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Today's Date Should Be:

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

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Beaverhead County Incident Command Team Update 4/7/2020-4/13/2020

Beaverhead County established an Incident Command Team on March 20th, 2020 to address the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, we thought it would be important to begin giving weekly community updates on what we're working on.

Since our establishment we've accomplished the following tasks:

- Continued monitoring of PPE inventory for all of the EMS units in Beaverhead County
- Received most ordered supplies for sanitizer. Created protocols for production and distribution.
- Established protocols to notify first responders of positive COVID-19 patients for pre-arrival in accordance with Governor Bullock's directive.
- Continued community outreach via the Public Health Facebook Page and a newly created page dedicated to COVID-19 on www.beaverheadcounty.org
- Identified and began working with community partners, and will continue to do so, to address needs of the community at large.
- Identified issues in our social safety net; food insecurity, social isolation, mental health decline, and financial hardship for members of our communities and have begun plan development in partnership with community organizations to help where we can.
- We're currently holding meetings of the Incident Command Team twice per week.

If you or your organization is interested in ways you can help, please reach out to us at scaltrider@beaverheadcounty.org or by calling 406-865-0853.

Beaverhead County has administered 111 total tests, with 5 tests currently pending. At the time of this writing, 3:30 pm 4/13/2020, there has been 1 positive test in Beaverhead County, 5 positive tests administered here to Madison County Residents.

We want to thank the people of Beaverhead County that are adhering to the social distancing mandates, it's your hard work that is keeping us safe. Please CONTINUE to observe these measures until they're lifted, this is not the time for complacency. Remember to stay home as often as possible, wash your hands, and take care of your families during the trying time.

Beaverhead Conservation District has been canceled

The April monthly meeting for the Beaverhead Conservation District has been canceled, we hope to be able to have our May meeting. If you have any questions or

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Help Shopping For At Risk Or Elderly

The Dillon Elks Lodge #1554 and the Beaverhead Chamber of commerce are offering their services to any at risk or elderly that are not able or choose not to venture out to do your grocery shopping. We have worked out procedures with safeway. We will take your orders over the phone, make sure you take into account your allergies and/or dietary needs when giving us said order (prefer texted orders) and we will shop the best of our ability for you and when we check out, Safeway will call you for payment information which is our preferred method. As a piece of mind to you, this is under Elks volunteerism and as such we are covered and bonded with our insurance. We are doing this to help our neighbors in need and would encouraging anyone that needs this service to call Elks Gerald Penn at 925-9184/683-5552 or Beaverhead Chamber of Commerce 683-5511

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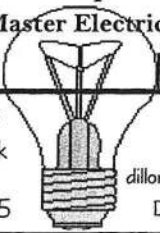
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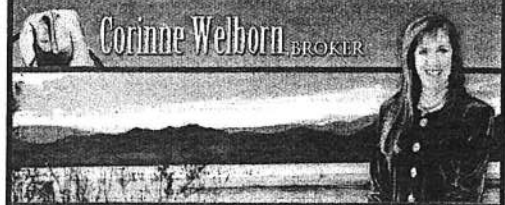
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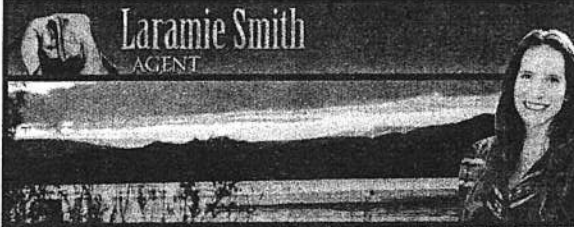
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30 E. Bannack 683-3548**Letter to the Editor**

OK. Enough is enough. Mr. Gorbachev, "tear down that wall." Mr. Bullock, sir, "get us back to work." This thing has us all afraid of our shadow, afraid of touch, afraid of community, afraid of school.

Perspective, please. Seven, you got it, seven people have died in Montana from COVID-19. Nearly five times as many people have died on Montana highways in 2020. Let's close our roads to all traffic. Motorcycle accidents in 2019 killed four times the COVID number--no more motorcycles by Governor's order. The most dangerous stretch of highway for DUI related fatalities in the United States is on I-90 in here in Montana. Close I-90, Mr. Governor. In the U.S., cigarettes kill nearly half a million people annually. How many in Montana? I don't know, but these macro numbers are good enough to put an end to all smoking. Diabetes killed 4.2 million Americans in 2020. If you're obese and at risk for diabetes, the government should block your access to all restaurants; no cupcakes for you. We can cure many diabetes cases and dramatically reduce the number of fatalities by locking up all patients and controlling their diet and exercise. If you're are a diabetic and there is something that the Governor can do to fix it, you lose your freedom. Big government can do this. You get my point.

Government can protect all of us from many dangers, but most of these protections come at a cost. Usually it's civil liberties, basic freedoms. Thanks for protecting us from ourselves. This is the first time that I have seen the government knowingly crush our economy, hammer our investment savings, cause job loss in unprecedented numbers. Holy crap. Enough is Enough.

Now that we all are familiar with the threat, the virus that is, we know what to do to stay safe, or certainly reduce risk. If you trust us to drive cars, you can trust us on this also. Wear your seat belt, don't text and drive, keep your eyes on the road. For COVID danger, wash your hands, wear your mask in public places, put off hugging and kissing and hand shaking for a while.

Most of us who call Montana home don't want government intrusion, certainly not government orders or directives. So, Mr. Bullock, treat the sick, educate us on the risk, and get everyone back to work. Now.

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UMW Ranked as the Most Affordable University in Montana

The University of Montana Western was recently ranked the most affordable university in Montana according to universityhq.org. University Headquarters is an industry-leading, independent educational organization that offers an all-in-one source for information on colleges, entrance requirements and career paths.

University HQ

While the primary criterion was the lowest tuition cost, University Headquarters also looked at other aspects that made the school special, unique and beneficial to students. The survey excluded community colleges and four-year colleges that did not offer multiple bachelor's degree programs. The rankings list features the two most affordable universities in each state.

The University of Montana Western ranked first in Montana, followed by Montana State University Billings. UMW offers an in-state tuition of \$5,724 and an out-of-state tuition of \$17,186 with tuition discount opportunities for Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) students. To view the full list of universities, visit universityhq.org.

The fields of academic study at Montana Western include Biology, Business and Technology, Environmental Sciences, Education, English, Equine Studies, Health and Human Performance, Fine Arts,

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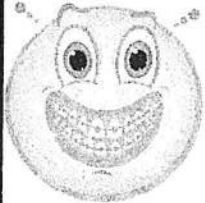


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where they work closely with peers and professors alike. Montana Western focuses on serving students, achieving academic excellence, and promoting experiential education. The 20-acre campus is an excellent choice for students to take advantage of the immersive learning opportunities offered by the nation's only Experience One program, where they can build on critical and creative thinking skills to prepare for real-world job and graduate school opportunities. With Experience One, students at Montana Western take one course at a time for 18 days, take a short break and then move on to their next course. By utilizing block scheduling combined with immersive learning, UMW is the only public four year university in the country to employ this model that is focused on student success.

For more information about Experience One and the University of Montana Western, or to schedule a visit, call 877-683-7331 or visit www.umwestern.edu.

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The Dillon Rotarians will not conduct a meeting Wednesday, April 15, 2020. For more information about Rotary, email Dick Achter at dachter@barrethospital.org or Tina Giem at tgiem@barrethospital.org.

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WORK-FROM-HOME PRODUCTIVITY HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE 1918

by Tom Purcell



COVID-19 has millions working from home. As a longtime teleworker, let me offer some advice.

Working from home has many upsides: no traffic jams, office politics or need for business attire.

But a month-plus into this pandemic, many are realizing teleworking's downsides.

My morning commute goes from my bedroom to the kitchen (for coffee) to a small den in the back of my house.

Every morning, though, one rubberneck (me) blocks my commute by looking longingly at his unmade bed – and frequently climbing back into it.

Maintaining focus on work is challenging at home. Snacks in the fridge, Netflix on the tube, funny videos on Facebook all compete for attention.

I've been an adult for a while now, but send me a video of talking dogs and I'd hang up on the company CEO to watch it.

Another challenge is hardly ever seeing other real humans

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Sure, we see clients and colleagues on monitors, but, being social animals, we long for small talk. That regrettable need is straining my relationship with my postal carrier.

Me (head covered by a green wool sock with eye holes cut out): "I hear it's going to rain tomorrow."

Postal carrier (sitting in his vehicle by my mailbox): "You're wearing a sock for a mask?"

Me: "How about a cup of coffee?"

Postal carrier: "But you look like Gumby."

I used to hang up on telemarketers. Now I look forward to their calls.

Extended-car-warranty guy: "It's only \$2,000 for three years' coverage."

Me: "My truck's still under the manufacturer's warranty. How's the weather where you are?"

Those of us able to work from home – able to maintain income while much of the country's shuttered – are incredibly lucky.

Thanks to innovation, we have powerful smartphones and laptops, plus super-fast fiber optic lines at home.

We can collaborate with colleagues all over the globe, share large files and run complex financial reports – as if we're in the office.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate the 1918 Spanish Flu killed 50 million people around the world and 675,000 in America, when our population was a third of what it is now.

Working from home wasn't an option for most back then.

Though the telephone had been invented four decades earlier, only about a third of U.S. homes had one, FastCompany reports. Still, the telephone offered some hope.

People were beginning to order groceries by phone. Newspapers and magazines remained the primary forms of mass communication – the first radio news broadcast wasn't until 1920 – but phones offered opportunities to share news.

However, phone calls required operators to manually make connections – operators who couldn't practice social



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4-6 Mon-Fri

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distancing.

They "sat at banks of switchboards in tight quarters, elbow to elbow with any infected coworkers," FastCompany says.

Many operators became sick and phone systems couldn't keep up with demand - making the 1918 pandemic all the worse.

Despite many unpleasant setbacks, lots of positive storylines are arising from the current pandemic. One incredible silver lining is that millions of Americans can still work productively as it unfolds.

That's the good news.

The not-so-good news: When all of this is over and the sock comes off my head, my postal carrier isn't likely to accept that cup of coffee.

Maybe I'll give the FedEx driver a try.

April 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting -CANCELED

Due to Governor Bullocks' extension of the Stay at Home order through April 24, the April 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting is cancelled. There are no pressing matters at this time that warrant a meeting of the council.

There will be a council meeting May 6th, either in person or via Zoom.

Some committees will meet either in person or via Zoom as there are matters that must be addressed.

Jaycee Park Pickets

Jaycee Park Pickets are available.. You can have the picket engraved with your name or the name of a loved one. You can stop by Womack's Printing 126 N. Montana St. and pick up a form. The cost is \$50 per picket and can have approximately 25 letters.

The other option available is to engrave the back of one of the benches in the playground. The cost to have your own personal bench back engraved is \$1,000. If you enjoy the park or and would like to be part of keeping up the park, you can donate to Friends of Jaycee Park and bring a check to Womack's Printing, The Bank of Commerce, Erin Hughes, Cindy Wood, Judy Siring at Farmers Union Ins. or Taylor Realty.

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Lunch: Chicken Caesar Wrap or
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Happy Hour 5 pm - 6 pm

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Help Wanted 4/17 PD

ISO Someone willing to do yard work. Great Temp job if you are unemployed. 683-1252 for details.

For Lease bill

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W/D Garbage, storage shed included, underground sprinklers gas circulating hot H2O heat. No pets, NS. \$624 deposit \$625 rent 1 year lease. Call 865-0225

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Contact Mark Worden on his cell at 406-683-2721 for more information, to schedule a viewing, and/or pick up an application. See photos at <https://facebook.com/dillon.montana.rentals>

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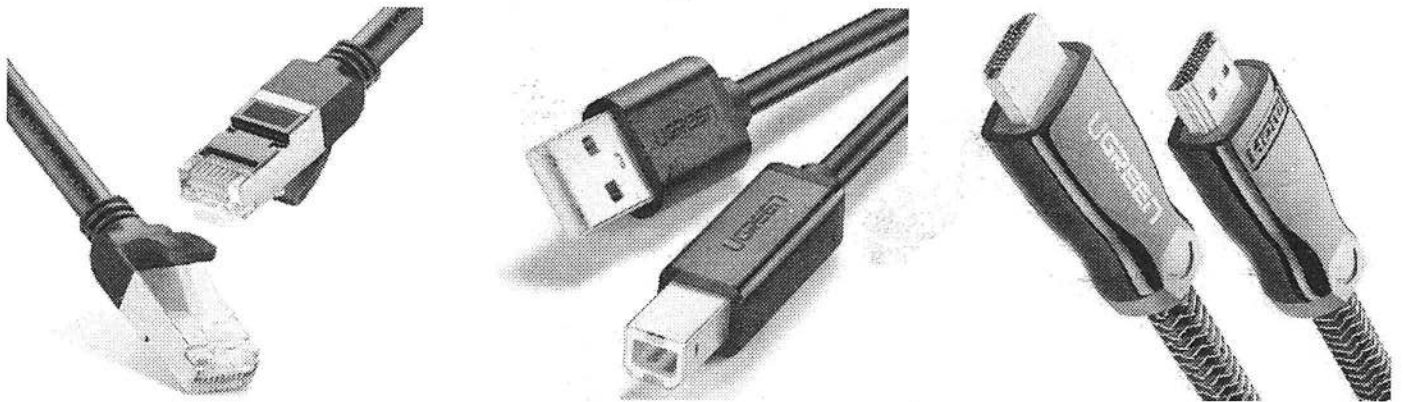
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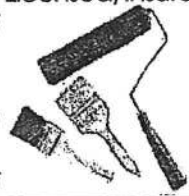
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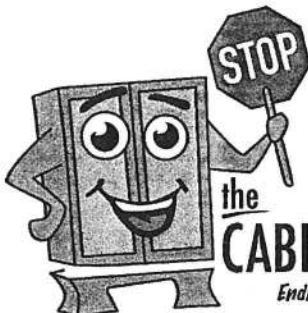
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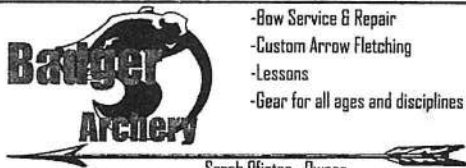
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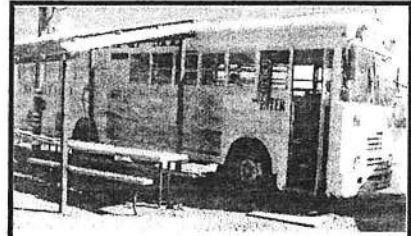
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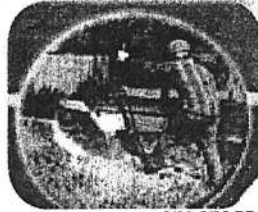
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