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Merry Christmas

Womack's Printing Place and the Dillonite Daily will be closed for the holidays on Monday December 25th. There will not be a Dillonite on Monday and Tuesday the 25th and 26th so that the employees do not have to work on Christmas Day. *We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!*

WILL YOU BE BUSTED BY A 'NOISE CAMERA'?

Tyrades! by Danny Tyree

"Just when you think it's safe to be a jerk on the roadway..."

Motorists in many cities have grown accustomed to the likelihood of having their license plate photographed if they exceed the posted speed limit and/or run a red light.

(Sadly, other motorists are shocked - shocked, I tell you - every single time they receive a citation. It's like we have goldfish behind the wheel of a hot rod! But I digress.)

Now New York City and other municipalities are experimenting with noise cameras (sometimes referred to as "acoustic cameras") that spring into revenue-generating action if vehicles exceed a certain decibel level.

Government officials are working the technology into their budgets because (a) noise pollution can disrupt sleep patterns and cause permanent hearing loss and (b) they have been underwhelmed by alternative programs, such as having bands of off-duty librarians riding in the back of a '74 El Camino, shushing other motorists.

Law enforcement officers have traditionally paid only sporadic attention to "here and gone" noisy vehicles, but that approach runs the risk of being perceived as a challenge. Think of Sgt. Carter on "Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C." taunting, "I can't heeaaaaarr you!!!"

Critics of the surveillance program express concerns about inevitable software glitches, the inability to cross-examine the cameras in court and the temptation for the authorities to abuse the data. But one might say that the instigators are ultimately responsible for any collateral damage.

Opponents of the cameras attempt to blame the victim, remarking that the presence of illegally modified mufflers and attention-seeking antics are just features people should anticipate in an urban environment. Urban ambience or not, they don't seem so agreeable to their bank balance being modified by traffic court.

I'm sure there are females with noisy vehicles, but the decibel deluge seems most closely tied to the stereotypical male displays of prolonged adolescence and mid-life crises.

How our species has fallen! Men used to prove their manhood by hunting and gathering. Just imagine today's problem motorists time-traveling back to caveman days. ("I can't provide any food, but I can rev my engine, pound the horn and burn rubber like crazy." "Uh, yeah ... why don't you just stand over there in that tar pit while we fetch your prize ribbon...?")

The noisy drivers think they're performing a public service by cruising around town sharing their questionable music playlist at Mount Vesuvius volume. I suppose they're frustrated DJ wannabes. ("Hello out there in Radio Land. Speaking of which, your land seems to be crumbling into the ocean.")

The racket-obsessed drivers have deep theological misgivings.

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("Opposable thumbs are okay, but it would've been cooler if God had equipped us with middle fingers that produce comical sound effects.")

These geniuses contribute to the din even when they're not behind the steering wheel – by necessitating an outsize portion of that necessary evil "the ambulance siren." ("I must've missed class the day the teacher explained that cherry bombs are not standard issue for the installation of a bidet.")

Cities had better be in this for the long haul. The ascendance of quiet-running electric vehicles will simply spur rebellious drivers to do some malevolent carpooling.

("Hey, Jackhammer Guy — hop in and ride shotgun. And Leafblower Guy, do you know anybody who wants to drag race? Wadda ya mean, you already answered that question five seconds ago? Glub glub.")

DBSA Cash Raffle extended

Dillon Baseball Softball Association Cash Raffle is being extended to January 13th, 2024. Drawing will take place in between the girls and boys High School Basketball Home Game. Make sure to get your tickets Grand Prizes is \$2,500, Second Place \$1,000, and 3 - \$500 cash prizes. \$20 a ticket! Call 406-925-1781 if you have any questions.

You can get tickets from KDBM Radio or Womack's Printing.

Community Bargain Basement

The Community Bargain Basement will be closed Monday, 12/25/23 and Monday, 1/1/24. We will re-open on Monday, 1/8/24. Please do not drop off any donations until after New Year's day. Thank you!

Beaverhead Senior Commodities

Beaverhead Senior Commodities will be available for pickup December 23, 2023 from 9:00-10:00 at 761 Kentucky Dillon. Questions or to make other arrangements please contact Russ Schwandt at 406-498-1753. Please bring an empty box.

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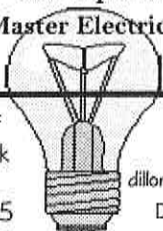
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Moose Amore

Bryce Angell

Daisy perked her ears up. We both heard the awful noise.

She stared out in the darkness, tail straight up and rigid poise.
The time was 2 a.m., her early ritual each morn.

She'd usually sniff around before her morning ground adorn.
But this morning all her sniffing was directed to the dark.

The sniffing was short lived and then she gave a single bark.
I heard her growl but then she made a beeline back to me.

I guess she must have thought it was the safest place to be.
We heard the ugly sound again, a dreadful dying moan.

A moose or elk pulled down while out there grazing all alone?
Your first thought is to go and help or maybe grab your gun.

Now you're doubting 'bout the food chain.

Are you really number one?

They say a 12 gauge shotgun says a lot, if you can see.

But darkness always trumps and you might be their fricassee.
So we listened to best judgment, turned around and went inside.

And hoped by early daylight the poor animal had died.
The night was long. I don't believe I ever went to sleep.

My father always kidded, "Try your luck at counting sheep?"
But every time a sheep would jump above me in the air.

He'd end up being breakfast to a wolf or hungry bear.
Daylight finally showed and I was worn out from the night.

Was I ready for the morning, maybe see a horrid sight?

I checked my 12 gauge shotgun. Slapped my face to be aware.

Alert and oriented going in loaded for bear.

At long last we were ready. My wife and Daisy set the pace.

We would be there in a minute. It didn't need to be a race.

We could see the willows moving as we came around the bend.

We saw the cow moose first, and then her antlered bull boyfriend.

We stopped dead in our tracks, while they stared right back at us.

Then I thought of last night's moaning.

Why did I make all the fuss?

It was that time of year, the rut, moose searching out a mate.

And I'm doggone sure the lonely moose were out there on a date.

At first we kinda giggled then a full out belly laugh.

And hoped with any luck we'd get to see their next year's calf.

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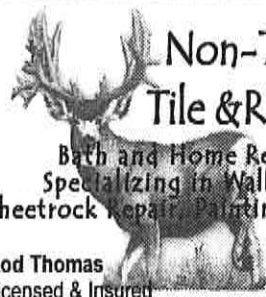
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Beaverhead County HS Activity List

12/21-1/2	Thu - Tue Half Day of School - Winter Break		
	Periods 1,5,6,7	BCHS	11:55 am
12/21 Thu	Boys & Girls Basketball vs Polson Doubleheader		
	Home B - 3:00/4:30/7:30	G - 4:30/3:00/6:00	
12/22-1/2	Fri-Tue No School - Winter Break		
1/1-1/2 Mon-Tue	No School - Winter Break		
1/4 Thu	Girls Basketball @ Park	Away	4:00/5:30/7:00 pm
1/4 Thu	Boys Basketball vs Park	Home	4:15/5:30/7:15 pm
1/5-1/6 Fri-Sat	Wrestling @ Bozeman Invitational	Gallatin HS	
	Fri: 11:00 am	Sat: 9:00 am	
1/6 Sat	Boys & Girls Basketball @ Frenchtown Doubleheader		
	Away B - 1:00/2:30/5:30	G - 1:00/2:30/4:00	

January 15 is deadline for pheasant release applications

Applications are being accepted for the 2024 pheasant release program through Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program (UGBEP). As part of the program, pen-raised birds are released in areas suitable for ring-necked pheasants with the intent to enhance wild pheasant populations. Landowners interested in releasing pen-reared pheasants have until Jan. 15 to submit an application.

Projects must comprise at least 100 contiguous acres of land and contain a combination of suitable habitat components, including cover and food, that pheasants need to survive.

Eligible UGBEP pheasant releases take place on agricultural lands east of the Continental Divide except in Fergus, Richland and Roosevelt counties due to requirements of Administrative Rules of Montana. Lands enrolled in the UGBEP pheasant release program must allow free public access to hunt upland game birds during the season the releases take place.

Applicants will be notified in late March of their enrollment status and the number of pheasants pre-authorized for release. Applicants are responsible for obtaining pheasants for release either by raising birds on their own or by purchasing the from National Poultry Improvement Program certified stock.

UGBEP releases will take place between Aug. 1 and Sept. 15.

For more information and to download an application form, visit FWP's UGBEP webpage and click on "Pheasant and Turkey Releases." Those interested in applying can also contact Debbie Hohler, UGBEP coordinator, at 406-444-5674 or by e-mail to dhohler@mt.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Beaverhead Food Pantry: open Tuesday
Nights 5:30 - 7:30 & Wednesday 12-2:30



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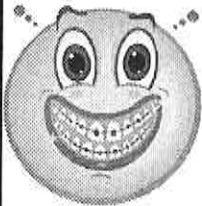
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Bulldog Women Bested By The Master's in Cactus Classic

The Montana Western women's basketball team (6-4) lost to The Master's University by a final score of 69-56.

The Bulldog women were outshot across the contest 45.6 to 33.3 and scored just 16 points in the entire second half.

How It Happened

The Bulldogs got off to a solid start, hitting six threes in the first half and four coming from the hands of Shainy Mack. UMW continued on to force TMU to ten turnovers across the half.

The Bulldog women ended the half on a 10-2 scoring run behind threes from Mack and took a 40-34 lead into the break.

The Lady Mustangs' defense woke up in the second half, limiting the Bulldogs to just 16 points in the final two quarters to erase a halftime deficit.

Tied at 53 with 6:30 remaining, TMU had all of the momentum. A pair of free throws from Jordan Sweeney and a lone free throw from Kyla Momberg were the final points UMW would get on the board as the Mustangs rode on to a 69-56 win.

Notables ~ Montana Western to hit 17 of 35 (49%) in the first half, but dropped off dramatically in the second half. UMW hit just 6 of 34 from the field. The Bulldogs were held to single digits in the second half, with just 16 points being added to the board in the half. Mack led the Bulldogs after she hit five threes, scored 17 points, and added four rebounds. Sweeney and Kyla Momberg each totaled 12 points. Sweeney added six assists. Momberg racked up five rebounds.



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Completion of the program meets the requirements to obtain a Montana private applicator license. Private applicator licenses are also issued for non-training applicants only (see applicator exam and results at this event). Co private applicator results are available for obtaining the license day or via mail after the 15th of Dec. Success fee three private applicator results.

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Veteran's Corner Update #334

By Mike Lawson

Greetings to those of you who read my SW MT Veteran update
Veteran News:

- The Toys For Tot's Campaigns across the state will end this week if they haven't already done so.
- Since the Pact Act in 2022, over 5 million veterans have been screened for potential toxic exposures by the VA. The VA's goal is to screen all veterans enrolled in VA health care for any toxic exposure. Don't hesitate to get checked if you think you had any toxic exposure.
- Veteran homelessness increased by 7.4% in 2023, but not as much as overall homelessness. Through actions taken by the VA, it has decreased the risk of being much higher. The VA has housed 38,000 homeless veterans in 2023 and are seeking to increase that number. Time to bring this to a close. Think about those without and how you might contribute to ease their burden, to some degree. Wishing you all a great Christmas until next time, take care.

Six Bulldog Football Student-Athletes Named To CSC Academic All-District Team

The 2023 Academic All-District® Teams, selected by College Sports Communicators, recognize the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the field and in the classroom. Six Bulldogs from the football team earned Academic All-District honors.

The CSC Academic All-America program separately recognizes honorees in four divisions — NCAA Division I, NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III and NAIA. To be nominated, the student-athlete must have a 3.5 GPA and higher, must compete in 90 percent of the institution's games/contests/sets played or must start in at least 66 percent of the games/contests/sets, and must be at least a sophomore academically and athletically.

Academic All-District Selections

Ben Howerton – Linebacker (Horseshoe, Idaho / R-JR)

John Mears – Kicker (Belgrade, Mont. / R-JR)

Tanner Harrell – Defensive Line (Shepherd, Mont. / R-SR)

Reese Artz – Defensive Line (Battle Mountain, Nev. / R-SR)

Angel Navarrete – Kicker (Rupert, Idaho / SO)

Jon Kirkley – Wide Receiver (Dillon, Mont. / R-FR)

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Nourse Named AP First Team All-American

The Associated Press (AP) NAIA All-American teams were released on Wednesday and freshman Eli Nourse earned First Team All-American honors. This is the first All-American honor of Nourse's young career. The AP All-American teams are selected by a panel of sports writers and sports information directors.

Nourse, a freshman wide receiver from Dillon, Mont., was in the top of all receiving categories for the Frontier Conference. He averaged 107.8 receiving yards per game, good for third in the NAIA. He also led the conference with 12 touchdowns.

He also broke numerous records this season including total receptions in a season (90), yards per punt return (20.9) and longest punt return for a touchdown (85 yards).

Nourse was third in the NAIA for total receptions, fourth in total yards, and eighth in touchdowns.

He was also named first team all-conference and earned conference special teams player of the week honors back on Oct. 30.

Bear Identification test available online only

Beginning this week, the Bear Identification (ID) test is available online only. Black bear hunters in Montana are required to pass the Bear ID test (distinguishing black bears vs. grizzly bears) to obtain a black bear license.

Previously, hunters had two options to complete the Bear ID test – online or via a paper test available at regional offices. The paper test is no longer available, and hunters must now complete the test online. Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks made the change to online only to streamline the licensing process.

FWP encourages hunters who have access to a personal computer or smart phone to complete the test on their own device. If hunters do not have access to these resources, FWP staff can administer the test in-person, at an FWP office, on a limited basis. Hunters requiring FWP assistance are encouraged to review bear identification information before taking the test.

If you require assistance, please reach out to your regional FWP office for help. To complete the Bear ID test on your own, visit fwp.mt.gov/hunt/education/bear-identification.

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THE BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL NOT MEET ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2023.

THE COMMISSIONERS WILL MEET FOR A SHORT
MEETING on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2023
AT 9:00 AM

IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Santa's Magical Mail Box

Santa's magical mail box is located at Dillon's Little Free Library: 699 Kentucky Avenue. Look for the red letter box on the backyard alley corner of Kentucky Avenue & Chestnut Street. The box accepts mail until the Dec. 24. Make sure to include your name & a return address so Santa can send a personalized letter to you! No postage stamp needed!

All letters go directly to the North Pole!

Land Board approves Owen Sowerwine Conservation Easement

Montana Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen joined the other four members of the Board of Land Commissioners in approving a significant conservation easement in Flathead County. The 5-0 vote occurred during the monthly Land Board meeting.

The Owen Sowerwine Conservation Easement will be held on a 442-acre piece of State School Trust Land east of Kalispell where locals have enjoyed recreation activities such as hiking, photography, and birdwatching. According to the Flathead Audubon Society, more than 150 species of birds have been documented in the riparian area.

For nearly 50 years, various groups and individuals, including conservationist Owen Sowerwine, whom the parcel is named after, have supported efforts to manage the land. During the 2001 Legislature, legislation was passed that provided for a non-profit to hold a conservation easement specifically for the Owen Sowerwine natural area.



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For Sale 12/29 PD

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**Please call if you would like to donate cash or
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Sunday, December 24th • 6 pm Christmas Eve Service

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Sunday December

24th 10 am

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Carols &
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4/6-WC-BILL



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9:30 Adult Bible Study

10:30 Service

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3rd Sunday, Morning Prayer
12/30 - WC BILL TH

Our Savior's Lutheran Church



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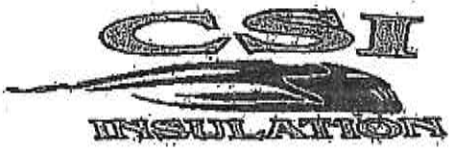


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12/26 PD

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Temporary Seasonal (1039) Advertisement: The Bureau of Reclamation is seeking a qualified Temporary Seasonal Laborer for the Lands and Recreation Branch in Dillon, MT. This position will assist the Dillon Field Office with performing general maintenance labor (mowing, painting, carpentry, etc.) at Clark Canyon Reservoir and Barretts Diversion Dam. This position will be filled at the Labor WG-03 level. You MUST apply on-line through www.usajobs.gov announcement# BOR-MB-24-DE-12242754-LF (<https://www.usajobs.gov/job/765837000>). The on-line application process must be completed by 12:00 midnight EST on 12/27/23. If you have specific questions regarding the application process, please call 406-247-7696 or email GPHIREME@usbr.gov. The Bureau of Reclamation is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.

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