rights and proposed zoning restrictions, along with the growth policy are the other two issues on every

I've gotten to know newcomer candidate Sabina Strauss over the last few months running against incumbent Bryan Wells. Sabina's platform addresses these top problems head on. She's listening to us. At the meet-and-greet I attended a few weeks ago

at the Pray Café, she and fellow candidate Carl Berntsen talked about auditing all the departments to get to root causes instead of proposing band-aid fixes. Along with Kent Hanawalt, write-in candidate for county auditor, they shared their plan for righting the ship that has gone severely off course. Additionally, Sabina shared that a "growth policy" is a gateway to zoning. And last I looked, most of us do not want tight restrictions on how we use the land we own in the county. Isn't that why we live in Montana?

If your candidate is for the growth policy (find out if they are), watch out! Zoning is right behind it. You must do your homework in this area. Ask the candidate what his position is in this area. Sabina and Carl do an excellent job of explaining the issues in an unbiased and fair way that benefits every resident in the county.

already had a lot of time in office to address these issues. Why aren't those issues being completed, checked off the "to-do" list, while holding the power to do so in that elected

To me, the upcoming county and presidential elections are an easy decision. If you're not happy with the way things are being run now, then why on

earth would you vote for the candidate who has the decision-making power to fix them now and is not doing so! Cast your vote for the candidate who is listening to us and promises to fix things, and then let's hold them accountable once they take their oath.

Sincerely, Genevieve Schmitt Emigrant, MT 10/5/24





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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Conquering PTSD

In my mid-seventies, I had a mental health crisis. Repressed memories of incidents that had

occurred 50 years earlier were suddenly invading my mind and ruining my life. I was miserable.

The VA was great to me. Evidently a decrease in testosterone that accompanies aging, coupled with my sedentary, less-busy lifestyle, made room for these unwelcome thoughts. I'm

doing much better now. Yes, I spent a year in therapy, a once-a-week session with a psychologist. I learned to focus on my future, not my past. I changed my lifestyle, eating better and drinking less, running and walking several miles a week. I bought a Lab puppy and started training him. I spent time regularly helping others, even handing a few dollars out my car window to those with a "Anything helps, God bless" sign.

The three things that I believe were the most help to me, however, were meditation, archery, and cooking. I learned to do a 20-minute meditation every day and again when the demons reared their ugly heads at 2 am. I read Zen and the Art of Archery and started

shooting fifty or more arrows in the evening. I started planning real dinners and inviting friends to join me.

I hope the New Wellness Center will consider implementing these activities into their plan. A small room conducive to group meditation, a wide corridor for two or more archers to shoot their bows indoors and a kitchen suitable for cooking classes.

We need a Wellness Center first. The rest can come later. Vote to support the Wellness Center beginning February 28th.

Sincerely, Anonymous Vietnam Veteran and PTSD survivor

# The Library Wants to Triple Their Tax on You With New Levy.

Doar Editor

This election the library is asking voters to triple the voted [forever] tax levy we pay to the library every year from our property taxes. Yes, that's right, triple. It is currently 5.5 mills and they want a total of 16.25 mills. Roughly speaking that means jumping from \$504,160 to just shy of \$1.5 million a year.

Most of us don't speak mills, so here is another way to look at it. The county's largest budget item is for law enforcement at 20.8 mills. The second largest is the county general fund at 15.97 mills; roads a mere 9.97 mills.

This means the new tax levy the library is asking for is more mills than the entire county general fund mills. The general fund includes 43.64 full-time employees. I don't know how many the library employs.

I went to the library information meeting the other week to find out more but am still scratching my head. As reported in a paper, the librarian and a library board member in attendance both said they probably won't ask for the full tax levy at

first. Really?

Why ask for more money from already overburdened taxpayers if you don't really need it? Additionally, the librarian is an employee so he has no vote in how much is levied or when. Nor does a single board member as that would have to be a full board decision.

While we are talking boards, who exactly is the library accountable to? Much to my surprise, the library owns itself. The county gets to appoint two of the board members and the city appoints two members. These four appoint an at-large person. These five board members are in charge of the library. Not the city or the county.

At that same library information session, a citizen asked what metrics the library had to substantiate their tax levy request. They have no metrics. I asked if they had begun talks with the Shields Valley, Paradise Valley or Emigrant folks on their plan to rent space and supply full-time staff for their county-wide vision referred to in the library brochure as the reason for the levy increase. No, they have not done this.

Another citizen at the meeting asked, had the librarian met with the Gardiner volunteer library folks and how had that resulted. The librarian said they had met and had not been thrown out of the meeting. Perhaps the librarian was trying for humor here?

It looks to me as if their county-wide library vision is not bound by facts or by a concrete plan. How can they ask taxpayers to fund their pie-in-the-sky with no plan and no real numbers?

We work real jobs, with required hours, required outcomes for specific pay and yet they expect us to open our pockets for a forever tax levy that not only we will pay, but our children and grandchildren will pay, for a vision backed by no data or community input?

What are your thoughts about the library? I suggest you go visit the library before you vote. Ask your friends who use the library.

As a person who reads constantly, I visit at least once a week and sadly, I have to say the library seems to have fallen into a sorry state of neglect. The face of our library, a dirt and weed strewn yard, for years has finally re-emerged as? Classic architecture meets a gardening experiment.

Where have the books gone? The main floor of the old library has no more books—only DVD's and empty magazine shelves. The computers

which took over everywhere in a rush a few years ago have now been reduced to seven.

We were told that small meeting rooms are the new need and the library board has employed an architect to figure out the best way to chop the remaining open sitting spaces and previous computer space into meeting rooms to be commercial rentals or free to non-profits (at taxpayer expense).

I still believe libraries are a place to learn and to visit other worlds and adventures through books. A place where children can be taught a life-long enjoyment of books. I love our library that I spent several years building both a railing and gate of iron for and have volunteered in many book sales.

But alas, I am concerned about such visions that would turn our Carnegie front reading room, with all that natural light, into a rabbit warren of meeting rooms instead of the welcoming place it now is. It needs to be a commercial business? Really? Where do these ideas come from?

Please, before you vote, go to the library. Be sure what they are doing and what they are saying is what you want for your family and the continuing generations that will shoulder the burden of this proposed forever tax.

Sincerely, Ann Hallowell

# The Character of a Candidate

Dear Editor,

Throughout my life, people have often told me that I have good judgement of a person's character. Please allow me the opportunity to introduce to you my good friend, Jason Gunderson. I've known Jason for a year now and it didn't take long for me to realize that Jason is a man of impeccable moral character.

As a nation and community, I find that we are incredibly divided today. I believe that if we will have a conversation with people of opposing viewpoints from a place of understanding rather than judgement, we will realize that we have much more in common with each other than not.

I believe that Jason feels the same way.

Jason has been a public servant his entire career as a firefighter, EMT and police officer. He has put the needs of his community above his own and his record speaks for itself. We have a lot of great people serving our community and Jason stands out as one of the best. No matter what side you are on politically is irrelevant. Of course he has his own values that he stands for, but he truly is someone who will represent the entire population of his district. He listens to and respects the perspectives of everyone.

Jason understands the occasional necessity of an increase in taxes but will be very critical of doing so. He will exhaust all other options before voting to increase our tax burden. He understands the tough financial position many of us are in

due to inflation and the cost of housing in our community and this is personal for him.

Like all of us, Jason wants to have an efficient and accountable government. He's seen firsthand how irresponsible our government is. He swore an oath to defend the Constitution – a commitment he takes very seriously. He wants to make sure we are all able to achieve the American dream

When it comes to environmental concerns, Jason has a unique perspective. Growing up in Libby, he was exposed to asbestos and requires screenings every few years to determine if he has asbestosis. He wants a clean and safe environment and at the same time understands the importance of using the natural resources we have to benefit our economy and provide Montana jobs.

On education, Jason believes that teachers should not be teaching children what to think but how to think and that parents have a right to know what is taught to their children. I think we would all agree with that.

We would be honored to have Jason Gunderson represent us in House District 58. Rarely do we see such a great candidate. I would encourage you to reach out to Jason and have a conversation with him, I believe once you do—you will agree with what I have said. Let's allow Jason to continue in his accomplished career of serving the community and vote him into office this November. He will return common sense to our state government, and he will make you proud. I'm certain of it.

July Hardesty

# Defend What is Right—Life

Dear Editor:

Amidst all the positions Montanans will be voting on in November—is Initiative 128 that would amend the Montana Constitution "to expressly provide a right to make and carry out decisions about one's own pregnancy, including the right to abortion. It would prohibit the government from denying or burdening the right to abortion before fetal viability."

Science has shown life begins at con-

ception, and like Tim Sheehy states, "abortion is murder." To end innocent life is nothing less

We grimace at school shootings, and yet allow mothers to end their own child's innocent life.

The issue of abortion has NOTHING TO DO WITH A MOTHER'S RIGHT TO HER OWN BODY... we simply cannot deny that sonograms show another body within the mother's body.

Statistics have shown that the "need to end this life" due to rape, incest, endangering

the mother's or a baby's birth defect is less than .0003 % of the time... which can be

interpretted as ALMOST NEVER...
It's time we stop hiding behind the smoke screen of a "woman's rights" and defend WHAT IS RIGHT... Adoption has been and forever will always be - the right choice for a mother and her unwanted baby, and this is a choice the baby and mother can both

Lindie Gibson Livingston, MT

# Park County Republicans Monthly Meeting

Monday, October 14, 2024 • 6:30 PM



Republican Headquarters 207 So 2nd St, Livingston

Come early and meet other Patriots

Pick up campaign yard signs & flags to

show off your patriotism.

Let's WIN this election together!!

# I'm Voting to Keep Commissioner Bryan Wells!

Dear Editor,

I've known Bryan Wells for 24 years. I was introduced to him and his wife Sally by General Chuck Yeager who had known both of them for several years prior to that.

General Yeager thought the world of Bryan, as do I. All those qualities Chuck

Yeager embodied; integrity, hardworking, thoughtful, problem solver, with a heaping dose of common sense along with a good sense of humor—you will also find in Bryan Wells.

There's no one better for the task at hand for county commissioner.

Victoria Yeager



# **Pumpkin Jokes**

By Kim Bongiorno for What to Expect e-zine.

How do you surprise a pumpkin?

You catch them off-gourd.

What does a jack-o-lantern wear after it gets poked in the eye? A pumpkin patch.

When is a pumpkin not a pumpkin? When it gets squashed.

When should you make a jack-o-lantern?

Whenever you can carve out the time.

How do you get a pumpkin pie to blush? Say, "I have a crust on you."

Why were the farmers gossiping about the jack-o-lantern?

It gave them pumpkin to talk about.

What did the pumpkin say the day before Thanksgiving? I guess it's time to say good-pie.

**Knock, knock.** Who's there?

Pumpkin.

Pumpkin who? Knock, knock.

Who's there? Pumpkin.

Pumpkin who? Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Orange.

Orange who?

Orange you glad I didn't say pumpkin again?

That is Like... So Funny!

poked in the eye?



By Kim Bongiorno for What to Expect e-zine.

Why did the tiny pepper wear a sweater? Because it was a little chili.

Why does Humpty Dumpty love the end of summer? Because he always has a great fall.

Why can't you tell secrets on a farm? Because the corn has ears.

How can you tell when winter is here? It's after autumn leaves.

What's the most adorable season of them all? Awwwtumn.



# VOTE ISALY FOR HOUSE D-58 ¥ I am Pro...

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- \*Family
- \*Education
- \*Human Rights
- \*Securing Reproductive Rights
- \*Clean Water/Clean Environment
- \*Access to, and protecting, our Public Lands
- \*Affordable access to quality healthcare
- \*Affordable access to mental healthcare
- \*A diverse energy portfolio for Montana
  \*Supporting and preserving the Montana Constitution
- \*Supporting our 2nd Ammendment rights responsibly
- \*Supporting our food systems, big and small
- \*Supporting Montana's rights to hunt and fish

Working hard & solving problems we face as Montanans!







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1. All three ballot initiatives will change the Montana Constitution and cannot be tweaked or changed until another ballot initiative gets enough signatures to make it onto the ballot which at the earliest won't be until 2026 assuming it gets the signatures to be on the ballot then.

2. Primaries are NOT GENERAL **ELECTIONS. PRIMARIES ARE** MEANT FOR POLITICAL PARTIES AND FOR THE MEMBERS OF THOSE POLITICAL PARTIES TO SELECT THEIR TOP CANDIDATE FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION.

General elections are for all the people to decide who their favorite candidate is regardless of which party the candidates is a member.

- a. Political Parties are important because they educate voters through published platforms so you know where they stand on the issues that are important to you as a voter.
- b. Political Parties have the ability to hold their candidates accountable for not adhering to their platform. Cl-126 takes away all those checks and balances in the current party system and will only make matters worse.
- 3. Politicians lie enough as it is. CI-126 will make it vastly easier for them to lie about where they stand on the issues and how they will vote. Voters will be less informed as primary elections will allow candidates to hide who they really are

by not having to declare a political party preference.

- 4. CI-126 will make political parties obsolete because candidates will not run as Republican, Democrat or any other party.
- a. Voters won't know if a candidate is really conservative or socialist or anything else. Essentially, everyone is non-partisan and can say whatever they want about where they stand on the issues, but the voters will never really know until after they take office (remember Obamacare, you have to pass it before you can know what's in it?).
- b. CI-126 essentially creates an open primary where every person regardless of party decides who will be on the November ballot in the general election. That means no party is quaranteed to be on the ballot in the general election. It will also lead to confusion among voters as to who is really a Democrat or Republican and in certain cases it will incentivize lying about which party you truly belong to in order to get enough votes in the primary.

5. Soros backed Sixteen Thirty Fund spent over \$100k backing **CI-126** and



creating a wealthy ruling class. CI-127 is about requiring candidates to achieve a majority vote instead of a plurality. Montana's governmental system operates on a plurality voting principle. The term 'plurality' indicates that the candidate with the highest

number of votes, in comparison to their

competitors, is declared the winner.

However, a 'majority' stipulates that irrespective of the number of candidates, the winning candidate must secure at least 50.1% of the total votes. If no candidate reaches this threshold initially, a run-off election is held among the top two contenders until one ac-

quires at least 50.1% of the total votes.

Elections cost money, as evidenced by Montana's 2024 Senate race where the final tally may reach over \$75 million by election day (at \$57 million plus as of July 17, 2024). If CI-127 passes, the likely beneficiary will be the wealthiest candidates or the candidate that sells his/her soul to the most donors and is able to raise the most money.

Neither of those options lead us to the best candidate to represent "We the People" versus "We the donor class." Not only does the good grassroots candidate lose, so do the voters.

If CI-127 passes, consider how much more often this intriguing strategy will be used by major parties who cleverly stimulate a third candidate to participate in their adversary's primary, or even in a general election. By encouraging a third-party candidate to enter the race, they cleverly divert votes away from their opponent. This brilliant move often splits the vote, leading to a compelling need for a run-off election.

The complexity of politics might appear daunting, but understanding these tactics can equip you with the knowledge necessary to navigate the political landscape and understand why CI-127 IS A BAD IDEA AND WHY YOU **SHOULD VOTE NO!** 

**CI-127 Undermines Grassroots Candidates-Especially those of Modest Means; thereby** 

> Imagine a scenario where the primary victor has diminished time to face their real competitor in the general election. Not only does this decrease competition, but it also escalates financial pressure on the victorious candidate. They are effectively participating in three races - the primary, the general, and potentially a primary challenge run-off and or a general election run-off. This situation demands a significant increase in fundraising efforts to secure a win. Consider the implications on grassroots candidates of modest means.

Consider the implications of another round of fundraising and additional advertisements. The victorious candidate will be compelled to devote more time on the campaign trail, detracting from their valuable desk time for preparing bills for the upcoming legislative session. Moreover, the ripple effect extends to the general public, as they're left in uncertainty about their representative for several months following the regular general election.

Not only does this cost the local or county taxpayers potentially millions more to run additional elections, but it also delays the ability of a party's candidate to start campaigning against their opponent(s) in the general election. This delay not only hurts that party's ability to campaign against their opponents, but it also delays their ability to raise funds for their general election campaign and gives a distinct advantage to the wealthiest candidate who can self-fund or raise the most money.

# VOTE NO CI-128

- 1. Taxpayer Funded Abortion Painful, lateterm dismemberment and partial-birth abortions will be funded by YOUR tax dollars.
- 2. Parental Rights Removed Parents will not have the right to know if their minor child is having an abortion, or attempting to change their gender.
- 3. Healthcare Professionals Abortions could be performed by non-doctors, dental assistants, physical therapists, podiatrists, and the like.
- 4. Hides Sexual Predators Anyone will be able to take their victim to abort their child in order to hide their crime-pimps, statutory rapists, and human traffickers included!
- 5. Removes Women's Rights Women who are injured or killed by their abortionist will lose any right to legal recourse.
- 6. Parental Rights Removed Painful, lateterm dismemberment and partial birth abortions will be legalized.

## What CI-128 is about:

Millions of dollars from Illinois, California and other liberal states are pouring into Montana to enshrine into our state constitution, tax payer funded abortion up till the moment of birth, for any reason. This is not about reproductive rights. This initiative is extreme abortion for any reason.

CI-128 would allow abortions, for any reason at all levels of development and would NOT allow a baby that could survive outside the womb to be saved. It would allow for a baby that could be saved and adopted to be dismembered or denied the care it needs to survive.

# Fences, and Defenses Made Easy

by Joyce Johnson

dependency Treatment was real trendy when I was a waitress in a cafe here in town, and my boss and a few co-workers had taken the therapy in Bozeman, so they



wanted me to also, because they said I say, "yes" when I mean "no," too often, and that I had fuzzy boundaries. "Boundaries" sounds like the Great Wall of China, to me, but "fences" sounds friendly. Over the years I've contemplated the "healthy boundaries" concept, however, and respect its application in many situations.

But we Codeps are just fixers, do-gooders and yes-men—so I said "Yes"... and went to weekly Codependency group therapy in Bozeman, to please my boss and the others, all of whom I

was fond, appreciated their caring, and gas was way cheaper then, and it was nothing to hop over the pass for whatever.The word Co-dependent, a negative fuzzy label, was explained by the young Codep treatment facilitator.



"The world is full of kind caregivers, but us everyday varieties seriously over extend." I think she called us "dysfunctional" regarding our outreaches. One unforgettable young man in the group defined us perfectly when he confessed that while at the gas pump he sometimes pulls out his handkerchief and wipes the dirt off the headlights of other people's cars. He said with sincere concern, "People rarely think to look at their own dirty headlights." [how right-on is that!] He was embarrassed, his cheeks red, but I loved his funny, fence-less, caring kindness. Dysfunctional? Bah!

The facilitator, herself a recovered Codep, and newly wed, asked us to agree to NOT get into any boy/girl relationships for a year, to allow time for healing and "reset" to burn in. One night a few weeks later, and right after a group session, a guy named Ron winked at me at the Bozeman Hot Springs, and um, that was the end. I had to tell her that "I met a great guy at the pool recently, and we

> are getting married." I can still see her cheeks flame up, jaw-drop and big-eyed stare followed by, "But you agreed to not get into any relationships!" I bit my lower lip and put a fence of silence up. In truth, I tried to put up a fence to postpone the marriage... but, um... you know how it is. Married now 34 years, I confess I did flunk codep treatment, but I got Ron the Rockman instead...very likely as

"planned.":-D

Real "fences," are necessary, and sometimes ignored, specially out here in the "Sticks." Starting with the friendly jack-leg fences. I love the picture of the mystery fence that wanted to be an accordion but gave up. There's a barbed wire fence off East River Rd that has a double step ladder gizmo built over it so people and I happen to know, their dogs can walk to the river beyond. I love the one in the picture with flowers best I think. A couple months ago, a bunch of horses

and goats and a huge mule, normally respectful of fences, stepped over an old beat up, mostly downed, fence and went on a happy stroll around the hood, as though singing "Don't Fence Me In," and dropped a lot of calling cards. I thought the whole event was funny. My neighbor said, "Ya shoulda seen that mule! He was huge!" She didn't put up a fence to keep them all

out, because they liked the deer visits. I once drove past the little ranch and saw a huge mule loose on the roadside. I told the owner and she shrugged. Montana, a unique land and people.

"Fencing" defined online as, "The skill developed using a sword to try to poke holes in someone without being poked back." Ahah! What a fun view! But we all "fence" with each other's personas (outer personality) with little verbal



lunges, or swashbuckler moves and sidestepping; and athletes spar sorta elegantly with each other. Other fences: Ron pokes people with silly puns to crash a serious mood fence at any check stand. Avoiding eye contact is the most common soft fence, or detour. A sudden change of subject is a great, Victorian, civilized fence. Big dark sunglasses are a graphic fence to hide behind. The list is long.

Every year, for a few weeks at summer's end, I love our cheery "living fence" of blossoming sunflower bushes that line the edges of the road. Little birds feed on the seeds in the flowers and do sprint flights from bush to bush along with me and the little dog I walk; and grass hoppers and a bee or two joined the entourage recently. But the bushes are dry and brown now, soon to transform into tumble weeds. Did you know that tumble weeds are the retired sunflower bushes that will soon break loose and we shall see roll and bounce freely across the land? I recall now a Native Elder's simple response to fences, "Man does not own the Land." [Ah ho!] Here is the wrap: Decorate your fences with flowers! What the heck? Lets just clean off each others headlights. We'll all see better.



# Vote For Solid Investment Strategies

With the presidential election just a few weeks away, the public is naturally interested in not just the outcome but what the results will mean for issues of national importance. As a citizen, you likely share these concerns—but how about as an investor? After the votes are counted—or even before—should you make some moves in anticipation of possible changes in policy?

Let's look at the big picture first, through the lens of history. The financial markets have performed well—and at

times, not so well—under Democratic and Republican presidents alike. And the same is true about which party-controlled Congress.

While it might be an overstatement to say that decisions made in Washington have no effect on the markets, it's not always so easy to draw a direct line between what happens there and how the markets perform. For one thing, political candidates often make promises that are not fulfilled, or, if they are, have different results than intended. Also, other institutions can have

a significant impact on the markets. For example, the Federal Reserve, which controls short-term interest rates, can certainly affect many market sectors. And there will always be external events, such as foreign conflicts and even natural disasters, that can make short-term impacts on the investment world.

So, rather than making changes to your portfolio in anticipation of what might happen if certain candidates get elected, or even in response to actual policy changes, look to other factors to drive your investment decisions.

### These factors should include the following:

- Your goals You probably have short- and long-term goals you'd like to achieve. For your short-term goals, such as a wedding, a down payment on a house or a long vacation, you may want to invest in instruments that provide stability of principal. For your long-term goals, most important of which may be a comfortable retirement, you'll need to own a reasonable number of growth-oriented investments.
- Your risk tolerance When you build and maintain your investment portfolio, you'll need to accommodate your individual risk tolerance. All investments carry some type of risk, but you need to be comfortable with the overall risk level of your investments.
- Your time horizon Where you are

in life is an important consideration when investing. When you are young and just starting out in your career, you may be able to focus more on growth, as you have time to overcome the inevitable short-term market downturns. But as you near retirement, you may want to consolidate any gains you may have achieved, and lower your risk level, by moving your portfolio toward a somewhat more conservative approach. Even in retirement, though, you will need some growth potential to stay ahead of inflation.

Your needs for liquidity – As you invest, you'll need to maintain an adequate amount of cash and cash equivalents in your holdings. Without this liquidity, you might be forced to sell long-term investments in case you have unexpected expenses.

In any case, when it comes to investing, you may want to pay less attention to what names are on the ballot—and instead "vote" for the longer-term strategies that reflect your needs and goals.

July Hardesty | Financial Advisor | EdwardJones 115 W Callender St. | Livingston, MT 59047 Office: (406) 222-4803 | Fax: (866) 537-6919 Offering strategies based on what's important to you.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



American Automotive is hiring a full-time automotive technician. Starting at \$35 an hour DOE. We are a family-oriented business with a fun work environment, paid holidays, vacation benefits, growth opportunities and other perks. Quarterly reviews with raise opportunities and will pay for continuing education.

Stop by 320 1/2 North Main Street and ask for Destri, or call 406-222-0815.



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# Tell the FDA to Ban Toxic Deadline is Chemicals in Our Food December 6th

This is unprecedented. The FDA held a public meeting last week for comments on the way they review harmful chemicals in food.

If toxic chemicals and additives in food and food packaging are something you do not want to see poisoning the people of this country... act quickly and respond by joining the Environmental Working Group (EWG) and be part of their collective voice to fight for our health!

The FDA is asking for continued public input on safety criteria during their input peri-

od! But the window to submit comments closes in early December. For decades, the FDA's broken approach to food safety has put us all at increased health risks. Even as evidence mounts linking post-market chemicals like color additives, food packaging contaminants and preservatives to serious health risks, the FDA has looked the other way. While US food manufacturers have been exporting their products to Europe (omitting

the harmful chemicals and preservatives due to the European mandates) they know how to adjust formulas and recipes for their products and still make a profit.

From BHA, a known carcinogen

used in preserved meat, to Red Dye
No. 3, linked to cancer—it's time
for the FDA to take a closer look at
what's in our food. As the FDA finally considers developing a chemical

review program, your input can help shape it.

The Environmental Working Group's mission is to empower people to live healthier lives in a healthier environment. EWG is a non-profit and non-partisan organization. The EWG Action Fund, a separate sister organization of EWG, is a legislative advocacy organization that promotes healthy and sustainable policies.

Don't let this critical window close without speaking out. It only takes a few minutes to add your voice to EWG and demand a healthier, safer food system. Visit their website at ewg.org and be heard.

# **Election Candidates**

from page 1

who claimed that affordability was paramount to preventing Livingston and the surrounding area from becoming an "exclusive mountain town," and that this goal should be achieved by prioritizing fiscal responsibility and providing essential services to constituents, placing less emphasis on alternative funding via future-oriented tourism-related tax solutions.

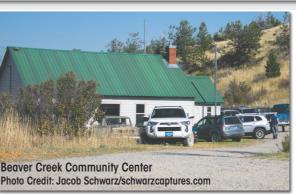
Strauss and Wells, respectively, stressed the importance of balancing the budget and public safety—inherently interconnected issues as staffing shortages in the Park County Sherriff's Office are largely due to the effects of tourism overwhelming financial and human resources, something Wells is attempting to ameliorate by working alongside state-level politicians Steve Daines, Jon Tester and Ryan Zinke to explore additional entrance fees to national parks for redistribution to gateway counties. Wells has campaigned on his strong interpersonal skills developed partially through experience working with others to set aside their differences and seek common ground in pursuit of a goal.

Effectively managing the budget, Strauss said, will require thoroughly examining county departments to determine whether each is performing optimally. She continued by claiming that a part of this process would involve using surveys to garner feedback about which departments constituents prioritize and if service provisions satisfy expectations accordingly. In addition to seeking public input to inform decision-making, her extensive experience in accounting was

a focal point she persistently promoted regarding her candidacy.

Vermillion and Wells agreed that frugality and eliminating frivolous spending are essential for effective budgeting, though the former again emphasized diversifying revenue streams whenever necessary, something relevant to her personal and professional experience managing small businesses and participating on the executive committee of the community foundation board.

Berntsen, on the other hand, placed the onus on county department heads to manage their respective budgets and daily operations as project managers, and compared the respon-



sibility of commissioner to a program manager tasked with ensuring that resulting work products and expenses fulfill county priorities identified by constituents. Additionally, he believes that a major pitfall in the current budgeting process can be characterized by a lack of diligence to include loaded costs (overhead, employee compensation, etc.) and the accumulated expenses associated with equipment purchases and rentals for public works projects—a change he feels capable of implementing through the analytic skillset acquired during his engineering career.

On the subject of roads, candidates reached consensus that expanded maintenance, though a mere expedient and at times deferred to a fault, according to Vermillion, is necessary, but that the public works department would benefit from greater training, funding and organization. Wells suggested the county reconsider its current approach to infrastructure, a topic on which the other candidates further elaborated: Strauss recommended increased systematization and constituent input when prioritizing road maintenance in each community; Vermillion raised the possibility of contracting contingent upon budgeting; Berntsen drew comparisons

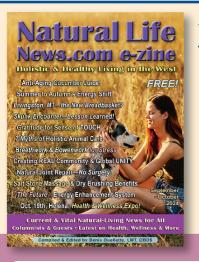
to other county-level public works programs in Montana and cited the current budget as evidence for reprioritizing the use of equipment and financial resources.

It seemed fitting for the forum to conclude with a question on the growth policy, a controversial topic as Park County continuously undergoes tremendous change in response to increased development. Strauss again conveyed the need for public input, as did Wells who, like Berntsen, advocated widespread community engagement to ascertain a collective definition for responsible growth. Wells turned the conversation concerning the growth policy strategical, voicing his intention to contract with a firm whose specialty is incorporating public engagement.

Berntsen furthermore expressed concern for increased costs of living, access to public lands and public-school enrollment numbers. Vermillion discussed protecting the agricultural heritage of Park County and its water resources, specifically, within the Shields Valley. She also supports efficient growth with respect to the impending burden faced by public works and emergency services in response to the expansion of affordable housing.

Structured questions were succeeded by a short period of public commentary and inquiry prior to closing statements by each candidate.

Justice of the Peace candidates Clay
Herbst and Belinda Schweigert, County Auditor
write-in candidate Kent Hanawalt and lone
Clerk of District Court candidate Molly Bradberry were provided the opportunity to give
brief statements about their candidacy. The
event culminated in a meet-and-greet between
candidates and attendees with refreshments
provided by hosts



# **Natural Life News!**

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# Why Does Awareness Matter?

by Nurse Fill

What do Jenna Fischer, Christina Applegate, Sheryl Crow, and Hoda Kotb have in

common? Yes, they're all celebrities but more specifically they are all celebrities that have joined their voices in October to raise awareness for the need of early detection for breast cancer. Each of these women have emphasized the importance of early detection in their own stories of survival (despite varying risk factors).

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. You may have seen increased posts from friends, family, and other celebrities sharing their stories on why it is important to get screened for breast cancer. You've heard the adage, "You can't fix what you don't know is broken?" It's true. Unlike chronic illness, where an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure, cancer is best managed with early detection. While there are definite risk factors to avoid and health habits you can adopt to decrease your chance of developing cancer, the best treatment for the ugly c-word is still early treatment in order to treat something you have to know it is there.

What exactly does it take to detect breast cancer early? Doing a breast self-exam monthly is at the top of the list for prevention. Most women know that feeling a lump isn't normal but a monthly exam can also reveal changes in nipple appearance, skin thickness, skin appearance, and size. Any change that is only on one side (rather than on

Reduce Your Risk by:

- Getting 30 minutes of activity a day
- Having less than 6 alcoholic drinks a week
- Breastfeeding
- Knowing your family history
- Avoiding permanent hair dye and chemical hair straighteners
- Not smoking
- Maintaining a normal BMI

both sides) should be mentioned to your doctor. Other specific red flags to look for during a breast self-exam: dimpling, swelling, shrinkage, nipple

turned inward or inverted, a thickening in the armpit, and nipple discharge not associated with breast feeding.

— CELEBRATING — HEALTHCARE HIGHLIGHTS

By A Practicing **NURSE** 

According to a Johns Hopkins University Professor, Lillie D. Shockney, "Forty percent of diagnosed breast cancers are detected by women who feel a lump, so establishing a regular breast self-exam is very important."

Another tool to detect breast cancer early is the dreaded mammogram. A mammogram is a low-dose x-ray that allows a physician to examine the tissue for any areas suspicious of cancer.

Mammograms have the ability to detect areas of concern before they can be felt in an examination. You should start having mammograms at the age of 40 and schedule them every 1-2 years depending on your risk factors. If you have a first-degree relative (mother, daughter, sister) who has had breast cancer then you should start getting mammograms 10 years younger than your relative's age at diagnosis. For example if your mother was diagnosed at the age of 45 with breast cancer then you should start getting mammograms at the age of 35.

Even though the procedure can be a bit of a tight squeeze the momentary discomfort pays great dividends in early detection leading to prompt treatment.

Ultrasound and MRI can also be used to investigate any problem spots noticed during self-exam or mammogram. If there is a lump identified then the next steps would be discussed with your doctor and likely include a biopsy, lab tests, and treatment options once the biopsy is confirmed. Your doctor can also help you

determine your risk with an assessment tool that takes into account all of the risk factors.

Only 2 out of 10 lumps identified with imaging and/or self-exam come back as cancer but the chance of survival decreases the longer those 2 tumors are allowed to grow and invade the body. Even 6 months can make a big difference in your chances to beat it.

So why does awareness matter? It matters for those 6 months. If you can

get treatment 6 months earlier, a year earlier, 2 years earlier, your chances of winning the battle go up. Those that have already endured the battle that no-one wants to fight have seen the affect of early detection and they want you to have the benefit too. Breast cancer will occur in 1 out of every 8 women and 85% of those women

Breast cancer is the

# second leading cause of cancer deaths

in women in the U.S.





have no family history of breast cancer. This cancer is not one that we can ignore. We know that early detection significantly improves survival rates so don't wait another day. Call your doctor and get an appointment today. Consider yourself aware.

For more information visit: https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org

# HONOR OUR LOCAL HEROES



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

We are honoring all who have served in our military and we need your help giving them the recognition they deserve in the November 10th edition of the PCCJ.

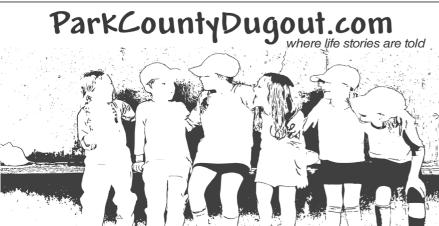
Below is an example of what each Veterans profile will display. Please fill out, and return the information below, (with photo) to include your family member, friend or acquaintance so we can pay tribute to those who served with pride.

Name:
Location of Birth:
Branch:
Service Years:
Rank:
Resides or Deceased & Date

Connection to Park County:

**Please send completed forms to:** The Park County Community Journal, 108 N. Main St., Livingston, MT 59047 or you can drop them off at The Main Print Shop or email information & photo to Community@pccjournal.com.

Deadline for submission is Friday, October 25th.



# Your Daily Dose of Park County News

Covering Daily Events, Business News, Local Sports, and More

Park County Dugout is dedicated to covering the issues that impact everyday lives in Park County, Montana.

Our news services cover local community happenings including a calendar of weekly community events, business news, local sports, podcasts and more, 7 days a week.





Our services are designed to bring local community members and neighbors closer to one another with engaging, humorous, inspiring and heartwarming daily local stories.

Published & Created by former Enterprise Sports Editor,

Jeff Schlapp

312-506-7261 jeffschlapp@parkcountydugout.com

# Grizzly Bear Killed After Encounter With Hunter in Gallatin Range

Oct 7, 2024 1:09 PM

**BIG SKY** – Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks staff responded to a reported encounter between a hunter and a grizzly bear on Saturday.

The hunter was in the backcountry south of Hidden Lakes in the Gallatin Range when he saw a grizzly bear and two large cubs at close range. The hunter climbed a tree to avoid the bear, but the bear charged at the hunter. The hunter shot and injured the bear

from the tree. The hunter stayed in the tree while the injured bear remained nearby.

The hunter called 911 and reported his location. FWP grizzly bear specialists, game wardens and a pilot responded via helicopter. After they landed, FWP staff dispatched the injured bear and found the hunter, who was not injured.

FWP staff did not observe any cubs or cub tracks from the air or ground. The area was flown multiple times during the event. The euthanized bear was confirmed to be an adult female.

This incident is still under investigation by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Gallatin County Search and Rescue and the Custer Gallatin National Forest assisted FWP in responding to the incident.

### Be bear aware

Montana is bear country. Grizzly bear populations continue to become denser and more widespread in Montana, increasing the

likelihood that residents and recreationists will encounter them in more places each year.

This time
of year is when
bears are active
for longer periods
as they consume
more food in preparation for hibernation.
This period overlaps with

This period overlaps with hunting season and other fall recreation activities.

Avoiding conflicts with bears is far better than dealing with such conflicts. Here are some precautions to help residents, recreationists and people who work outdoors avoid negative bear encounters:

- Carry bear spray and be prepared to use it immediately.
- Make noise to alert bears to your presence and travel in groups.
- Stay away from animal carcasses, which often attract bears.

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- Follow food storage orders from the applicable land management agency.
- Keep garbage, bird feeders, pet food and other attractants put away in a secure building. Keep garbage in a secure building until the day it is collected. Certified bear-resistant garbage containers are available in many areas.
- Never feed wildlife. Bears that become food conditioned lose their natural foraging behavior and pose threats to human safety. It is illegal to feed bears in Montana.

Some areas with dense concentrations of grizzly bears are very accessible to hunters, especially during the archery season. Keep these precautions in mind when hunting in grizzly country, which includes much of the

western two-thirds of Montana:

- Carry bear spray and be prepared to use it immediately.
- Watch for and be extra cautious around bear signs, creeks and areas with limited visibility. Most attacks happen in surprise, close encounters.
- Hunt with a group of people. This can help you make localized

noise to alert bears to your presence, and it may

also increase your chances of survival in the event of a bear attack.

- Be aware that elk calls and cover scents can attract bears.
- Bring the equipment and people needed to help field dress game and remove the meat from the kill site as soon as

possible.
If you need to leave part of the meat in the field during retrieval, hang it at least 10 feet off the

ground and at least 150 yards

from the gut pile. Leave it where

- it can be observed from a distance of at least 200 yards.
  Upon your return, observe the meat with binoculars. Make noise while approaching the meat. If it has been disturbed or if a bear is in the area, leave and
- Follow food storage orders from the applicable land management agency.

call FWP.

For more information and resources on being safe in bear country, visit: https://fwp.mt.gov/conservation/wild-life-management/bear.

Grizzly bears in the lower 48 states are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Management authority for grizzlies rests with the Fish & Wildlife Service, working closely in Montana with FWP, the Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Geological Survey, Wildlife Services, and Native American tribes. This collaboration happens through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.



Monday, Oct. 14th - CLOSED

Tuesday, Oct. 15th - Chicken tater tot, casserole, veggie, fruit, roll, milk

Wednesday, Oct. 16th - Pork Roast, gravy, veggie, potatoes, fruit, dessert, milk

Thursday, Oct. 17th - Chili, cornbread, fruit, milk

Friday, Oct. 18th -Fish fillet, coleslaw, tartar sauce, fries, fruit, dessert, milk



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# October 18 - November 10

Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm Sundays at 3pm









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Sunday, October 13, 2024 Community Journal - 15



# **Do Window Insulation Kits Really Work?**

### With Jon Albert

I initially doubted that taping sheets of plastic in front of my windows would do anything other than make them look ugly. Yet, the truth is—they do work! The insulator is the air trapped between the plastic sheet and the window, which minimizes the air exchange between the cold outside air and the air inside.

If you have drafty windows, you will feel a

difference on those cold, windy nights. To maximize the insulating benefit, tape the plastic sheet to the wall rather than to the window frame itself as some of the cold air may be entering through spaces between the window and the wall. If the draft is strong, use a strong tape that is designed to block air, such as Tyvek tape. The downside of using a strong tape is that it may peel the paint off your wall when you remove it.

Lastly, heat the plastic sheet with a hair dryer to tighten it and shrink its size once the tape is securely



adhered to the wall. Straightening the wrinkles in the plastic will make the window look better and improve

effective solution to the discomfort of a cold home with drafty windows, and cuts the costs incurred by adding additional heating sources.





visibility through it. This may all seem like an imperfect solution, but it is an





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# National Wreaths Across America Day



### Help American Legion Park Post #23 honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at .

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or





#ServeAndSucceed







# LIVINGSTON CIVIC CENTER WWW.LIVINGSTONMONTANA.ORG/REC

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE; CHECK WEBSITE BEFORE MAKING PLANS

### OPEN WALKING



MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:00-9:30 A M Prevents dementia Gives you energy Lowers disease risk Strengthens your heart

# ΙΑΙ

MONDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY 8:00-9:30 AM

Associated with mindfulness & psychological well-being Low impact

Helps prevent tripping and falling in older adults



# PICKLEBALL

MONDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY



1:00-4:00 PM DROP-IN FEE Reduces stress helps with balance and agility reduces risk of heart attack and chronic disease



### Mondays

WEEKLY GAME OF UNO at the Park County Senior Center, 206 S. Main St., Livingston on Mondays at 1 pm. Free for members, \$5 per game non-members.

WEEKLY PINOCHLE at the Park County Senior Center, 206 S. Main St., Livingston. On Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6:30 and Tuesdays at 1 pm. Free for members, \$2 per afternoon game for non-members.

### **Tuesdays**

WEEKLY PINOCHLE at the Park County Senior Center, 206 S. Main St., Livingston. On Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6:30 and Tuesdays at 1 pm. Free for members, \$2 per afternoon game for non-members.

### Wednesdays

BINGO NIGHT IS BACK AT THE OFFICE The Office Lounge at 128 S. Main Street is hosting Bingo, 6:30-9:30 pm. FAMILY KARAOKE NIGHT 49er Diner at 404 E. Park Street is hosting Family Karaoke night from 6-8 pm. For more information call 406-222-8204.

WEEKLY PINOCHLE at the Park County Senior Center, 206 S. Main St., Livingston. On Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6:30 and Tuesdays at 1 pm. Free for members, \$2 per afternoon game for non-members.

### Mondays-Fridays

DAILY COFFEE WITH FRIENDS! Open to all ages 9:15 am to 12:15 pm. Free. Park County Senior Center, 206 S. Main St., Livingston. ParkCountySeniorCenter.org

October 13 - **VEGAN POTLUCK**, Join them at the Park County Senior Center at 206 S. Main St. at 4:30 pm. You don't have to be vegan, but the food does. Please bring a dish to share that is free from meat, eggs, dairy, honey, and gelatin. You can keep it simple by bringing chips & salsa, fresh fruit, pickles or olives, or a green salad. Optional theme—fall foods.

# October 14 - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING City of Clyde

Park is having a town council meeting at 7 pm at the Town Hall, 518 Miles Avenue, Clyde Park.

October 16 - CANDIDATES FORUM sponsored by the Park County American Association of University Women (AAUW) in the Community Room of the City-County Building, 414 East Callender St. The forum for candidates for county offices (Commission Dist. 2 & Dist. 3, County Auditor, and Justice of the Peace) will be 6-7:15 pm. The candidate for Clerk of Court is unopposed and has been invited to sit in the audience. The forum for candidates for Montana House Dist. 57 & Dist. 58 will be 7:30-8:30 pm. The audience attending the forum will have the opportunity to submit written questions to the candidates. The public may watch the meeting on https://gomeet. com/parkcountycommission. To listen to the recording, people may visit https://parkcounty.granicus.com//ViewPublisher. php?view\_id=1 - recording will be available under Legislative

### October 16 - FULL MOON CACAO & SOUND CERE-

MONY 9 am to 11 am at 206 S 11th St, Unit 5, Livingston. Join Angela for an unforgettable experience to open your heart and connect more deeply with yourself. Register at www. elementalmagick.net/calendar

### October 16 - FOOT & BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

every other Wednesday at the Park County Senior Center, 206 S. Main St. Livingston, from 12 to 4 pm. A footie favorite! Call Ms. Dean Nelson for apt 406-223-0449. Fee of \$5 for members \$10 non-members.

### October 17 - ICE RINK KICK OFF PARTY - The

Livingston Ice Skating Association invites you to the 2024 season. Come celebrate another great season at Neptune's Brewery Outdoor Beer Garden, 119 N. L Street, 5:30 pm - 8 pm. Live music, win prizes, Hot Dog Champion will be on-site and open, everyone is welcome! Come have a beer on us!

Calendar of Events runs every week. To place your event on the calendar please email the information to community@pccjournal.com or drop off your information at the PCCJ office at 108 N. Main Street.

Cost is \$8/week for up to 50 words, 51-100 words is \$10/week, maximum word count is 100 words please. Deadline is Monday's at 5:30pm for the following issue that will hit the streets on the following Friday.

October 19 - BIG KITTY FIX - Organized by the Spay Neuter Project, at the Park County Fairgrounds, please call for an appointment 406-222-2134 or email spayneuterlivingston@gmail. com. Also, low cost vaccination and microchip clinic for dogs and cats, contact Laurel Rhodes at laurelrhodesdvm@gmail.com.

October 19 - JOIN AAUW - The Park County Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold its next meeting on Saturday, Oct. 19th at 9 am at WarmStone Fireplaces and Design at 116 B St. in Livingston. Current members and interested community members are invited to attend.

### October 23 - RESERVOIR PARK WORKSHOP #1-

Meeting in the Community Room at 414 E. Callender St., 5-7 pm. This meeting is designed to gather community input and foster collaborative discussions.

October 25 - VETERAN'S FREE STEAK DINNER at the Livingston Elks Lodge #246 located at 130 South 2nd Street. Seating times are: 5:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm, and 6:30 pm. The full menu is Rib Eye steak, baked russet potato, and a salad bar, with fresh-baked rolls and a dessert. Veterans need to make reservations for your preferred time by texting or calling 406-220-9963. Spouses also eat free.

## October 26 - ANNUAL HALLOWEEN EVENT TRUNK OR

**TREAT** - Livingston Recreation Department is hosting its 9th annual Halloween event from 1-4 pm at the Livingston Civic Center. Activities, music and much entertainment!

October 26 - BLUEGRASS PLUS MUSIC JAM – All ages welcome! Monthly on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at the Park County Senior Center, 206 S. Main St., Livingston from 1 to 4 pm. Join us as we host talented musicians in an open jam session. Bring your instrument or just yourself and enjoy some down home classic music! On the Oct. 26th the Bash will be a Halloween Costume Party along with live music.



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Community Journal - 18

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team!! Please pick up an application

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Come Join Our Kenyon Noble Team!

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Livingston

location is

currently

accepting

applications

& hiring for

has been met. Schedule is Monday

resume to alice@montanainsurance.net.

# Sunday, October 13, 2024

# CLASSIFIED

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

- Appointed until next school election
- application to: Cinda Self, District Clerk cself@arrowheadk8.org.

### **FOR SALE**

for both. Text/call 406-223-5365.

- the salary schedule for up to (10) years teaching experience.
- some Fridays, \$18/hour, health, dental, and/or vision
- Monday-Thursday some Fridays, Hourly Wage D.O.E., health, dental, and/or vision

- More details and Applications for all

Johanna Osborn, Principal 406-333-4359

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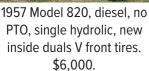
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information and to see the complete with the very best in supplemental benefits. Working hand-in-hand with our customers, job listing visit us at kenyonnoble. our dedicated sales force provides personal com/jobs. You can also apply online! face-to-face service that is almost unheard

> School Bus Driver - Arrowhead School is looking for an individual who will be responsible for transporting students safely to and from school. Personal characteristics should include sound judgment, responsibility, calm, self-assured, and likes working with children. Hours are four hours per day, mornings and afternoons, Monday – Thursday with occasional Friday's. Wages start at \$35 per hour. Other requirements include: MT Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with an School Bus "S" and Passenger "P" endorsement, ability to lift 50 pounds, first aid/CPR, current medical exam, must complete State of Montana annual bus driver training, regular drug testing, driving record release. For more detailed information and job applications go to: https://www.arrowheadk8.com/ job-openings.

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.

**Gardiner Public School** is looking for a Custodian (part time, or full time with benefits). Salary will be based on experience. Applications are available on our website at www.gardiner.org and can be sent to Super@gardiner. org or you may apply at the school (510 Stone St, Gardiner, MT, 59030). If you have any questions, please call 406-848-7563.

**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.

Registered Sanitarian - Become a vital part of the Park County Health Department Team as a Registered Sanitarian! Under the guidance of the Health Department Director, you'll play a crucial role in safeguarding public health and the environment. From conducting compliance inspections to responding to emergencies, we're looking for someone who can apply their expertise in regulatory oversight and meticulous attention to detail. If you're a Montana Registered Sanitarian with a passion for environmental protection and public health, apply now to make a difference in your community! 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.

Angel Line Relief Bus Driver -

Join our dynamic team as a Relief Driver with Angel Line Transit at Park County, where you'll have the rewarding opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of our community's seniors and individuals with disabilities. As a key part of our Angel Line service, you'll provide safe, dependable, and friendly doorto-door transportation, ensuring our passengers maintain their independence and mobility. This flexible role offers a unique chance to step in and support our full-time drivers during their absences, making every shift an important one. If you're looking for a fulfilling role with occasional hours and the chance to give back to your community, this is the perfect opportunity! Apply now—this position will remain open until filled.

**Detention Officer** -- Are You Trustworthy, Self-Motivated and Punctual? The Park County Sheriff's

**SERVICES** 

# **SERVICES**



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team members interested in a career in a law enforcement capacity with our Detention Center. Take pride in performing excellent public service to your community thru providing inmate care. Be formally trained in integral aspects of your field such as PPCTpressure point control tactics, tactical handcuffing and CIT- Crisis Intervention Training. Shifts are bid by seniority, as follows: 7am-3pm, 3pm -11pm, 11pm-7am Benefit package includes Sheriff's Retirement System; 3 vacation weeks, 12 sick days, holidays, Health and Life insurance, AFLAC, discounted local merchants/vendors, etc. Become part of the Park County Detention Staff and serve the community with compassion and caring in the capacity of a Detention

Office is looking for two new full time

To apply please download the application package, print it out and submit with your updated resume and cover letter by mail to:

Officer. Click on the Job Description

for qualifications and additional

information.

Park County Human Resources 414 E. Callender St. Livingston, MT 59047 Applications and signatures MUST be originals for consideration. NO ELECTRONIC, FAXED or EMAILED applications will be accepted. TO DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION PACKAGE visit: https://jobs. parkcounty.org/uploads/files/ jobs/37/07.2023-Detention-Job-Description.pdf

You may also stop by the Courthouse HR office for a packet!

# How to Place your Classifed 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.

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@ pcciournal.com for more information on placing a larger classified ad.





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.

- May 2025
- One-year terms Send questions or request for

2 EMS premium-down sleeping bags can zip together. Just cleaned. \$150

# **HELP WANTED**

### 2024-2025 Vacancies Arrowhead School District #75

- 2 Elem Teaching Positions (1) with P endorsement preferred)
- Music and Art Teacher Salary D.O.E, health, dental, and/or vision, certified staff shall be given full step credit on
- Paraprofessional Monday-Thursday
- **High Needs Paraprofessional**
- Bus Driver
- After School Coordinator After School Assistant

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 or josborn@arrowheadk8.org

Key Insurance in Livingston is looking to hire

# **FOR SALE**





1956 Model 70, gas, standard, rebuilt power steering, single

If interested please **TEXT** Ole at **406-220-0425** (NO PHONE CALLS)

Livingston Songwriter Festival Livingston Li

The inaugural Livingston
Songwriter Festival found an
appreciative audience in seven
different downtown Livingston
venues over the weekend of October
4th and 5th, 2024.

Kicking off with a free show with 200 attendees at the Livingston Elks Lodge on Friday, October 4th, the festival introduced 14 Songwriters (including one special guest, Livingston's own Montana Governor Arts Award recipient, John Lowell) 9 Rising Star Songwriters and 5 Hit Songwriters.

Saturday, October 5th kicked off with a Coffee with a Songwriter event at Tru North, which was wall to wall and featured conversations with local favorite Marcedes Carroll in conversation with Stephanie Davis, Even Stevens and Helen Darling. The writers took questions from the audience, including a few from aspiring writers eager for advice. Shows at the Livingston Bar and Grille, the Owl Lounge, 1900 and the Livingston Center for Arts and Culture found crowds moving to follow their favorite writers or staying to discover a new favorite. The perfect fall weather and sunny skies made it the ideal time to wander into shops and restaurants to savor the best of Livingston.

Two evening shows were the cherry on top—with the 5 Hit Songwriters sharing their hit songs and stories with

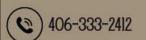
respectful and attentive crowd. At the end of the evening, a hand painted guitar by artist Robert Spanning was auctioned to raise money for the music department at the Sleeping Giant Middle School. The guitar brought \$4500, which will fund some much needed percussion instruments for the middle school students.

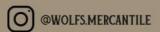
"Livingston exceeded our expectations," reports Mike Booth, **Executive Director of the Rocky** Mountain Songwriter Festivals, a nonprofit organization that presents several Songwriter festivals annually. "We felt welcome, loved seeing so many folks from out of town and heard great enthusiasm about coming back next year for the first weekend In October. We couldn't do this without the help of the TBID, Explore Livingston, the venues, our lodging partners, sponsors, patrons and the squad of volunteers it takes to pull something like this off. And, obviously—we have such appreciation for the amazing songwriters who graced stages all over Livingston."

Save the date for the 2nd Annual Livingston Songwriter Festival, Thursday, October 2nd through Saturday, October 4th, 2025. For more information on upcoming events, please go to: www. livingstonsongwriterfestival.org.



106 South Main St. Downtown Livingston







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# **FEATURED LISTINGS**

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1112 Pritchard NW, Harlowton

3 beds 1 bath | 1,104 sq ft #397220 | \$189,000

Rachel Moore | 406-794-4971



607 Scott Street W

2 beds 1 bath | 1,344 sq ft #393927 | \$485,000

Tom Gierhan | 406-220-0229



512 Miles

Commercial Sale | 4,212 sq ft #389433 | \$495,000

Tammy Berendts | 406-220-0159



28 W Grannis

3 beds 2 baths | 2,112 sq ft #390575 | \$875,000

Julie Kennedy | 406-223-7753



**TBD Moose Meadows Rd** 

Land Listing | 19+ Acres #394183 | \$395,000

Ernie Meador | 406-220-0231



325 N 3rd Street

Multi-Family | Five+ Units #394662 | \$829,000

Gillian Swanson | 406-220-4340



**5 Division Street S** 

Commercial Sale | 1.5 acres #394518 | \$599,995

Ernie Meador | 406-220-0231



7 Aquila Lane

Land Listing | 2+ acres #394836 | \$249,000

Deb Kelly | 406-220-0801



107 S Main Street

Commercial Sale | 7,061 sq ft #395132 | \$1,950,000

Ernie Meador | 406-220-0231



NHN Gallatin Car Park #C-15

Commercial Sale | 277 sq ft #395386 | \$50,000

Gillian Swanson | 406-220-4340



1065 US Highway 89 S

3 beds 2.5 baths | 1,756 sq ft #392679 | \$1,100,000

Tom Gierhan | 406-220-0229



1296 US Highway 10 W

Commercial Sale | 10,160 sq ft #381239 | \$2,500,000

Ernie Meador | 406-220-0231



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# There's Something Special About Cross Country Kids

Park County Dugout | By: Jeff Schlapp
By: Jenny Albers

After each practice and meet, as they shuffle to the car with beet-red faces and Jello-like legs, it's easy to see that there's something special about cross-country kids.

These are the kids who don't stop.

The kids who will themselves to keep going, no matter what, because there are no time-outs, breaks, or benches. These kids cross the finish line even if they know they'll be the last to do it. They think first place is fantastic but know finishing is more important than doing it first.

These are the kids who train even when they don't have to.

The kids run in the heat and humidity of summer in preparation for their upcoming season. Who squeezes in at least a few miles on the weekend? The kids who are willing to do what it takes to reach their next PR.

These are the kids who shine even when they aren't in the spotlight.

The kids who keep pumping their legs, whether they're at the head of the pack or the tail. They show up even when no one is watching and when the fanfare is minimal. They show up for their team, of course. But more than that, they show up for themselves. No matter how brutal the conditions.

These are the kids who have learned to measure success differently than what they've always been taught.

The kids who respect first place and work towards earning that top spot understand that it's not the only measure of success. They know that achieving a personal record, logging miles when their body doesn't want to, and staying the course even when it feels impossible are all forms of success—even without a first-place finish.

These are the kids who realize they are capable of so much more than they thought were.

The kids who discover they can run a long race without having to walk, who put one foot in front of the other when their legs are screaming



to give up and their lungs are burning, and who use their minds to keep going when their bodies tell them to stop.

These are the kids who have learned that a simple pair of running shoes can take them to places they didn't think they could go.

The kids continue to explore new territories.

The kids continue to explore new territories where they discover the treasures of perseverance, determination, and strength. And when it appears these treasures have dried up, they keep looking for more—because they know they'll find it. In these places, they conquer the giants of steep hills, long miles, and the phrase I can't.

These kids look at each other knowingly when Coach says, "cross country is the hardest sport."

The kids who don't tend to hear this message elsewhere but know firsthand it's true to understand that it takes an enormous amount of grit to compete in their chosen sport. These kids hold their heads high despite their sport not being the most popular because they know their bodies and minds have taken them places where few attempt to go.

These are the kids who show up for their eammates.

The kids cheer for everyone, regardless of pace. Who cheers for the runner in the first place as much as they cheer for the runner coming in last. They know how much courage it takes to show up at the start line and how much effort it takes to cross the finish line. These are the kids who celebrate every single finish and respect each of their teammates equally.

These are the kids who have learned they can.
They can keep going. They can beat
records—even if only their own. They can finish.

But more than any of that, they can run! For miles! These are the kids who will carry

determination, perseverance, and sheer will to just. do.the.thing with them for the rest of their lives.

The kids will take their sport with them long after they graduate—middle school, high school, college—because it's a sport that doesn't end when classes do. And because the memory of that first runner's high will beckon them to hit the

road. Again and again.

See? There really is something special about cross country kids. They keep moving, no matter what. And in the process, they show us that we can, too.

Republished from: https://jennyalbers.com/category/motherhood/

For more photos and great articles, check out the ParkCountyDugout.com.

# SHIELDS VALLEY EVENTS

- October 16th End of 1st Quarter for students
- October 16th JH Football at White Sulphur Springs 4 pm
- October 16th Boot Camp 6 pm Wilsall Gym
- October 17th and 18th-- NO SCHOOL
- October 18th Varsity Volley at Fromberg 7 pm
- October 19th JV/V Volleyball against Twin Bridges 1 pm
- October 21th Elementary/high School Girls Basketball practice starts in Clyde Park 4:15 pm
   October 21st Elementary/high
- October 21st Elementary/high school Parents/ Athlete Meeting in Clyde Park 5:45 pm
- October 28th Outage Alert from Park Electric Cooperative for Clyde Park and Wilsall Members

The second outage will take place on October 28, it will start at 9:00am and end at 11:00am. This outage will last an estimated 2 hours.

The outages will affect the following areas. Town of Clyde Park, Town of Wilsall, Upper Shields, Bridger Canyon Road area, Flathead Pass Area, Sedan, Fairy Creek area, Horse Creek, Brackett Creek area, Rock Creek Area, Cottonwood Bench, Ibex, Chicken Creek, Tobin Creek, Fiddle Creek, Falls Creek, Shields River Road East, Upper end of Adair Creek, Upper Willow Creek, Bangtail Creek, Castle Mountain Areas, Queen Lane, members between Clyde Park and Wilsall.

Phone Calls will be made to members affected starting today. We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate your patience, while the Northwestern crews safely make the needed upgrades to the substation that feeds our substations.

\*\*\* Not Sure how to word this or we can wait for the Obituary as I am sure there will be a fund set up to help her boys\*\*\*

It is with Such Sadness that we lost a member of this community to cancer Shannon Vincent passed away on October 5th.

If anyone has any news, events, etc. please let me know at Shieldsvalleynews@gmail.com



# SHOWTIMES

Friday 10/11 - 4:30 pm, 7 pm Saturday 10/12 - 1 pm, 7 pm Sunday 10/13 - 4:30 pm, 7 pm Monday 10/14 - 4:30 pm, 7 pm Tuesday 10/15 - 4:30 pm, 7 pm Wednesday 10/16 - 4:30 pm, 7 pm



# SHOWTIMES

Friday 10/11 - Thursday 10/17 4:15 pm, 7:15 pm



106 North 2nd Street Livingston, MT 406-222-0111 livingstonmovies.com





# Saturday, October 19 7–11 AM

AT LIVINGSTON HEALTHCARE

# **Blood Profile Screens**

Checks for diabetes, measures thyroid, kidney and liver function, and tests cholesterol (\$50). Consume nothing but water after 8 PM the night before. Optional tests: Vitamin D (\$25), Prostate Specific Antigen (\$15), and Hemoglobin A1C (\$20). Payable by cash, check or credit card only.

# **Exhibitors & Activities**

The festival will feature dozens of informational booths, health screens, demonstrations and more—all relating to the sectors of Livingston HealthCare's wellness compass.

# Flu Vaccines

Flu Shot (\$30) Payable by cash, check or credit card only, except Traditional Medicare Plan holders.

# **Free Breakfast**

Savor a hot and healthy breakfast from 7 to 11 AM. Free for everyone!