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Park County Community Journal

Serving Livingston, Emigrant, Gardiner, Clyde Park, Wilsall & Cooke City

Week of October 27, 2024

Shields Valley High School Sends Off Agronomy Team to 97th Annual National FFA Convention

By: Jeff Schlapp
Park County Dugout

Shields Valley High School seniors Amanda Willis, Asha Jerke, and Cassidy Rock are heading to Indianapolis to compete in the National FFA Convention. The winners of the state Agronomy Team competition held during the Montana FFA AG Expo and Career Fair last fall now represent the state of Montana against 49 states and Puerto Rico.

On Tuesday morning in Clyde Park, they were sent off with a line of cheers from students and teachers and an escort out of town, with sirens blaring and lights flashing by the Clyde Park Rural Fire Department.

Star treatment for Superstar students. The girls will meet with their fourth teammate in Indianapolis, Shields Valley alumni, and Montana 2024-2025 State 1st Vice President Reagan Long.

The National FFA Convention took place October 23rd to 26th. This is the first time in four years that Shields Valley has represented the state in competition. The Agronomy Team coach, Sage Willis, was a member of the last team to compete at the National level for Shields Valley.

I met with the team and their Advisor, JR Pierce before they left. It seems I have written often about the girls. Not only with their success in FFA but last year Jerke and Willis were successful with Business Professionals of America (Jerke was a member of the first place team in the Economic Research Team category at the State Leadership Conference and went to

the National BPA Conference in Chicago) and The Park County AG Fair; Rock is a great athlete busy helping lead the Lady Rebels volleyball team along with Willis into the 12C playoffs. Obviously, they are very bright girls. They all love FFA and have enjoyed studying and learning about agronomy.

Willis told me that their coach, Sage Willis, is her older sister. She became interested in agronomy because her sister competed in it at the FFA Nationals. Rock told me she likes agronomy because it's a real-life job, and her mother inspired her with her knowledge of plants and seeds and her overall understanding of plant life and soil.

For city folks like me, agronomy is the science and technology of managing and improving the production of plants for food, fuel, fiber, chemicals, and more. The team will be tested on their knowledge and tested on real-world applications and solutions at the National Convention.

According to Times Agriculture, the main difference between agronomy and agriculture is that agronomy is the science of soil management and crop production. In contrast, agriculture is the art and science of producing plants and livestock for food, fiber, and other products. Agronomists work to improve the efficiency of agricultural production through a better understanding of soil science and plant nutrition. They also work to develop more sustainable farming methods that minimize negative environmental impact.

Pierce told me that the FFA has awarded the team a \$2,000 scholarship

thus far. Principal Greg Sager said the school district covers the girls' trip costs, the Shields Valley FFA Alumni, and fundraising. Pierce has been the Shields Valley coach and advisor for eight years.

During the convention, the team will be judged on their ability to evaluate an agronomic scenario and develop a crop management plan that includes crop selection, production, problem-solving, and marketing. The team members individually complete an agronomic knowledge exam, identify and analyze plant and soil types, evaluate commodity quality, demonstrate pest management and equipment knowledge and discuss an agronomic issue important to crop production.

Three members of the Gardiner FFA team will also be recognized during the convention. Advisor and Gardiner's FFA coach Lori Hoppe said that Summit Browning and Morgan Dawson will receive the American Degree, which the FFA describes as the highest degree achievable in the National FFA Organization. The American FFA Degree shows an FFA member's dedication to his or her chapter and state FFA association. It demonstrates the effort FFA members apply toward their supervised agricultural experience and the outstanding leadership



Shield Valley seniors Amanda Willis, Asha Jerke, and Cassidy Rock, members of its Agronomy Team, are heading to Indianapolis from October 23rd to 26th to compete and represent Montana at the 97th Annual National FFA Convention.

abilities and community involvement they exhibited through their FFA careers.

"Badger Hoppe will also participate in the Tribal Ag Fellowship Meet and Greet," Hoppe said. "He will be part of the Tribal Ag Fellowship booth at the tradeshow. Through the Tribal Ag Fellowship scholarship program, he attended FFA's Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, DC, last July. He will share the opportunities with TAF and other tribal students in FFA."

Best of luck to everyone!

Carbella Bridge Opens

The replacement Carbella Bridge has opened to traffic two and a half years after being washed out during the Yellowstone flooding of 2022. A more direct access to Tom Miner from Gardiner has been restored.

The new 210-foot bridge, funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), cost approximately \$5 million. The new design will prevent debris from getting caught, a key factor that contributed to the bridge's destruction.



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with Yan Douma

Medicare is a federal health insurance program for seniors over age of 65 or under 65 with disabilities.

Original Medicare has two parts, Part A which is hospital insurance and Part B is medical insurance.

What is Medicare Open Enrollment?

The enrollment period begins October 15th and ends December 7th each year.

- During this time you can join or switch your Medicare Advantage Plan (part C), coverage that will begin on January 1.
- You can join or switch your Medicare Prescription plan (part D) coverage that will begin on January 1.

Five tips for choosing Medicare Drug plans:

1. Check plan formulary and find out your medications' tiers and co pays.
2. Check your local pharmacies with the plan, if they are in-network and offer the best price.
3. Check if there is an annual deductible before they cover your medications.
4. Brand name drugs and specialty



Yan Douma

Owner and Licensed Insurance broker of Quesenberry Insurance Agency. She specializing in all kinds of Medicare-related insurance policies. Yan has been in this field for nine years and helped many local people find affordable options that meet their needs. Stop by for a visit at 1313 W. Park St., Livingston.

drugs usually come with higher co pays. Starting 2025, you should not pay more than \$2000 total out of pocket.

5. There is a late enrollment penalty if you did not enroll in Part D when you first were eligible for Medicare, unless you have Tricare, VA or employer's group insurance.

This will get you started to make the best-informed decision for Part D. Be sure and meet with your Health Insurance Professional to discuss your findings and they can help guide you through the process.



With the predicted inclement weather about to come, we want to remind everyone to be prepared for road conditions and to drive with caution! You never know when you may be stuck in traffic. Some good reminders that may be helpful:

- Always fill up on fuel before you leave
- Check the road conditions through MDT, along with the Bozeman Hill Road Conditions, The Fire Chiefs Report, or call 511
- A flashlight with extra batteries
- A phone charger
- Try and tell someone where you are going and when you plan to arrive
- Carry water, blankets and enough food/medications for 8 hours



And always remember to SLOW DOWN
MOVE OVER for emergency vehicles!

The Solid Waste Division wishes to inform Livingston residents to place bagged leaves on the boulevard for collection before 5 am on Thursday,

November 7th is the annual leaf collection day (weather permitting), if they wish to participate. Blowing and/or sweeping leaves into the street is not sufficient for pick up and is a violation of city code and citations will be issued.

Additionally, Thursday November 5th



is the final day for green can collection for homes south of Park Street and November 7th for those north of Park Street. Thank you for doing your part to keep our neighborhoods looking good!



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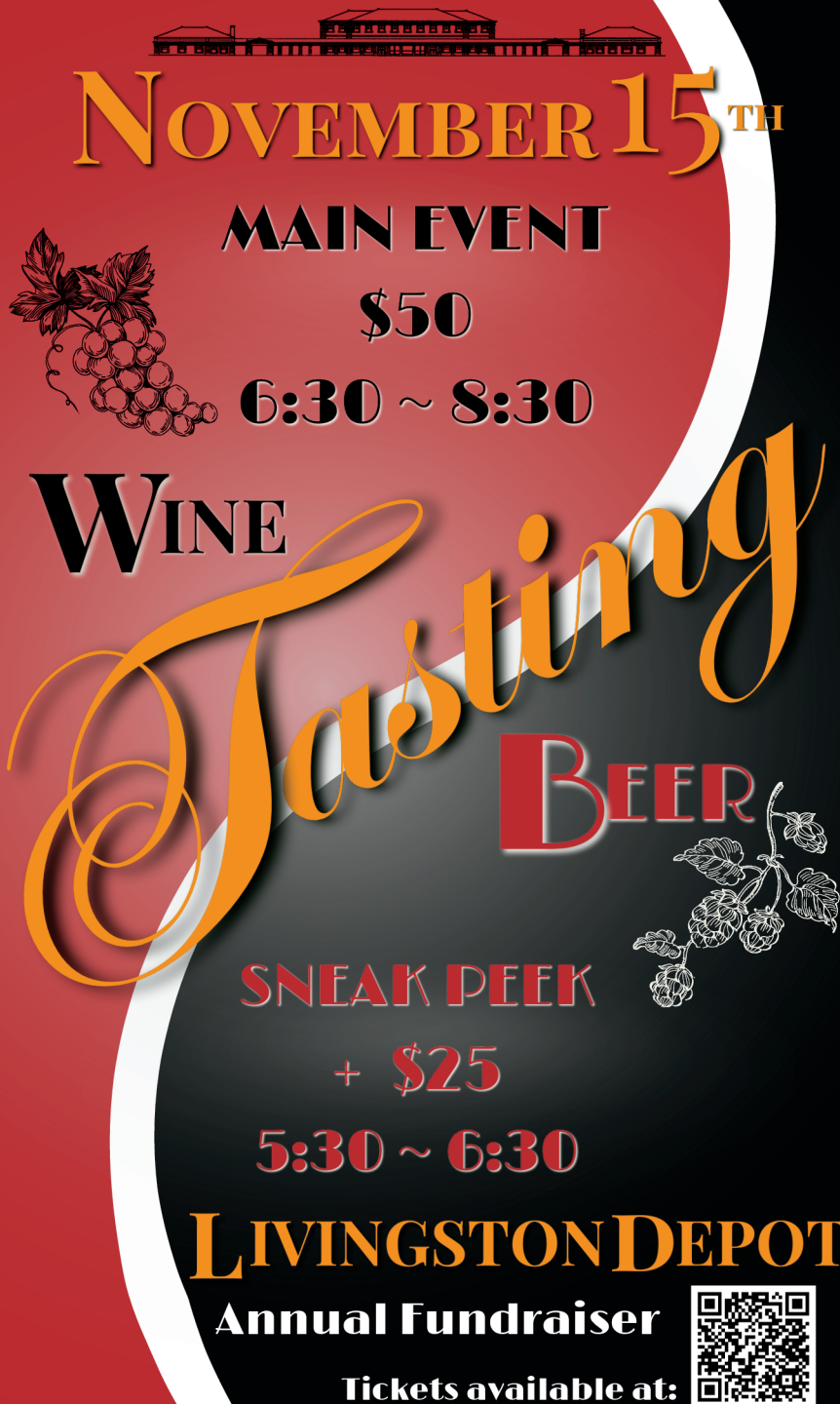
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Candidate Forum

from page 2

the commission currently lacks authority over land use planning. The growth policy, he says, has been referenced by the planning department when adopting land use regulations, though current policies would not apply to commissioner-initiated zones. Like Wells, he suggested widespread public engagement to draft a new growth policy, a sentiment echoed by Strauss, who openly questioned the current commissions' efforts to address this issue sooner.

In relation to development, commissioner candidates were asked to clarify their positions on citizen-initiated (Part 1) zoning. Wells expressed concern for this strategy, comparing it to county-initiated zoning (Part 2), the latter of which requires a greater degree of public engagement to adopt regulations. Wells further explained that Part 1 zoning is applicable to land plots comprising a minimum of 40 acres with potential to produce hundreds of citizen-initiated

zones, each governed by a unique set of regulations enforced by the county. According to Wells, enforcing regulations adopted in each zone may further stress county resources. Though not explicitly opposed, he suggests exploring various options for citizen-initiated zoning to ensure regulations are devised through a proper public engagement process and that the county can reasonably oversee diverse zoning codes.

Berntsen, whose campaign heavily emphasizes private property rights, endorsed citizen-initiated zoning. Though he noted both strategies inherently involve land-use regulation, his support is contingent upon property owners meeting requirements to institute a citizen-initiated zone—for example, achieving the 60% threshold for establishing consensus amongst property owners occupying a potential zone. Vermillion agreed that consensus between property owners should warrant consideration by the commission, adding that neighboring

landowners' decisions may mutually affect the value of surrounding property. Strauss also voiced support for Part 1 zoning, deferring to individual property rights and consent between landowners.

Commissioners were also questioned regarding their stance on county mill levies pertaining to roads and the public library. As a sitting commissioner, Wells was unable to provide commentary regarding this topic. However, Strauss opposed both levies on the general principle of fiscal responsibility, declaring that until the county more closely examines the budget to determine cause for its perpetually strained financial situation, departments should refrain from requesting additional funding.

Berntsen complained that interest rates on newly acquired equipment unnecessarily increase costs for the public works department in light of recent purchases. His criticisms regarding the library mill levy were directed at the proposals lack of specificity regarding how additional funding in the amount of one million dollars annually would be utilized.

Vermillion cited complaints regarding road conditions, costs associated with vehicle damage, and the continued need for public works funding as justification for

supporting the road mill levy. She further insisted that the library is a valuable resource for all community members and therefore supports the levy proposed to aid its operations.

Other topics addressed to commissioners included grant funding, improving affordability for young people, illegal dumping at green box sites, and preserving rural heritage in Park County.

Justice of the Peace candidates were questioned regarding their knowledge about crime in Park County, opinions on treatment court, strategies for reducing courtroom appearances and remaining impartial and unbiased within a small community.

Auditors were asked to distinguish private and public-sector accounting strategies and discuss their knowledge regarding discrepancies identified in the most recent county audit.

With the election looming, please continue seeking information from reliable sources and attend local events such as the forum to learn more about candidates. Voting in local elections has major implications for what happens in Park County.

A video of the forum can be found at https://parkcounty.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=1 under the Legislative Public Forums tab.



Write In

KENT HANAWALT

FOR

PARK COUNTY AUDITOR



HanawaltforAuditor.com
lhanawalt@gmail.com

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Paid for by Hanawalt for Auditor,
1825 Swingley Road, McLeod, MT 59052.

Correction to Health Department Quarantine Plan

In last week's edition, an article was published regarding the recent Isolation and Quarantine plan tabled by the City-County Health Department. Though a copy of the document received by the journal stated it had been approved, this was reported in error, according to Park County commissioner Bryan Wells, who is also on the board of health.

City-County Health Department Director Shannan Piccolo was also contacted for comment regarding this subject. She clarified saying that in the

future, health department officials will review similar plans adopted in other counties throughout Montana and potentially at the state level, and that this information will be presented to the public in an open meeting where citizens will be encouraged to participate in formulating a response plan for potential communicable disease outbreaks. The PCCJ will provide further details on this matter as information becomes available. Please contact health department officials for questions, comments, or concerns.



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Butternut - Not Just for the Holidays!

by Jill-Ann Ouellette,

Most of us think about butternut squash during the holiday season. When Dad needs to get out his sharpest knife and attempt to cut the skin off and chop the butternut for Mom to boil up and then mash with spices and loads of butter. This side dish is always a nice splash of color on the holiday table and a delectable treat. When I was young, any leftovers would make it into the big pot of turkey soup that followed a holiday meal. But as you may have learned, seen and tasted, in the past decade especially, butternut squash can stand on its own—any time of the year.

Butternut squash is a type of winter squash that grows on a vine. It has a sweet, nutty taste similar to pumpkin. The skin is tan-yellow with orange, fleshy pulp, and a compartment of seeds at the round end. When ripening, the flesh turns increasingly deep orange, due to its beta-carotene content, rich in vitamin A.

Although botanically a fruit (specifically, a berry), butternut squash is consumed more as a vegetable that can be roasted, sautéed, grilled, puréed for a squash soup, or mashed to be used in casseroles, breads, muffins, or pies.

The word squash comes from the Narragansett word, askutasquash, meaning, "eaten raw or uncooked." Butternut was named because of the nutty flavor. Although American native peoples may have eaten some forms of squash without cooking, today winter squashes are most often cooked.

Before the arrival of Europeans, squash had been grown over all parts of the North American continent. Though butternut squash is a more modern variety of winter squash. It was developed by Charles Leggett of Stow, Massachusetts, who cross-pollinated pumpkin with gooseneck squash varieties in 1944. Oh, more American ingenuity!

Baked butternut squash is 88% water, 11% carbohydrates, 1% protein, and contains negligible fat. In a reference amount of 3.5 oz., it supplies 45 calories of food energy and is a rich source of vitamin A (70% DV), with moderate amounts of vitamin C (18% DV) and vitamin B6 (10% DV). Its high-fiber

content can support your digestive system and therefore assist with weight management.

Antioxidant levels will support vision and reduce inflammation.

How long can you store a butternut squash?

Butternut Squash

The optimal period for consumption of butternut squash is 3 to 6 months after harvest. They are best kept at 50 °F with 50 percent humidity. For the best flavor, butternut squash should be left to cure for two months after harvest, narrowing down that window of the height of their flavor.

The most common way to prepare butternut squash is baking. Once cooked, it can be eaten in a variety of ways. The fruit is prepared for baking by removing the skin, stalk, and seeds. Some folks prefer to bake them with the skin on because it's less work. Some like to eat the skin. You can also bake the squash cut in half and filled with butter, cinnamon, and nutmeg. The seeds are edible, either raw or roasted. The seed shell is also edible and softens when roasted. These are my favorite seeds to roast because they are smaller



Butternut Squash Soup with Bacon and Pecans. Courtesy of theoriginaldish.com



Butternut Squash Seeds seasoned with Tamari. Photo courtesy of detoxinistc.com

than pumpkin seeds, and the shell is thinner and gets crispy.

Another popular cooking method is grilling. You can slice the squash and place it directly on the grill, in a kabob, or cut and put in foil with other roasting vegetables, along with fresh herbs, nutmeg and cinnamon, or stuffed for a wonderful side dish.

Don't count out steaming this squash for a more nutritious cooking option. Remember, when you boil

vegetables in water, their nutrients leach out into the water. This is a great way to pre-cook it for soup making. Squash soups are great on a chilly night with some lovely, fresh sourdough on the side.



Butternut Kabob seasoned with cinnamon and nutmeg. Photo courtesy of Fords Gourmet Foods.

To wrap up, Dad can take the cutting and chopping off his to-do-list because you can purchase precut butternut and pumpkin during the holiday season at most grocery stores. So, Dad, you can enjoy more of the holiday!

Recipe by
Carla Williams

RECIPE CORNER

White Lasagna Soup

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 medium onion (finely chopped)
- 3 cloves fresh garlic (finely minced)
- 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon salt (reduce if not using low sodium broth)
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes (more for extra spice)
- 3 cups low sodium chicken broth (use 4 cups for a thinner soup)
- 2 boneless skinless chicken breasts (about 300 grams)
- ¼ cup sundried tomatoes (chopped – optional)
- 2 cups short dry pasta or broken lasagna noodles
- 1 cup half and half or cream (the higher the fat content, the richer the soup)
- 2 tablespoons corn starch
- 1 cup fresh spinach (roughly chopped)
- Ricotta cheese, Parmesan or shredded mozzarella cheese for garnish as desired

Instructions

1. In a large dutch oven or soup pot over medium heat, melt the butter. Add the onions and cook until just starting to brown.
2. Stir in garlic, Italian seasoning, salt, pepper, and red pepper flakes. Cook 1 minute.



Food Photo Credit: thereciperebel.com/

3. Add chicken broth and stir well. Then add chicken breasts (uncooked) and sun dried tomatoes.
4. Bring to a simmer and cover, reduce heat to medium-low and cook for 12-15 minutes, stirring occasionally, until chicken breasts are cooked through (you will need an internal temperature of at least 165 degrees F).
5. Meanwhile, cook the pasta in boiling salted water to al dente, according to package directions.
6. When the chicken is cooked, remove from the soup and shred.
7. Whisk together cream and corn starch.
8. Stir the shredded chicken, cooked pasta noodles, cream and spinach back into the pot and heat through.
9. Serve with cheese as desired.

A Calm Voice of Reason.

Guided by deep wisdom borne from extensive experience, Bryan Wells has proven he has what it takes to lead Park County into the future. As a 60-year-old Montana resident who raised his family here, Bryan has a solid reputation built on honesty and integrity. He is known for encouraging public engagement while showing an ability to achieve fair-minded solutions.

Help Bryan continue to be your voice as he strives for fiscal responsibility and explores revenue stream solutions for the county, while offering our residents full transparency and accessibility. To learn more about Bryan's story, please visit wellsforparkcounty.org.

Thank you for your support!



**BRYAN
WELLS**
PARK COUNTY
COMMISSIONER



Looking Back *with Lindie*

With the annual Wilsall Lutheran Lutefisk dinner coming up the first Sunday of November, my thoughts go back to growing up at American Lutheran Church, (originally Norwegian Evangelical) and enjoying this annual tradition.

My memories of the traditional dinner was walking down the stairs to the basement with my family and having the strong odor of wet baby diapers filling the air. This was the smell of the lutefisk being steamed in the kitchen.

Lutefisk is the Norwegian word for "lye fish" and lutefisk was the traditional meat/staple of Norway. Fishermen would catch cod and lay the slabs of filleted fish out to dry and freeze in the

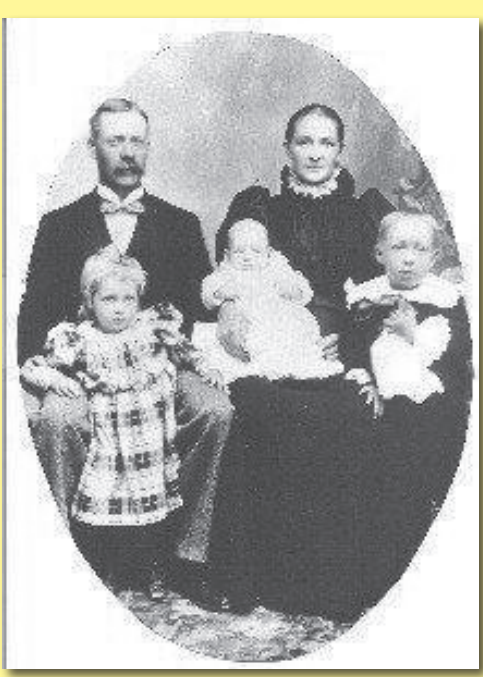
cold climate. They stored it outside their homes, and then brought it in after rinsing it well to remove all the lye, and then steam it.

Served with the lutefisk is the round and flat Norwegian bread we know as lefse (pronounced lef-sa). You can butter it and sprinkle sugar on it and then roll it up and eat it or another option is to paint it with the traditional lingonberry jelly. The side/vegetable dish is boiled potatoes with a white cream sauce. A dinner favorite is the Norwegian overnight salad, consisting mostly of shredded cabbage, similar to coleslaw but with a vinegar base and other seasonings.

If the reader is interested the dinner is \$20 and is at the Shields

River Lutheran Church, starting at noon until 3 pm located at 105 S. Ordway St. in Wilsall. For those not in to lutefisk, they also serve ham and then have pies for dessert. Whereas back in the day, American Lutheran served a traditional basket of various Norwegian cookies. If you have ever tried lutefisk—it's a love/hate relationship, you either love it or not. And oh yeah, the lutefisk is served with melted butter poured over it. You should be careful when eating it, because no matter how careful the cooks are in their preparation, you're bound to run across a small thin white bone in your mouth now and again...

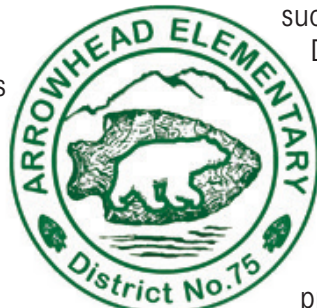
Crystal Gayle loves lutefisk so much—she actually wrote a song about it! "Don't it make my brown eyes blue." (.... just kidding :)



Norwegians, Johannes and Maria Brakstad in America with Barbara, Myra and Kolbein. Barbara was my Grama. They settled in Livingston in 1886, four years after the city was established, and began their family here...

New Arrowhead School Kitchen Opens With Locally Sourced Proteins and Produce on the Menu

Arrowhead School District recently completed the process of opening its new school kitchen. Students were served their first scratch-made meal out of the new kitchen on Monday, October 14th. The \$342,000 project has thus far been funded through a collaborative and creative effort that has combined Montana's Innovative Educational Tax Credit Program as well as generous donations provided by local residents and businesses



such as Kenyon Noble, Al's Drywall, Riveters, Montana Heritage Construction, and Walter and Regina Wunsch. Arrowhead parents and community volunteers have been an integral part of the effort, providing in-kind support through fundraising, cleaning, and much more.

"We are so excited to be serving scratch-made meals for our students again! The support from staff and community members around this project has been heartwarming. The focus for providing our



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students with the highest quality food possible continues to drive recipe creation for breakfast and lunch. The students are looking forward to contributing more to the salad bar year-round with the school's garden and hydroponic systems," said Principal Johanna Osborn.

The school is currently fundraising for the final phase of construction, with less than \$50,000 left to fully complete the kitchen project. Under the

leadership of Principal Osborn, the school has created new initiatives focusing on local and healthy food, wellness and giving back to the community. Next up, Arrowhead students are planning a Thanksgiving meal to be prepared in the new kitchen that will be open to all community members in late November (date and details TBA).

Arrowhead School is a small, rural school located in Pray, Montana serving 4K to 8th grade students.

CLAY HERBST

FOR

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- ★ Current Justice of the Peace
- ★ Common Sense
- ★ Fair Application of the Law

HerbstForJP.com

Paid for by Herbst for JP, PO Box 368, Clyde Park, MT 59018, Jeff Mount, Treasurer

LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR



Supporting Herbst for Justice of the Peace

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter to show my support for Clay Herbst for Justice of the Peace. I have had the privilege of knowing Clay for many years. I have always known him to be a man of integrity and strong character, both of which are qualities I feel are paramount for the office of Justice of the Peace.

In addition to knowing Clay on a personal level, Clay and I have worked

together professionally. Clay worked for the Park County Sheriff's Office for 20 years and served as my Undersheriff for six years. Clay's professionalism and service to his community was impeccable and as mentioned above his character is above reproach. It is without hesitation that I completely support Clay Herbst for Justice of the Peace. Thank you.

Regards, Brad Bichler

Pick the Best Candidate for Commissioner

Dear Editor,

There are 2 seats up for election for the county commissioner. While a candidate may be a friend and neighbor that does not automatically make them a great county commissioner. Roads, emergency services, and growth are the top concerns of the county at this time. All those problems fall under budget problems. Bryan Wells has been on the commission for a year now. He said at the last public forum he isn't experienced in bookkeeping or accounting but that he explicitly trusts the finance director. That is admirable. However, I was at the meeting when the budget director told the commission there wasn't money to buy the \$1M gravel machine that sits idle. They did it anyway by borrowing from other departments. Taxpayers are now paying that back with interest. The best the current commission could come up with was cut back on emergency services and roads to help the budget. The public voted during the primary against more taxes to pay

\$600,000/year for road material. Now, Bryan has put it back on the ballot a 4% property tax for the next nine years to do it anyway. Property taxes are getting beyond what people on fixed incomes can comfortable pay.

I have know Sabina Strauss for 18 years. She has extensive background in bookkeeping, budget and accounting. She was also raised in a communist country and is now an advocate of the government being a voice of, for and by, the people that pay taxes. Carl Berntsen has extensive knowledge of road material, engineering, and some good ideas to create revenue without more taxation.

The county is in dire straits for an auditor and write-in candidate Kent Hanawalt is an extremely proficient.

Bryan Wells is a nice person and I like him. I am just voting with my pocket book, not my emotions.

Cheryl Standish
Pray, MT

Join me and vote for Clay Herbst

Dear Editor,

I am writing to remind everyone to vote in the upcoming election. It's our responsibility to make sure the right people are in positions to truly make this the "Last best place." With that in mind, I am casting my vote for Clay Herbst for the Park County Justice of the Peace. I had the good fortune to work with Clay when he was a deputy and later the Undersheriff here in our county. I found his integrity, truthfulness and credibility were always beyond reproach. He is

a good problem solver, uses good judgement and maintains a high level of physical fitness. It was comforting to know he was on duty and responding as back up on difficult and dangerous situations. I believe all these attributes make for a good Judge. Please join me in voting for Clay Herbst as the next Park County Justice of the Peace.

Sincerely, Sergeant Jeff Mount
Montana Highway Patrol retired

Answering concerns about the Library

Dear Editor,

As supporters of the Library, we were disappointed to see the letter to the editor disparaging the Library in the October 13th issue of the Park County Community Journal. Many of the issues Ms. Hallowell raises concerning the facility itself deserve comment.

The yard died off a few seasons ago after the lawn irrigation sprung a leak in an inaccessible, expensive place and could not operate. The decision was made to turn this problem into an opportunity: an opportunity to rethink how outdoor public space can contribute to an area's flora and fauna, and save water—and money!—besides. We are all happy with the work and passion the volunteers have put into planning and planting native plant species more suitable to Montana than is Kentucky bluegrass. Next year, work will begin on the boulevards and other spots. All at no expense to the taxpayer; the Friends of the Library have been funding the effort.

The books on the main floor are where they have been ever since the addition was built in 2005, toward the back, in the newest section of the Library. There haven't been more than a few books in the main floor of the "old" Library since then. In any case, the Carnegie section's interior has been rearranged so many times in the last 120 years that no one living has firsthand knowledge of how it was set up, or indeed the first dozen ways it was set up. And the "rush" of computers which took over "everywhere" (in fact, just one room) took

place at least 15 years ago. There are fewer computers now because there is less need for them... just like there are fewer (in fact, no) books on cassette, music CDs, or music LPs anymore. Users' needs change and the Library has to change to address those needs.

Libraries since Alexandria have had space set aside so groups—large, small, and in between—can meet apart from others. The need for free public space in Livingston is acute, and staff have to turn away people seeking such space nearly every day, because of the popularity of these spaces. The existing meeting rooms, and any future meeting rooms, are not and will not be commercial rentals. The Library has a very typical policy that use of meeting rooms is free unless the person or group reserving the room is charging for attendance, in which case the Library collects a fee. No one thinks or has suggested the Library needs to be a commercial business.

We truly appreciate everything Ms. Hallowell has done for the Library—the railing outside and gate inside are beautiful and often the source of kind compliments from visitors. We hope she can come to see the Library as the vibrant resource it is, rather than merely as a static warehouse of books.

Sincerely,
Park County Library Levy Committee
Cassie Burns
Patty Miller
Shay Taylor
Priscilla Dysart
Sarah Pilgrim
Becky Turner

Herbst—Fair, Confident, and Wise

Dear Editor:

I would like to post my confidence in the ability of Clay Herbst to continue as the Park County Justice of the Peace. I have known Clay for over 20 years which was primarily while he served as a Deputy Sheriff and Undersheriff for Park County.

I have come to know Clay as a very confident, fair and wise individual who is

nearly perfect for the position of Justice of the Peace.

I would encourage the voters of Park County to support him with their votes and keep the consistency we need in the Justice of the Peace Office.

Best wishes,
Karl Knuchel, Attorney at Law

Creating a County-Wide Library System

To the Editor:

We want to take this opportunity to talk a bit about our Library.

We are proud that the Livingston-Park County Public Library offers a range of services for Park County residents, including access to books and other media, computers, programs for children, and public space for everyone. Our Library has over 43,000 items in it—books, periodicals, audiobooks, and more—and that doesn't even include over 850,000 more items available through the state-wide sharing system.

Who runs our Library, and how is it funded? Montana State law mandates that each Montana public library, including ours, is governed by a five-member, unpaid board of trustees. More than 25 years ago, Park County and the City of Livingston established a joint city-county library, as is outlined in Montana law. That means that our Library, located in Livingston, serves everyone in the county. The board is accountable to the County and City Commissions, which each appoint two trustee, with the fifth appointed by those four trustees and therefore accountable to both commissions.

A library board is responsible for its budget. At the current level of service—which includes library operations and weekly stops around the County—the Library's annual expenses run to roughly \$922,000. About \$505,000 of its revenues come from dedicated mills that voters approved in 1997

and 2016. The majority of the rest comes from the City's and County's budgets, which come from property taxes. (A small amount comes from state funds and internal fees). This means that taxpayers are already funding the Library's entire budget, in one way or the other.

The Library is asking voters for additional mills this Election Day: 10.75 mills, which is about a 51% increase in the library's budget. If the levy passed, the City and County would no longer provide revenue from their budgets to the Library. Instead, all the Library's funding would come from dedicated mills.

Why increase the budget at all? These increased mills would allow the Library to expand services by establishing staffed community libraries in the Shields and Paradise Valleys, in Gardiner, and increasing the number of bookmobile visits to Cooke City. The Library in Livingston would also be open on Sundays.

In other words, this increase would allow us to create a true county library system.

We encourage the public to attend and give input at monthly board meetings (usually the third Tuesday at 2 p.m.) and informational sessions being held around the county (<https://tinyurl.com/4fexaz67>).

Thank you, Livingston-Park Co. Public Library Board of Trustees: Sheila Elwin, Jack Longbine, Greg McHugh, Ranga Parthasarathy, and Amy Zanon

Keep Herbst as your Justice of the Peace

Dear Editor:

It is my great honor and pleasure to write this letter of support for Clay Herbst to continue his service as Park County Justice of the Peace.

I have known Clay for the past 20 years, since the time he joined the Park County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff. I had the honor of being his Field Training Officer and, from the beginning, it was very clear that Clay has strong character traits and morals. His honesty, integrity and dedication to duty are above reproach.

As we worked together through the years, I was always impressed with his strong ethics and ability to work well with his co-workers

and members of the community in the performance of his duties. He has always been fair and just, earning tremendous respect and trust from all he has served.

When I was elected Sheriff, he was the obvious choice to be my Undersheriff. Clay is one of the finest men I have ever known and with whom I have ever served. Park County is truly blessed by his dedicated service and to have him as a member of their community. Clay has earned and deserves your vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Hamilton
Park County Sheriff, Retired

Thank You For Your
LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Park County Community Journal

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OP-ED FORUM

by Patricia Grabow

What Yellowstone Has to Teach Us — Again

I'm a fan of the occasional impulsive drive, so taking advantage of the weather, my son, a friend and I drove down through Yellowstone National Park, where I spent a lot of my childhood, on a stunning fall day. The trees were golden and the Park mostly pristine, because of the protection on the land. Even at the end of the season, the hotels were well cared for and as beautiful as when they were built. And why wouldn't they be? They are commercially successful and a place people from around the world enjoy staying in when they come to this World Heritage Site. And, of course, Livingston helped open up Park visitation since its very founding.

I've mentioned that back when Livingston was the rail gateway to the world's first national park for a quarter century. We built twenty hotels here at the same time that the Childs family created Old Faithful Inn and other Park hotels. Between that and our Northern Pacific railroad shops, this was a flourishing place.

Not that I haven't pounded the drum, but I think there is now an increasing awareness in our downtown area, including the businesses and art galleries, environmental groups, and our intellectual community, that our remarkable Growth Policy with its "Smart Growth," that beauty, that environmental protection and the reopening of our historic hotels are vital to our future.

But the lean years make you appreciate the abundant ones. Collectively, Livingston went through a rough patch—the Park did not. Our rail passenger service stopped in 1979, and the railroad shops shuttered in 1985, MDOT rerouted traffic, 1.9 million cars each year, that used to come downtown to our commercial area, to three exits two miles from town.

We have held on. Business is down this year, but we have three local groups working hard to keep things on the uptick: the Chamber of Commerce, Explore Livingston, and the Livingston Downtown Building Owners and Business Owners Association, each addressing a niche. And, most importantly, we have over 350 downtown businesses that are innovative and practiced at facing challenges. Collectively, they are all part of the tide that can lift all boats—and with the right

lunar gravity, it just might.

Former Montana governor, Judy Martz quipped years ago you can't build an economy just delivering pizzas to each other, the point being critically that you have to balance your trade out of the community. You bring in new money by selling goods and services (good), or failing that, by selling off your assets (bad). And practice for the last half century has borne this out. According to the two Comprehensive Economic Development Studies (CEDS) put out by the Northern Rocky Mountain Economic Development District (NRMEDD), the primary sources of income in both studies for Livingston are ranching and tourism. We've gotten used for decades to, despite our unvanishing train whistles, leaving the railroad out of that picture.

Could that take a weird twist?

I hinted at this before, but we've realized this year that we could, if we worked constructively, see an even greater boost to our Livingston economy, one not foreseen by the CEDS studies, one perhaps not even dreamed possible, and yet one anchored in our history and unique character. In addition, it could reflect a love for the environment in helping mitigate our dependence on fossil fuels. Hydrogen fuel is made from water and solar energy.

I attended the annual meeting of the Big Sky Rail Passenger Authority (BSRPA) in June. A number of years ago, we in Livingston, with over 700 signatures, combined forces with Dave Strohmaier and Andrea Olsen from Missoula to get the legislature to back the return of rail passenger service to Montana. I spoke and participated myself; unfortunately unaware at the time that this happened, that the Montana Legislature Transportation Committee listened, then kind of went to sleep. Undaunted, Dave became a county commissioner and went to work creating the now successful Big Sky Rail Passenger Authority, which is continuing the work we started in trying to return rail passenger service to the Treasure State.

There were over 200 people at the BSRPA annual meeting in Missoula who were involved. One of them was from St. Regis, MT (population 300), George Bailey. I had noticed in an article handed

out at the meeting that he and St. Regis Solar were taking part in a \$1 billion regional hydrogen project. "St. Regis Solar hydrogen has been selected to begin award negotiations as part of the Department of Energy Demonstrations development of the Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Hub involving Washington, Oregon and Montana."

It turns out that the hub itself is part of the recent \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

George Bailey said in his talk at the BSRPA annual meeting that they would be producing hydrogen fuel in their small town. He said he attracted a world-class team to develop the company because "St. Regis Solar Hydrogen (SRSH2) believes that people living in distressed rural communities deserve access to well-paying jobs and that, by working together they can develop a beacon of hope for rural America."

After the St. Regis presentation, the BSRPA said that they would like to look at making the small trains, previously known as Diesel Multiple Units (DMU's) in Montana. The trains the BSRPA was looking for would be driven by hydrogen fuel, the kind of fuel that will be made in St. Regis. They would then be called Hydrogen Multiple Units (HMU's)

At that point, I mentioned to the BSRPA group that the only rail shops in our state really built to make the kind of trains they were discussing were in Livingston. When I told one of the two train manufacturers at the conference that Talgo had once purchased our shops for their construction capabilities, his ears perked up.

Talgo's purchase in 2000 was with an eye to making high-speed trains mostly in Europe. When the market they were targeting did not pan out, however, they re-sold the shops to MRL in 2006, and they now are part of BNSF. I toured the facilities when I was on the Livingston city commission, and they seemed pretty impressive for the purpose.

I know when Talgo was first here many of us were hardly aware of it. They had a preliminary impact on our economy, business, schools, and city, and we were sorry to see them go. As Big Timber was recently reminded with the Stillwater Mine, the private sector is the critical pin from which everything else hangs.

Then in August, I attended the same Montana Legislature Transportation Committee of the Montana State Legislature, the one with the snoozing problem. Interestingly, Toyota had

been asked to report the status of using hydrogen fuel in transportation, a company that has turned heavily against electric vehicles as, for a variety of reasons, just not the future. The Toyota employee, Jackie Birdsall, said in contrast that hydrogen technology has grown by leaps and bounds, and the only limitation they see to shifting to hydrogen cars, for example, is, as with EVs, having the infrastructure there when people look to fuel up. But Toyota is already manufacturing cars with hydrogen engines and has a fleet of trucks ready to go. Ms. Birdsall said Toyota understands that trains can now use hydrogen engines as well.

Dots potentially connected.

The beauty of this Yellowstone town's prospective chance to make HMU's and/or hydrogen engines in our shops could echo what St. Regis is doing: creating high-paying jobs in a Montana's small towns, and by using infrastructure otherwise lying dormant. But their use would be to make the kind of small train that—if the infrastructure grow with it—helps put a dent in fossil fuel demand. Hydrogen is effectively a battery, a fuel made by splitting water using solar, wind, hydro, or other comparatively green energy sources, and as my son pointed out, buffering their famous irregularities of supply. Promisingly for Montana, this could let us again export back to the world with a healthy private sector.

I do not pretend to be an expert in this area, but I have great respect for those who have advanced these technologies and are joining the train to power it.

On October 9th, Sean Batura of the *Livingston Enterprise* interviewed Grant Gager, our city manager, who intelligently knows the rail industry in detail (reconfirming how fortunate we are to have him), and Max Johansen, a wealth of knowledge on hydrogen technology (and a local Democratic party head), and me. The interview ran about an hour long, but Grant and Max had done homework and had fascinating things to say. I even went back and transcribed the conversation, which ran to around 14 pages, which I would be happy to send to anyone in the area with interest, for which just contact the Park County Community Journal.

I've discussed some of this before, and watching the vision of Montanans like George is inspiring. We may not yet see every turn in the tracks ahead, but Livingston and advanced rail tech could yet be made for each other kind of like H2 and O.

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.



CARL BERNTSEN
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

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Halloween Jokes

By Kim Bongiorno for What to Expect e-zine.

How do werewolves greet each other?
By asking, "Howl you doing?"

Why did the goblin stare at herself in the mirror?
She was so boo-tiful.

When do you know someone is a ghost?
The first time you see them walk through a door.

What do you call a black bird in a zombie costume?
A scare-crow.

What do you call a spider with ten eyes?
A spiiiiiiiiider.

What is the hardest Halloween costume to pull off?
Duct tape.

Which vampire is good at math?
Count Dracula.

Which monster loves to do the twist?
The boogeyman.

What do ghosts like to put in their oatmeal?
Boo-berries.

Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Annie.
Annie who?
Is Annie body home? I want some candy!

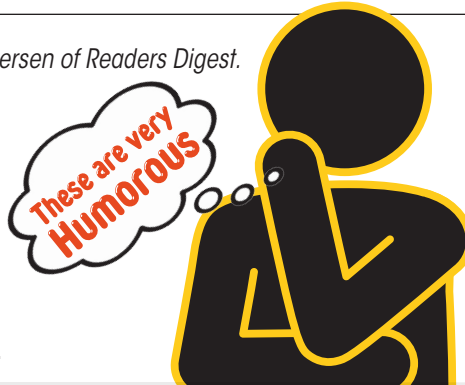


The Jokes below are By Charlotte Hilton Andersen of Readers Digest.

Why do female ghosts go on a diet?
So they can keep their ghoulish figure.

Where does a ghost go on vacation?
Mali-boo.

Why are ghosts so bad at lying?
Because you can see right through them.



SHIELDS VALLEY Upcoming EVENTS

- October 28th** Outage Alert from Park Electric Cooperative for Clyde Park and Wilsall Members
- October 30th** Adult Ed Boot Camp Wilsall Gym 6 pm
- October 31st** thru November 2nd District Volleyball Tournament at Manhattan Christian
- November 1st** Elementary/JH Girls Basketball at White Sulphur Springs 4 pm
- November 2nd** JH Girls Basketball at West Yellowstone
- November 5th** Elementary/ JH Girls Basketball Picture Day 4:15 pm
- November 6th** Adult Ed Boot Camp Wilsall Gym, 6 pm


The second outage will take place on October 28, it will start at 9 am and end at 11 am. 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.

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






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Yellowstone Visitation Statistics for September 2024

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS, WY –

Yellowstone National Park hosted 852,435 recreation visits in September 2024. This is a 2% increase from September 2023 (838,458 recreational visits). This September's visitation showed an 3% decrease from September 2021 (882,078 recreation visits).

So far in 2024, the park has hosted 4,349,689 recreation visits, up 5% from 2023 (4,147,382 recreation visits), and down 3% from 2021 (4,472,687 recreation visits).

The list below shows the year-to-date trend for recreation visits over the last several years (through September):

- 2024 – 4,349,689
- 2023 – 4,147,382
- 2022 – 3,005,194 The park was closed June 13th through June 21st due to the historic flood event.
- Three entrances opened on June 22nd
- 2021 – 4,472,687
- 2020 – 3,393,642 (The park was closed March 24th through May 17th due to COVID. Two entrances opened on May 18th and the remaining three opened on June 1st)
- 2019 – 3,807,815

More data on park visitation, including how we calculate these numbers, is available on the NPS Stats website.

Applications Available for FWP's Habitat Conservation Lease Program

Beginning this week, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is accepting applications for its Habitat Conservation Lease Program.

A habitat conservation lease is a voluntary, incentive based agreement between FWP

and private landowners in which the landowner commits to specific land management practices that protect priority wildlife habitat. In turn, FWP pays landowners a one-time per-acre fee for the lease.

These agreements have a term length of 30 and 40 years. The lease program is in addition to the conservation tools already available to landowners.

The focus of the Habitat Conservation Lease Program is primarily for prairie and wetland habitats, with a priority on sage-grouse core areas and other plains habitats. In areas critical to sage-grouse, these leases will ensure habitat protections that help keep populations healthy and allow the bird to remain off the Endangered Species List.

Photo Credit: fwp.mt.gov/conservation/habitat/habitat-conservation/lease-program



Habitat conservation leases will maintain native habitats by protecting them from specific disturbances including tillage, energy development, building construction and wetland filling or draining. Normal agricultural operations and noxious weed control will not be impacted.

The Habitat Conservation Lease Program potentially could protect up to 500,000 acres in the next five years.

Public access also will be part of the lease, but details are specific to each agreement.

More information and applications for the program are available on the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov/conservation/habitat/habitat-conservation/lease-program. The deadline for applications is Nov. 30th.



Order Form

ALC "Norwegian Goodies"

Please order prior to October 25, 2024

Quantity	Price/package	Total
1 # Meatballs with Gravy	\$ 10	
½ # Cabbage Salad	\$ 5	
Package Lefse (3 rounds)	\$ 5	

Please include your payment with the order.

Order Total \$

All items may be picked up on **Saturday, November 23 at ALC between 9 am - 12 noon.**

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Phone number _____

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Mon 10/28: 4:30 & 7 pm
Tues 10/29: 4:30 & 7 pm
Wed 10/30: 4:30 pm ONLY
Thurs 10/31: 4:30 & 7 pm

VENOM: THE LAST DANCE

Friday 10/25 - Thursday 10/31
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"FRONT DESK"

by Joyce Johnson

This below is a favorite chapter in a story, written over 25 years ago when I worked at Chico. I pop it in to my column this week with appreciation and support for friends and all of us who have dealt with cancer. And also I salute our new writer, James Kozlik, who is out of town for a few weeks, but has a space in the Journal for all us story tellers. I hope our readers enjoy this account of what I was privileged to witness, and that you feel welcome to submit your fiction and nonfiction, too. Life is, in a way, just fiction, if ya ask me.

What a breath of fresh air, Molly thought as she looked up at the bright-eyed lady who stood before the front desk. She had a long mane of thick curly, auburn hair.

"My name is Sarah Marshal," the guest said, smiling brightly, and plopped her purse down on the counter. After the check in process began she said, "This is like being on a cruise ship, and a future that doesn't start until Monday, right?"

Molly nodded at the cheerful woman



and said, "I remember a movie called 'Ship of Fools.' People had dramatic encounters with passengers on a trans-Atlantic cruise ship." Sarah smiled and said "Oh yeah! I remember that one. Gene Hackman played a fireball priest." Molly said "No, that was 'The Poseidon Adventure,' where a giant rogue wave rolled the ship upside down." Molly swiped Sarah's credit card with a flourish for emphasis then said, "No rogue waves here, Sarah, but a rogue cowboy or two in the saloon... whom you'll know cuz of the cow poop on their boots." She waited for the laugh which she got. Sarah stepped aside to gather up her towel and keys and put her credit card back in her purse. The next guest in line stepped up. The expression on the woman's face made Molly feel immediately somber. The guest leaned onto the counter and began to explain that she and her husband could only find a room for tonight, and pleaded, "We were hoping that another room was available for tomorrow night? Molly checked the computer and said, "I am sorry Cheryl; we have a full house," and suggested optional lodging near by. The woman interrupted and suddenly said, "... I am starting chemo Monday and I want to stay here up to the last minute... I don't know what my life will be like after and..." she swallowed, and looked down.

Molly felt a sob in her throat, reached

out and touched the woman's hand and said she understood. She looked down at the computer pretending to double check while she quickly processed unfamiliar thoughts: *My goodness, what a contrast to the other. And, no I don't really understand, do I?* She put herself in the woman's shoes for a moment and felt the fear, then an uncomfortable shame for her fear, and only wanted to comfort the guest but couldn't think of the right words. She stared at the computer for another few seconds, then said, "I see your room is reserved for another party tomorrow. There are cancellations sometimes. Check back with us tomorrow morning, and lets hope for a change." The woman nodded and turned to go. But the previous guest, Sarah, stepped up and blocked her way. She smiled big and said, "I couldn't help but overhear," and she reached up and pulled her long curly hair right off her head revealing a shiny bald scalp. Before Molly or Cheryl could react she bubbled, "I finished my chemo! Piece of cake! Your hair will grow back, but you get to wear these awesome things!" and she shook the wig like a pom pom, "Or, just go natural - tah dah!" and she tossed the wig onto the glass counter top. Molly felt the full lobby go still and dissolve into a blurry backdrop. Through stinging eyes, she was aware of only the two women looking in

each others eyes—one stunned, one bald and joyful.

So just as suddenly, Sarah, wig hanging at her side, took Cheryl's arm and the two women disappeared into the crowd. Molly stood staring down at the computer trying to find composure before she looked up again at the next guest in line whose eyes she met just long enough to see the empathy reflected there. Molly smiled a little, pulled herself back together and said, "Welcome to Chico, how can I help you?"

The next day there was a cancellation in the hotel which was given to the guests booked in Cheryl's room. This allowed Cheryl and her husband to remain where they were for the whole weekend. Later, Molly saw the two women stroll through the lobby talking with animation, like sisters, and she felt her heart swell, checked her tears, then exhaled blowing a barely perceptible layer of dust and a tiny dry leaf off the glass counter. She watched the show-offy leaf twirl and do a swan dive over the side. Then she felt her attention drawn to the big old bull elk mount on the far end of the lobby. She always felt a sturdy, grandpa presence from it. She sent a silent message to the great old buck, "fairy dust all over the lobby today, huh big guy?"

Doc Ava's Fall Harvest Market Nov. 9th

Dear Reader: Never mind the weather, long as we're together! And I hope the ad (below) is seen by everyone. **Doc Ava's Harvest Market** is again in the heart of the valley off East River Road, on Nov. 9th at the horse arena. Last fest given there in the Spring was a happy extended community gathering, and fundraiser support to help the Doc deal with medical bills. Horses look on while sale of tack, pottery, decor, kid's petting farm, vendors, crafters, artists (including me) and special independent services are set

up all around the arena, and also present are the friendliest, most mouth-watering vendors around, Old Faithful Franks, and Paradise Perk Espresso. Come on over, wear boots, (it's a horsey place of course) inside the arena, especially if the weather is challenging.

Some readers will catch this issue in time for the **Annual Fall Fest** on Saturday, the October 26th in Emigrant. A traditionally well-celebrated big market with the best chili around. Both places full of vendors:

Emigrant Hall and across the street at St. John's Episcopal Church with a drawing from which proceeds go to their Friendship Fund that for many years have helped locals in

need. Markets and festivals like these and People's Summer Market are becoming more and more a strong focus of the fun and supporting unity in community.

Fall Harvest Market

November 9th, 9-3 pm



Hosted By:

Paradise Valley Equine

Celebration of Fall, 2024 Harvest Farmer's Market Style

Food & Craft Vendors, Horse tack

Petting Farm for Children!

Location: Paradise Valley Equine

(inside the horse arena!)

17 Rosemary Lane

(off East River Road,

not far from Arrowhead School)

Livingston, MT 59047

When: November 9, 2024 from

9AM-3PM

30 vendors expected!

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by Dalonda Rockafellow
doTERRA Wellness Advocate



Essential Oil Spotlight: Eucalyptus

Eucalyptus essential oil is extracted from its leaves through steam distillation. doTERRA's Eucalyptus is sourced mainly from Australia where there are over 700 species that cover large expanses of that country. Eucalyptus can also thrive in other locations. doTERRA has selected five unique species to create its proprietary Eucalyptus essential oil: Eucalyptus radiata (South Africa, Australia), Eucalyptus globulus (Rwanda), Eucalyptus polybractea, Eucalyptus kochii, Eucalyptus loxophleba (all from Australia).

Eucalyptus was widely used in World War I to control infections and influenza. Its key components make it very versatile. These compounds support your respiratory system and provide potent antibacterial and antiviral effects, which are essential for your overall wellness.

It's slightly camphorous, sweet, fruity scent is very clearing, enlivening and refreshing to breathe in and brings many benefits when you use it for various purposes.

Congestion & Respiratory Support: Its most popular use is for easing congestion. It is an effective expectorant, helping to clear airways. How to use: add drops to a diffuser to fill the air with this healing oil or simply add a drop to your palms, cover your nose and mouth and inhale deeply. Dilute with lotion or fractionated coconut oil (FCO) and apply directly to your chest or just under your nose.

Antiviral & Antibacterial Properties: Eucalyptus is a natural antiviral and antibacterial powerhouse! It is perfect for cleaning and sanitizing your home to keep your environment fresh and clean. How to use: DIY All-Purpose Spray:

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup white vinegar
- 1 ¾ cup water

- 10 drops each of Eucalyptus, Peppermint and Wild Orange essential oils

Instructions:

1. Add all ingredients to a 16 ounce spray bottle
2. Shake thoroughly. Spritz surface and wipe clean.

Soothing Pain and Inflammation: When feeling sore or dealing with muscle aches Eucalyptus is a natural analgesic which helps to relieve pain and reduce inflammation. Its compounds work together to soothe discomfort, making it an ideal choice for muscle rubs and bath soaks. How to use: add drops to your favorite massage oil or epsom salts.

Insect Repellent: Eucalyptus is a natural insecticide. It works so well at keeping bugs at bay. Simply spray it around your home or mix into your cleaning products for extra protection against those pesky insects. How to use: add drops to a spray bottle and fill with water.

Hypotensive Properties: The properties in Eucalyptus can naturally support healthy blood pressure and can aid in relaxation, making it a great addition to a calming routine. How to use: add drops to a diffuser or make a roller bottle by adding 10 drops of Eucalyptus oil and filling with FCO. Apply to pulse points for relaxation.

Eucalyptus supports the breath, creating a sense of expansiveness. How you breathe communicates your current state to every part of your body. Think about this... when you are scared, sad, confused or

angry, your breath shortens and restricts. Oftentimes you are given advice to "just breathe." Eucalyptus encourages you to do just that, to open up to the full breadth of life, helping you to embrace a full range of experiences.

Add Eucalyptus to your daily routine and experience the relief and support it brings, from respiratory wellness to natural cleaning power to your calming routine.

If you would like to experience Eucalyptus for yourself or have more questions about this wonderful oil, reach out to me at one of the suggestions below and we can make plans to get it to you. Thank you for your time!!

Dalonda Rockafellow has been using and educating about health and doTERRA essential oils for 10+ years. She maintains a website and has an active Facebook page; Lavender, Lemon & Learning that she uses to keep people up to date on the benefits of using CPTG (Certified Pure Tested Grade) essential oils for their health and well-being. You can contact her at dalonda@bigskyoils.com or mydoterra.com/dalondarockafellow or text 406-220-4449.

Are you interested in receiving a monthly email to learn more about essential oils? If so, contact me at one of the above suggestions and I will get them sent out to you.

** These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.*

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Why Does Awareness Matter?

by Nurse Jill

It's amazing how long false ideas can perpetuate even in our fast-paced, cyber-savvy world. Believe it or not, old wives tales and mythical causes of illness still plague the general public's health habits.

William Henry Harrison, the 9th president of the United States, is known as the man with two notable records to his name. The first record was made with his longest-ever inauguration speech at nearly two hours. The second was made with his shortest presidential term at one month in office. As the first president to die in office, it was long believed that he passed from pneumonia due to being in the rain and cold for too long during his speech and subsequent celebratory events.

Truth? Or old wives' tale? Can you really get pneumonia from being out in the cold? The short answer is no. Our bodies experiencing cold will not, in and of itself, cause pneumonia (or even a common cold) to spontaneous take hold of our respiratory tract and wreak havoc.

So why is this a long-held belief in our society?

First, we always long for ways to control our health and the health of those we love. We are always looking for ways to make sure we don't suffer illnesses, be it an irritating cold or a deadly pneumonia. And so old wives through the generations have told their loved ones to bundle up or risk "catching their death."

Second, there is actually a little bit of truth in the approach. Though being

in the cold is not directly causative to contracting a respiratory illness it can be a contributing factor to the perfect storm that allows a bacteria or virus to take hold. When we expose ourselves to cold situations we can tax our physical reserves, which decreases the ability of our immune systems to fight off invaders.

When our physical bodies are worn out we have less resilience against bacteria and viruses. This is true of being tired as well. Former President Harrison spent hours during his inaugural day not only making inspirational statements but also celebrating at receptions with supporters all without coat or hat. The wearing down of his body through event after event as well

as the extra effort of his body in the cooler temperatures definitely could have contributed to wearing down his body's defenses in battling off pneumonia.

Pneumonia typically manifests through fever, productive cough, shortness of breath, lack of appetite, and fatigue. While the former president did have some of these symptoms, his "pneumonia"

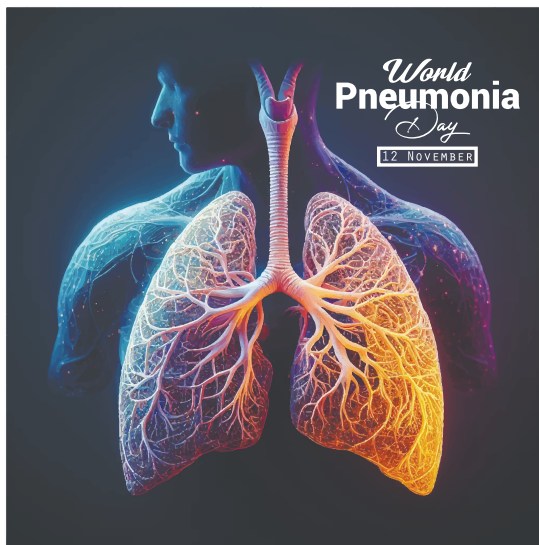
was actually somewhat atypical which intrigued a couple of researchers to look at his demise a bit more closely.

An article published in Infectious Diseases Society of America in 2014 speculates that Harrison did not, in fact, "catch his death" from a chill but rather imbibed a fatal beverage—contaminated water at The White House.

Several medical observations of the records regarding Harrison's final days and hours suggests that he could have

possibly died from Typhoid fever contracted from unsanitary conditions at The White House instead of a deadly pneumonia. Both Polk and Taylor also contracted similar illnesses during their stay at the presidential residency.

Harrison's physicians did not have modern antibiotics to aid in treating his supposed pneumonia and instead relied on their limited knowledge to try and remedy the severe ailment. Heated suction cups, mustard plasters, laudanum, and laxatives were frontline tactics. In modern medicine pneumonia is approached with vaccines, breathing treatments, hydration,



antibiotics (when appropriate), and rest.

The case of Harrison's death highlights two important points.

One: we've come a long way in medicine. The continual curiosity of scientists, physicians, and other healthcare professionals spur along our knowledge and therefore the treatments available. It's amazing to think that antibiotics haven't even been around for 100 years and yet have changed how we are able to treat patients. Many medical advancements are just as astonishing for how they have changed the face of medicine, in a positive way.

Two: Old wives' tales may have a bit of merit. While there are some rather ridiculous myths in regards to staying healthy or using random ingredients to treat ailments there may also be a touch of helpfulness in some of the habits our old wives have urged over the decades.

While bundling up against a chill may not have prevented Harrison's untimely death, we can take heed ourselves and protect against pneumonia with warm clothing, vaccination, good hand hygiene, and some self care to keep our immune systems bolstered to fight off the viruses and bacteria that actually do cause respiratory illnesses.

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High School Football Salutes Six Members of the Park High Rangers as They Take Their Final Walk

FOREVER BROTHERS

Senior Night at McLeod Field. Rangers Lose 48-12 to Ronan Chiefs But a Blocked Extra Point Shows the Rangers Never Quit Attitude

Park County Dugout |
By: Jeff Schlapp

It takes an extraordinary young man to endure and stick with a football program with two wins in four years. The same kind of young man decides to go out for the team during their senior year, knowing the odds are unfavorable.

These are the young men a school and community should rally around.

The Park High Rangers lost a football game on Friday night. On the Rangers' senior night, the Ronan Chiefs came into Livingston on a cold night and were unruly guests as they defeated an injury-depleted Rangers team 48-12.

Yet, as there is in every game the Rangers have played these past four years; there was one play near the end of the game that jumped out at me,



Along with five other seniors, White was honored and recognized before the game for their dedication, hard work, and leadership they have given to Park High.

Logan Jergenson, Jon Durgan, Jake Sundling, Robert Cortez, Grady Shifley, and White all spoke with me before the game and told me that, for the most part, the game against Ronan was another game. Still, each of them said they imagined the emotion of playing their final game as a Ranger would hit them at some point during the game.

Sundling told me he wouldn't trade



Park High seniors Jon Durgan, Grady Shifley, Robert Cortez, Jaxson White, Logan Jergenson White, and Jake Sundling.

guts, but Durgan and Shifley found it easier as the other four seniors were their friends. It also helped that they brought immense talent to the field and the team and were welcomed as if they had been team members all four years.

The Rangers have lost 26 games in four years. I dare anyone to say it's due to effort. Numbers and physical size have played a significant role in the losses, but effort has not.

Let's remember these six players for what they have displayed on the field. Every time these young men took the field, there would be a winner and a loser. That's the nature of sports, as well as life.

Imagine going into a sales meeting knowing, based on history, that you probably wouldn't make the sale—but you go anyway, ever so hopeful that this time will be different. Or go ahead and start that small business you've always wanted to with your life savings despite what others tell you the success rate would be.

Do either or something similar, and you'll be a Ranger. Success will come; it all depends on how you measure it.

Losing is hard. One of the hardest things to confront as an athlete is

how to lose gracefully. Players can get frustrated, disappointed, and angry at what they think went wrong. They question their decisions and performance, think through all their mistakes, consider perceived inequities, and, in short, look for why they lost so they can find immediate solutions.

While there are significant differences between youth athletes up to the pros in learning lessons from a loss, one critical message coaches must send at every level is that there will be no excuses and no finger-pointing. Blaming anybody but yourself for the loss is not fair, and it's not productive.

I'm not saying to be unduly hard on yourself and dwell on what went wrong, but the only way you can use a loss to get better is to consider what didn't work and find a way to change it. Players can only control and alter their performance, so teams need to focus their energy on that.

Young athletes are so open with their emotions regarding their sport. The joy when things go well is unparalleled, and the sadness when things don't is devastating. I often see coaches and parents of those young players who would literally do anything to win, and

I attribute that to them wanting to spare their athletes the heartbreak that comes with losing.

We all want success, but we build character and grace in our kids when we thoughtfully and intentionally lead them through their heartbreak. Kids need to internalize the basic tenets of sportsmanship, and it's a great reminder for parents and coaches to model those critical lessons: Work hard, do your best, be gracious in victory or defeat, and never give up.

These six Ranger seniors have learned and shown to their community and coaches—they have learned how to win like they lost and lose in life as they win. They have come out of each loss with a life lesson.

See Rangers, Page 1



Park High senior Jon Durgan before and after the Ranger game receiving a hug from Luke Jergenson at McLeod Field on Friday night in Livingston.



at anyone paying attention, that said, "We're not quitting, never give up, we're never out of the fight, we have Ranger Pride."

It was a play by senior Jaxson White. It was the final home game of his illustrious career for the Rangers.

places with any playoff-bound team. He said he's a Ranger. He loves his teammates and his coaches. He wouldn't have traded being a Ranger for any other football experience.

Coming out for football for the first time at the start of your senior year takes

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Rangers

from page 14

When you're walking on the practice field for Week 8, sitting at 0-5, and not having had much in the way of good fortune, there's something to be said about having the same enthusiasm and positive mindset as you did in August.

Hitting the sleds hard, keeping the same pace, and hustling just the same. Learning from your mistakes the week before. Preparing for a new foe with similar rigor as prior weeks that did not go ideally.

As adults, we know there are times when life gets challenging. You or your kids get sick. The car breaks down—something malfunctions in your house. You have to tighten your wallet a little more than usual. But you must find a way out of it because giving up is not an alternative when others count on you.

The same theory applies in sports—and in many ways, it's a metaphor for life ahead.

After all, that character to keep showing up and not quit when things get overly adverse will mean much more over time than what a scoreboard stated one random Friday night.

The Rangers lost on Friday night. With 8:55 left in the first quarter, Kolby Finely ran a reverse from the Rangers' 16-yard line, giving the Chiefs a 6-0 lead. After the teams traded punts, the Chiefs moved the ball down to the Ranger 2-yard line, where the Ranger's defense stiffened until the Chiefs rammed their version of Refrigerator Perry, 290-pound Jackson Davis, across the goal line. They scored again

when Finely threw a dime 55 yards to Laurance Lozeau for a 20-0 lead.

The Rangers got on the scoreboard with a 3-yard run by Jergenson and a late score by Eric Uberuaga, who alertly snagged a deflected pass by Siouxpixm Qualtier for an eight-yard touchdown.

The Chiefs scored one more touchdown, and with 2:14 left in the game, they lined up for the extra point. Typically, down 48-12, even pro teams who are losing will go through the motions and give a feeble wave as the kicker puts the ball through the uprights.

Not the Rangers. Not Jaxson White. In his final moments on McLeod Field, White leaped into the air, stuck his paw, and blocked the extra point.

Never Quit.

In a culture obsessed with winning, the benefits of losing in youth sports often go unnoticed. However, beneath the surface of defeat lies a treasure trove of invaluable lessons waiting to be unearthed. From resilience and character development to a growth mindset and team cohesion, losing offers far more than meets the eye.

So, let's shift our perspective, embrace the journey, and recognize that in the game of life, the greatest victories are often born from the ashes of defeat.

Jaxson White, Logan Jergenson, Jon Durgan, Jake Sundling, Robert Cortez, and Grady Shifley are winners in my book and well on their way to being leaders in life.

Visit the Park County Dugout on Facebook for more pictures of Friday's game.

For more photos and great articles, check out the [ParkCountyDugout.com](https://www.parkcountydugout.com).

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Tuesday, Oct. 29th -
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Wednesday, Oct. 30th -
Chicken al a king over biscuit,
fruit, dessert, milk

Thursday, Oct. 31st -
Witches brew stew (beef stew),
fruit, milk

Friday, Nov. 1st - Salmon
patties, veggie, fruit, dessert, milk



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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.

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 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 - CAREER FAIR - Special event Career Fair for Sibanye-Stillwater employees affected by the upcoming layoffs. Park County Fairgrounds, 46 View Vista Drive, Livingston from 10 am to 2 pm. Perspective employers – who are seeking well-trained, good-quality candidates for positions at their companies will have a chance to meet potential applicants. Employee booths are free! Call Leslie at the Chamber 406-222-0850.

October 26 - COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN BASH AT PARK COUNTY SENIOR CENTER Fun for all ages with a costume contest, live music, food, games, and a raffle! The raffle prize is a \$1000 Genesis Grill donated by Ace Hardware. Join us at The Hub at the Senior Center from 6 to 10 pm. Wearing a costume enters you in raffle for FREE! Winners will be announced at 9 pm.

October 26 - JUNIOR CARPENTER PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST - Kenyon Nobile will host thier annual pumpkin carving contest at the Livingston, Bozeman and Belgrade locations from 12 pm - 2 pm. Kiddos 12 and under will pick a free pumpkin, carve their favorite designs, and try to win some amazing prizes. Don't forget to grab snacks and a free goodie bag full of Spooktacular Halloween swag! Prize categories are broken into 3 age groups: 0-5, 6-9, and 10-12. At 2 pm our judges will pick the top 3 winning pumpkins from each age group. Winners must be present to win.

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 jam.

October 27 - CHARCUTERIE CLASS - From 4 to 6 pm at Lulu's Montana Market, 5237 US Hwy 89 S, Livingston. Enjoy a night out with friends at this hands-on charcuterie class! We will learn several techniques and create a fall inspired board for you to enjoy! \$15 per person includes class materials and instruction, non-alcoholic drinks and snacks. Class size is limited, please RSVP to MSU Park County Extension by October 22nd to reserve your spot: park@montana.edu or 406-222- 4156.

October 30 - 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.

November 1 - ARTIST RECEPTION - Livingston Center for Art and Culture will host an artist reception from 6 to 8 pm at 119 South Main Street, Livingston. The juried show, Off-Campus: MSU Student Show, will feature the works from 29 MSU students. This show is available for viewing from October 22nd until November 9th.

November 9 - FALL HARVEST MARKET - Hosted by Paradise Valley Equine, Celebration of Fall-2024 Harvest Farmer's Market style. Food & craft vendors, horse tack and petting farm for children. 17 Rosemary Lane (off East River Road, not far from Arrowhead School) from 9 am - 3 pm.

November 12 - RESERVOIR PARK WORKSHOP #2 Meeting in the Community Room at 414 E. Callender St., Livingston from 5-7 pm. This meeting is designed to gather community input and foster collaborative disscussions.

November 15 - 19TH ANNUAL WINE & BEER TASTING - Sneak peak from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, main event 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Tickets are limited, advanced purchase is highly recommended. Purchase tickets online at LivingstonDepot.org or by calling at 406-222-2300.

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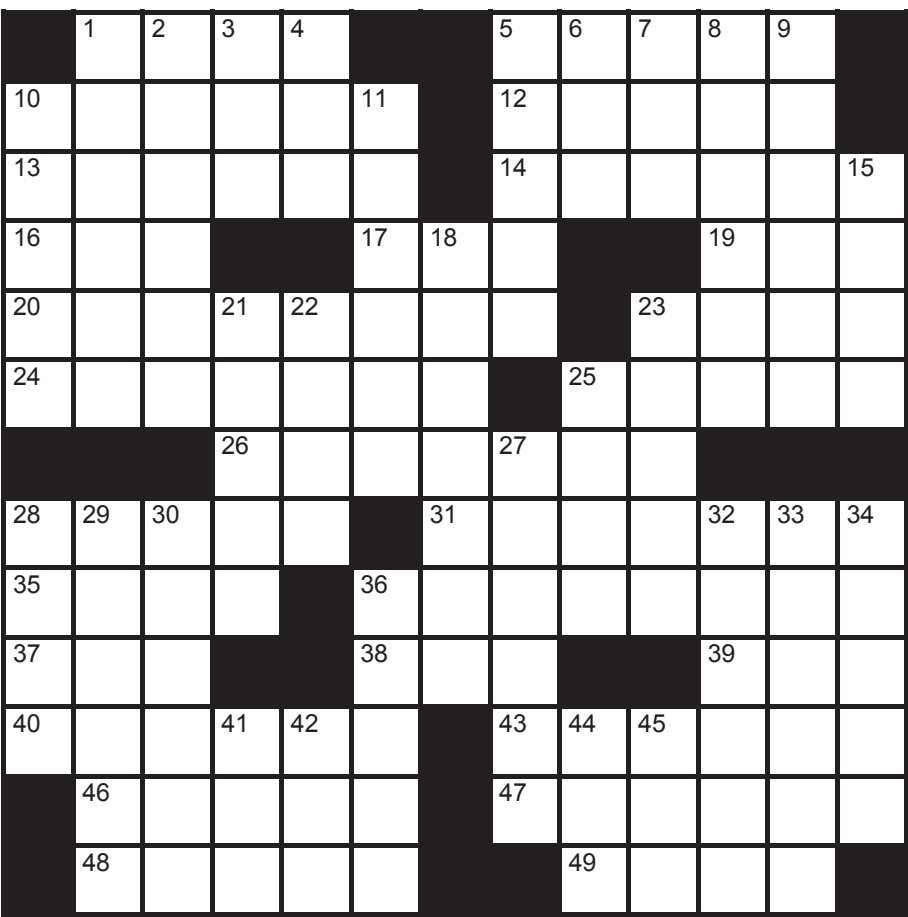
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Crossword Puzzle Number 306



- Across

1 Radar screen image

5 Athlete's occupation

10 Failing that

12 Military instruction

13 Stop working

14 Evades

16 Explosive used as a measure for others

17 Chinese ultimate reality

19 Batter's stat.

20 High-minded belief

23 Bombard

24 Traps

25 Chunks

26 Patella

28 Yo Yo Ma's specialty

31 Sir Walter ---, who named Virginia

35 Double-reed woodwind instrument

36 Stand astride

37 Short numbers

38 Web company (Abbr.)

39 Felled tree trunk

40 Obtained

43 Salad green

46 Booth
- Down

47 Underground route

48 Ceases

49 Luggage

Crossword Puzzle Number 305 Solutions

1	W	I	P	E	S		6	S	U	N		9	A	S	H
12	A	M	P	L	E		13	C	P	A		14	W	H	O
15	S	A	M	M	Y	16	S	O	S	A		17	E	Y	E
						18	O	M	A	R		19	C	O	S
21	A	C	E		24	O	L	E		25	P	U	T	26	T
28	L	E	A	29	G	U	E	R		30	T	R	O	T	
31	O	S	C	A	R	S		32	B	L	O	U	S	E	
34	O	A	H	U				35	B	O	U	N	C	E	R
36	F	R	O	Z	37	E		38	A	N	C		39	K	A
					40	T	E	D		41	R	E	I	42	N
43	Y	A	H		45	W	I	L	D	F	I	47	R	48	E
50	E	K	E		51	I	D	O		52	E	C	O	L	I
53	P	A	R		54	N	A	W		55	R	E	E	L	S

- 30 Blew a gasket
- 32 Ticking over
- 33 Hand warmers
- 34 German philosopher
- 36 Submerges
- 41 Also
- 42 Sibyl's gift (Abbr.)
- 44 Kernel
- 45 Double helix molecule (Abbr.)



Sudoku Puzzle Number 341 "Medium"

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

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We are also asking if you feel this publication has real value to you, and it is not a hardship, to consider signing up for a monthly donation...we sure would appreciate all the help we can get to keep this publication free and available to everyone!

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

Sudoku Puzzle Answers 340

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

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- **After School Assistant**

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

Key Insurance in Livingston is looking to hire a Licensed Insurance Agent

to our team. We are dedicated to providing individuals, families, businesses and their employees with the very best in supplemental benefits.

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

Come Join Our Kenyon Noble Team!

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



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>.

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>.

Road Operator
Are you looking for a hands-on career where every day brings new challenges and the chance to make a real impact in your community? Join the Park County Road Department as an Operator! You'll work year-round with a dedicated team, operating heavy equipment to maintain and improve our local roads. Whether you already have a CDL or are ready to take the

next step, we've got you covered. No CDL? No problem! We provide full training for the right candidate, helping you earn your CDL within 6 months. We're seeking candidates with a clean driving record who are eager to learn and contribute. In addition to competitive pay and benefits, you'll gain valuable experience and skills that will set you up for long-term success. 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 door-to-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 Office is looking for two new full time 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 PPCT-pressure point control tactics, tactical handcuffing and CIT- Crisis Intervention Training. To apply go online to: <https://jobs.parkcounty.org/jobs>.

Firefighter/Paramedic – Full-time - The City of Livingston, Montana is seeking a highly motivated individual to perform the role of Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic within the Livingston Fire Rescue (LFR). This is a full-time, benefit eligible role in LFR with the primary duty assignment in a shift staff role participating in and making a positive contribution to the operations of your assigned shift. This position reports to the Shift Captain, under the direction of the Fire Chief and helps with cross staffing and performs other duties as assigned. To apply, send an updated resume, a cover letter with your interest in LFR, a completed City of Livingston Application and a copy of your certifications to HR@LivingstonMontana.org.

911 Communications Officer - Do you enjoy serving your community? The City of Livingston, Montana, is hiring full-time 911 Communications Officers. These officers will be responsible for performing dispatch duties for first responders throughout Park County, Montana.

To be considered, your submission must include the following:

- Fully completed and signed Fillable 911 Communications Application and Release form
 - Updated Resume
 - Cover Letter expressing your interest in the position
- Submit ALL documents simultaneously via email, in person, or by USPS mail to HR@livingstonmontana.org or to City of Livingston, Attn: HR, 220 E. Park St, Livingston, MT 59047.

Urban Renewal Agency Board Member - Are you passionate about revitalizing Livingston's downtown and making a positive impact on our community? The Livingston Urban Renewal Agency (URA) is seeking two dedicated individuals to join its board. Board members serve a 4-year term and play a vital role in supporting the redevelopment and rehabilitation of the downtown area. If you're interested in shaping the future of downtown Livingston, we encourage you to apply! To apply, please complete the application linked on this page. Return completed applications to Emily Hutchinson at Livingston City Hall 220 E. Park Street or by email at ehutchinson@livingstonmontana.org.

How to Place your Classified Ad!

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

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

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking former BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD WORKERS who worked in the Livingston area between 1949-1989. Please contact Deborah Marlin at 406-752-5566.

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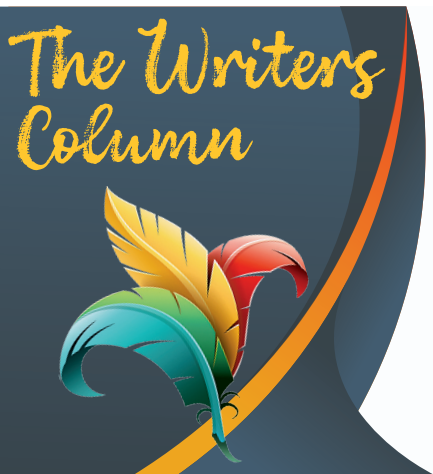
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by James Kozlik

I visited southern India earlier this year and spent six months at an ashram and temple (Ekam). My wife, Marian and I had many opportunities to visit temples, villages and take part in ceremonies, local culture and spirituality. I encourage you to go online to The OnenessUSA.org, which has become an excellent outreach for Ekam.org and the LokaaFoundation.org. We often visited a village that the Lokaa Foundation assists. That is the inspiration for this story. In the coming weeks I will share various excerpts from the book *When We Leave* the next several weeks while I visit India for the third time. It will be my way to share this trip with the readers in story form.

Prologue

My motorbike broke down quite a ways back. Seems like the clutch froze or maybe the engine seized up. I don't know but I do know I have been walking on the mountain pathway long enough in this muggy heat. It's getting near sunset in this southern India location—wherever I am. I don't have a phone, no Google map. I decided to do this trip in a spontaneous manner. Why not, it's who I have become, an adventurer with no destination in mind. So here I am with minimal gear but a good sense of survival. "You're living like an animal," that was my Mom's observation. It was the last comment she made when I called her from Bangalore. I saw a glimpse of the ocean in the far distance when I was at the crest of the mountain ridge I crossed. And I know I am going east in the direction of Chennai. There is an opening off the trail that looks like a place to set up camp. It's quiet, just birds chirping or crowing, some breeze rustling tree leaves and bamboo trunks talking with crackling sounds. I start setting up camp. I see the perfect place to set up my light-weight hammock. I get that set up first. Then I pull out my camp shovel dig a small vertical hole, then check the wind direction and dig another hole on a slight angle to intersect the vertical hole. I find a two-inch tree limb on the ground and whittle a point on one end. I jab it into the end of the angled hole until it pokes through the vertical hole. There, now I have a rocket stove dug into the earth—just need some

WHEN THEY LEAVE

fuel.

Ah, but I think I will make myself a chair. I start scouting around for some straight tree limbs while I gather twigs for the fire. I dig in my pack and find the small foldable hand saw with an aggressive double-toothed blade. I lay the twigs in a pile next to the hole. I look for two-inch straight tree branches and saw them from the main trunk of some trees. I notice a couple of trees with what appears to be a curved fruit. I pick one and break into the husk. I am rewarded with a cashew nut! Now I become a gatherer of nuts, twigs and tree branches. And this is how I keep myself busy just like an animal whose existence is a constant effort for survival.

Every moment becomes a very present moment. Getting a fire started to cook my dinner. Next, husking cashews and trimming tree branches and sawing them to specific sizes. My mind is focused on creating a way to fasten together a camp chair with a backrest. As dusk turns to night I lie in my hammock and admire the twinkle of stars in the nighttime sky and listen for the movement of nocturnal animals. And I sleep to the sound of silence.

Night is turning into dawn as I awaken and I see the slight color change as I peer skyward. I hear a grunt and a rustling coming from my left. I am on alert, and watch as a small boar comes out from under some brush. It is sniffing the ground and finds my pile of cashew nut husks that I left near my chair. I watch as it eats some and then moves through my camp searching for food. I take a mental inventory of what I might have left for food in my pack that I had hung from a tree. I am used to camping in bear territory back home in Montana, which has become a habit to sleep away from my food source and always hang it up high. The boar moves out of the clearing and disappears into the under brush that surrounds my camp sight.

I decide to get up and climb a small ridge to watch the sunrise and get my bearings. I like greeting the sun and acknowledge the God I know to be the creator of all, and the giver of my soul spirit—my Holy Spirit—my connection to pure consciousness. I climb between the brush, over boulders until I come to a spot where I can see the sunrise in all its color. I see a horizon in the distance where the mountain slope turns into flat plain. I am sitting on a large boulder, being one with this magnificent universe as the stars give way to a gray-blue sky with various cloud schemes and a canvas of color.

To Be Continued...

Send submissions to jakozlik@gmail.com

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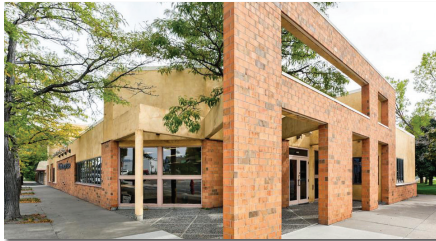
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Rachel Moore | 406-794-4971



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320 S C Street

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Ernie Meador | 406-220-0231



607 Scott Street W

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Tom Gierhan | 406-220-0229



325 N 3rd Street

Multi-Family | 5+ units
#394662 | \$829,000

Gillian Swanson | 406-220-4340



1065 US Highway 89 S

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#392679 | \$1,100,000

Tom Gierhan | 406-220-0229



Tract 5 Dutch Road

Land Listing | 6 acres
#396678 | \$399,000

Tom Gierhan | 406-220-0229



7 Clear Springs Road

Land Listing | 22+ acres
#388239 | \$599,000

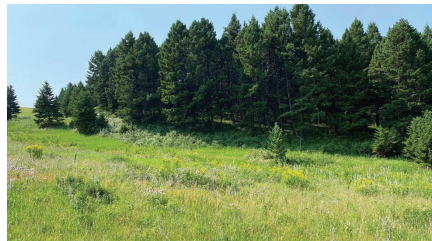
Deb Kelly | 406-220-0801



30 S Woodard Ave, Absarokee

Commercial Sale | 2,560 sq ft
#388822 | \$223,000

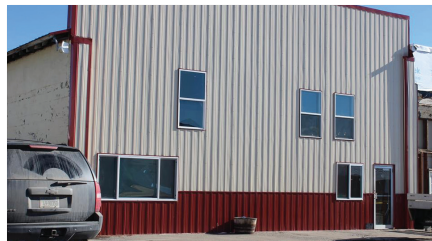
Jessie Sarrazin | 406-223-5881



TBD Moose Meadows Road

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

Ernie Meador | 406-220-0231



512 Miles

Commercial Sale | 4,212 sq ft
#389813 | \$495,000

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Commercial Sale | 7,061 sq ft
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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. CI-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

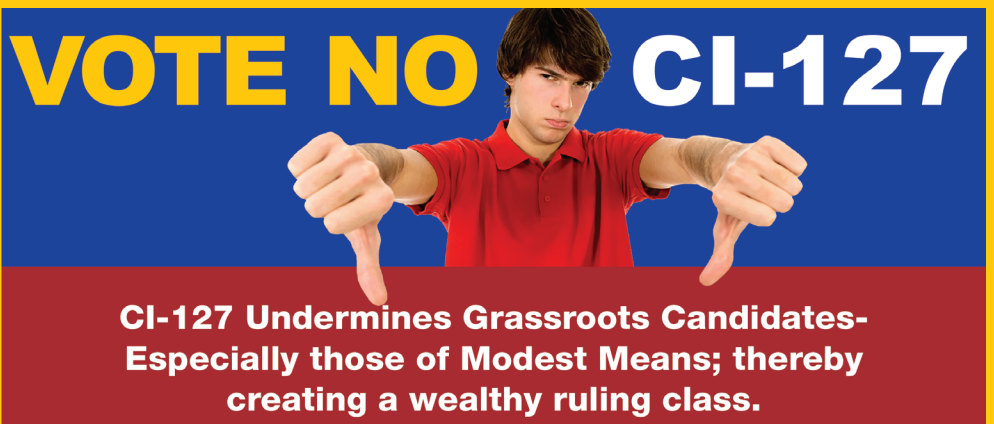
by not having to declare a political party preference.

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 guaranteed 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 CI-127.**



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 acquires 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!**

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.



1. **Taxpayer Funded Abortion** - Painful, late-term 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, late-term 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.