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Sharon Marie Spencer Graham 1930-2024



Sharon Graham, 93, died on January 5th, 2024 at Benefis West View Senior Care. She was born January 18, 1930, in Fullerton, California, to parents Stella Mayfield and Loran Spencer.

Sharon graduated from Fullerton High School in 1948. While in school Sharon enjoyed reading, going to the library, football games, English, and History. She was in the Spanish club, the Honor Society, and the Orchestra, where she played the violin. Her pleasure hours were spent riding her bike,

movies, sewing, and horseback riding.

Sharon came to Montana in the summer months to visit relatives and that is how she met her future husband Otha. He lived and worked on a neighboring ranch. They were married in Butte on September 20th, 1948. They lived and worked on a ranch near Dillon before moving to California. While in California, Sharon pursued her dream of becoming a nurse. Having received her nursing degree, she moved back to Montana and was employed by Doctors Seidensticker and Thomas until her retirement at age 62.

Sharon played many roles throughout her life: she was a wife, a mother, a grandmother, and a sister. She was an active member of the Methodist church. Sharon was an outdoor enthusiast. You could easily find her on a mountain top (Torrey Mountain), riding a bike throughout Beaverhead County, camping and fishing at Elkhorn or Birch Creek. She loved to travel, sometimes she even ventured overseas to Korea, Japan, and Hawaii.

She was a very strong and independent individual who persevered for almost 30 years as a stroke victim. Sharon overcame many obstacles, but that did not stop her from living an incredible life. Once she obtained a power wheelchair, she could be seen all over Great Falls, truly enjoying all that life could offer her.

Sharon was preceded in death by her husband, Otha, parents, Loran and Stella Spencer, granddaughter, Diane, and daughters-in-law, Rosie and JoAnn.

She is survived by her four children, Tom Graham (Fay), Toni Abbas (Jim), Terry Graham (Julie), and Cindy Graham (Dan). A brother Dan Spencer (Elise), eight grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and numerous cousins.

The family will have a celebration of life in Dillon this summer.

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Cold Weather Causes Ice Jams And Flooding On Beaverhead River & Selway Park

Jeremy Crawford Southwestern Montana News

This weekend's record cold temperatures are causing not only headaches for homeowners with frozen pipes but also with ice jams that lead to flooding. Sunday morning Dillon saw ice jams on the Beaverhead River causing it to back up on the bridge for Lakner Lane. This has caused flooding into Selway Park as well as neighboring fields.

At the time of this release Southwestern Montana News spoke to Sheriff Wendt who made a phone call to Disaster and Emergency Coordinator Tom Wagenknecht who stated they are working on getting some gravel and sand with the help of locals to try and detour and stop the flooding.

Please avoid these areas as they can be dangerous.



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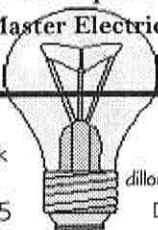
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**Britches in a Dither**

Bryce Angell

I'm short by all the standards, 'cuz I stand at five foot three. It had never been a problem, 'til one day I'd disagree.

I shopped at Merkle's country store. He carried all we'd need. From Wrangler's pants to fresh farm eggs, right next to chicken feed.

On pay day I drove down to Merkle's Store to buy some jeans. Old Merkle said, "You'll find 'em stacked behind the pork and beans."

I fumbled through the sizes, found a pair that fit just right. But the Wranglers were all priced the same, no matter what your height.

I'd taken economics and this wasn't making sense. The cowboys with the longer legs weren't sharing my expense.

My inseam's length is 30 and that's stretching it a bit. An inseam long as 36 would reach to my armpit.

So 36, then take away my 30, leaves some doubt. 'Cuz now there's 6 whole inches that a short man's paying out.

Mr. Merkle did his best to reason out with me. He said, "Those pants are always priced right from the factory."

Well, paying more for trousers kinda stuck right in my craw. I said to Mr. Merkle, "Sir, there oughta be a law."

Mr. Merkle probably thought, "This guy's a case for sure. And hopefully he'll grab his pants and head on out the door!"

I vowed to get my money's worth and prove the price was wrong. So, I bought a pair of brand-new pants six sizes extra-long.

I pulled my brand-new britches on and cinched my belt up tight. Ole Merkle shook his head and said, "You're really quite a sight."

I thanked him for the compliment. How nice of him to say. Then hiked my extra-long jeans up and headed on my way.

It only took a minute for my long pants to slip down. They snagged a small but jagged rock. Face planted to the ground.

My extra long new Wranglers were all frayed and torn by noon. So, I trimmed 'em with my knife. Looked like a country boy buffoon!

I'd stewed in such a dither and I've never been more wrong. 'Cuz I bought my brand-new Wranglers six sizes extra long!

So, I hurried back to Merkle's for some 30 inseam jeans. Old Merkle stood there smiling. Said, "Behind the pork and beans."

Beaverhead Fire Dist. #2 Meeting Notice

405 N. Idaho Street Dillon, MT

Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 • 5:00 PM

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- Beaverhead Food Pantry: open Tuesday Nights 5:30 - 7:30 & Wednesday 12-2:30
- Bannack Association Annual Dinner January 13 • 5:00pm-6:00pm UMW
- Soroptimist Purses with a Purpose Saturday, February 10, 2024 5:00pm-10:00pm Elks Lodge



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BCHS Wrestling Results

Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges /
Sheridan in Hamilton Girls Mixer

Tournament Summary

- 114 Setzer, Clancy (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. B Jamison (Missoula Big Sky) == {Decision 9-2}
- 114 A Webster (Ronan) def. Setzer, Clancy (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) == {Fall 0:39}
- 120 Gibson, Tyler (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. S Born (Columbia Falls) == {Fall 2:23}
- 120 P Foster (Corvallis) def. Gibson, Tyler (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) == {Decision 9-4}
- 138 Reynolds, Beau (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. K Broad (Hamilton) == {Fall 4:42}
- 138 S Machado (Frenchtown) def. Reynolds, Beau (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) == {Fall 3:18}

Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges /
Sheridan in DeerLodge Boys Mixer

Tournament Summary

- 103 Owen Pesanti (Anaconda) def. Frecker, Elijah (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 4:11}
- 103 Frecker, Elijah (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Aidan Maesar (Butte High) {Fall 7:41}
- 113 Gabe Ruth (Butte High) def. Fifield, Trey (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 4:00}
- 113 Fifield, Trey (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Aidan Minch (Butte High) {Fall 6:56}
- 126 Collin Samson (Anaconda) def. Frecker, Andrew (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 1:32}
- 126 Frecker, Andrew (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Hunter Lapier (East Helena) {Fall 0:21}
- 132 Tyson Panchetti (East Helena) def. Piazzola, Erick (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 1:48}
- 132 Piazzola, Erick (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Jaden Bomar (Anaconda) {Fall 0:58}
- 138 Mussard, Terron (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Bridger Slotter (Powell County) {Fall 1:10}



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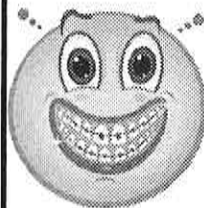
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- 138 **Mussard, Terron** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Kaden Davis (East Helena) {Fall 1:14}
- 145 **Bo Daniel** (Powell) def. **Crowe, Tucker** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 3:22}
- 145 **Liam Harryman** (Anaconda) def. **Crowe, Tucker** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Decision 8-1}
- 152 **Ezra Gramma** (deerelodge mixer) def. **Lewis, Darrell** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 6:30}
- 152 **Thomas Fortier** (Anaconda) def. **Lewis, Darrell** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 0:28}
- 160 **Holland, Tel** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Turner Milender (Superior) {Fall 3:21}
- 160 **Holland, Tel** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Colby (East Helena) {Tech Fall 19-3}
- 205 **Reis, Tanner** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Doe, John (deerelodge mixer) {Fall 1:00}
- 205 **Adoniah** (East Helena) def. **Reis, Tanner** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 1:25}
- 285 **jackson** (deerelodge mixer) def. **Payne, Beaudry** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 3:26}
- 285 **Layne Powers** (East Helena) def. **Payne, Beaudry** (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) {Fall 0:34}



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REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

125 N. Idaho St.

January 17th, 2024

6:45 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATION PLAN

7:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FWP seeking public comment on environmental assessment, emergency closure

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is seeking public comment on a draft environmental assessment (EA) and an emergency closure. For more information, including how to submit comments, click on the link provided or visit fwp.mt.gov/public-notice.

Sage Grouse Translocation Montana to Alberta Timeline Extension EA

FWP is seeking public participation and comment to extend the timeline to 2026 to complete a sage grouse translocation from Northeast Montana to Alberta, Canada. The translocation of sage grouse intends to supplement sage grouse populations in Alberta, while habitat is improved in southeast Alberta. By extending the project timeline to 2026 and pending Fish and Wildlife Commission approval, the translocation of 40 sage grouse is expected to bolster the sage grouse population in Alberta, as well as transboundary sage grouse that range between Montana and Alberta.

Comments due Jan. 23.

Emergency Rule Closing the Fairweather Fishing Access Site in Gallatin County

FWP has determined that flooding and ice jams justify the adoption of emergency rule closing the Fairweather Fishing Access Site.

Comments due Feb. 12.

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Lunch at the Senior Center, 126 S. Montana St. on Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. \$5 for over 55 years and \$6 under 55. **Jan. 17** Shredded pork tacos & trimmings, rice and beans, salad, juice/fruit, and dessert.

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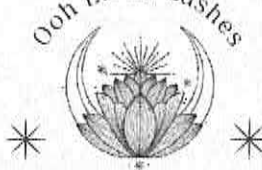


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This Week in Bulldog Athletics: Jan. 15-21
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
 The Montana Western women's basketball team (9-7) took a slide last week, falling in both Frontier Conference road matchups against two nationally ranked teams in No. 5 Carroll and No. 16 Providence.
 Montana Western hopes to get back on the right foot this week, first with a contest at Montana Tech in Butte, Mont. on Thursday Jan. 18. The Orediggers come into the matchup on a 10-6 overall season record and a 1-2 conference record. The Orediggers opened conference with an upset win over the No. 12 ranked Rocky Mountain College on Jan. 6 by a score of 51-50.
 Following Thursday's road game, the Bulldogs are back home on Saturday Jan. 20 for a top-25 meeting with No. 12 Rocky Mountain College. The Battlin' Bears are 11-4 this season, but enter the week on a three-game slide as they are 0-3 in their conference start. Prior to Saturday, the Battlin' Bears will have a top-25 showdown with No. 5 Carroll College.
MEN'S BASKETBALL
 The Montana Western men's basketball team (8-8) left the week 0-2 last week, falling to both the University of Providence and Carroll College. Despite the skid, the Bulldogs continued to fight to the final buzzer in each game.
 This week, the Bulldogs have a pair of top-25 clashes. The first comes on Thursday evening as the Bulldogs travel to Butte, Mont. to take on the No. 7 ranked Montana Tech Orediggers. The Orediggers (13-3, 3-0) have just three losses this season, coming against a pair of receiving votes teams and Dickinson State (N.D.).
 Montana Western then returns home for a meeting with No. 15 Rocky Mountain College. The Battlin' Bears enter the week at 10-6 and are 1-2 in their Frontier start. Last week, RMC downed the University of Providence by 10. They then fell in an overtime game to the MSU-Northern Lights by three. Prior to Saturday's meeting, the Battlin' Bears will head to Carroll College on Thursday night.

MEETING NOTICE
Beaverhead Conservation District
 NRCS Office 420 Barrett St
 January 18, 2024, 6:00 pm



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Driver Loses Load After Trailer Detaches From Semi

Jeremy Crawford, Southwestern Montana News

Sunday afternoon a semi-truck who had just fueled up and went to leave the Gateway Canyon Travel Plaza had quit the shock. As the driver was making the turn to get back onto I-15 the trailer, he was pulling with a load of flat rocks, came off and continued its way into the ditch.

No injuries were reported.



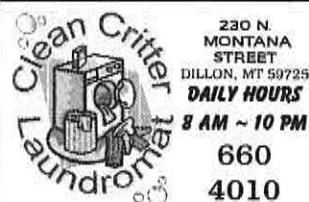
Dillon Little Guy Wrestling Sign ups

Sign-ups have opened for Dillon Little Guy Wrestling. The sign-up deadline is 1/23 and Gear Pickup is 1/24. Parents can sign their kids up at www.DillonLittleGuyWrestling.com.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY MUSEUM

Board of Trustees
Agenda, Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 17, 2024 @ 5 PM
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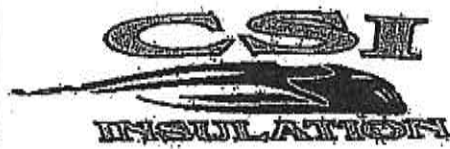
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^{9/19 - WC BILL}

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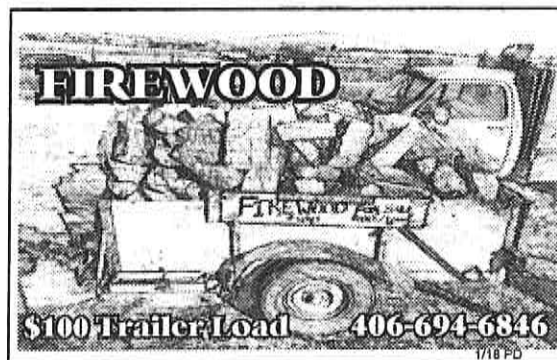
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BVHD CO. Auto Parts-Heated Seat Pad, Vanessa Ryan	Dillon Medical-First Aid Kit, Bobby Conners
Patagonia-Straw Cup, Bucky Nelson	Subway-6" Sub, Micah Maxted
3-D-Hat, Rocco Beccans	Big Sky Cinema-Movie Pass, Lynn Stonelake
Rocky Mountain-Ice Gear Auto Tamer, Klaus Rauser	Beaverhead Glass-Beveled Edge Mirror, Coty Ostemyer
Murdoch's-Hydro Flask, Big Tyme	Dillon Collision-\$100 Gift Card, Traci Edwards
Amanda Bergeson-1 Hr Massage, Steve Damon	Shepherd's Garage-Hat, Jeff Young
Black Rifle-Coffee Mug, Sherri Salyer	Badger Archery-Archery Target, R Cruz
Sparky's Garage-\$25 Gift Card, Brody Henry	Pintler Station-\$30 off Oil Change, Renny Lawson
BVHD Motor Sports-Klim Mommoth Socks, Helen Duran	Salsas-\$30 Gift Card, Abbi Hoerauf
Shepherd's Garage Inc-Hat, Tracy VanHorne	Murdoch's-Coffee Mug, Lonny Rand
Dillon Medical-First Aid Kit, Irma Vazquez	N&N Ice Cream-\$30 Gift Card, Katie Bump
Murdoch's-Puffin, Don Ersle	LS Ready Mix-\$50 Cash, Bryer Anderson
Gyros Wagon-\$20 Gift Card, Conrad McDougal	Murdoch's-Yeti Bucket, Aaron Knudson
Vision Source-Dragon Sun Glasses, Molli Wall	LS Ready Mix-\$50 Cash, Bill Naly
DC Rental-\$50 Gift Card, Kyle Rawson	N&N Ice Cream-Ross Hoyle
Beaverhead Golf Course-2-9 Hole W/Cart, Jim Cusick	Town & Country-\$50 Gift Card, Martin Malesich
Beaverhead Motor Sports-Polaris T-Shirt, Heidi Bennett	Sparky's Garage-\$50 Gift Card, Sondra Rand
Shepherd's Garage Inc-Hat, Troy Buhr	Subway-6" Sub, Dave Blank
Standard Lumber-2 Pack Tape Measures, Chuck Walker	Subway-6" Sub, Nancy Stiles
Ghirardelli Chocolate, Josie Windauer	Sparky's Garage-\$25 Gift Card, Jack Winkle
Murdoch's-Hydro Flask, Will Martin	N&N Ice Cream-\$30 Gift Card, Travis Capp
Pomp's Tire Service-\$75 Gift Card, Harper Clark	NV Salon-Haircut with Kristy, Jon Hoerning
Murdoch's-Puffin, Mike Jones	Subway-6" Sub, Robin Ellis
Beaverhead Motor Sports-Polaris T-Shirt, Justin Bair	The Knotty Pine-Mug, Mike Tyler
Sparky's Garage-\$100 Gift Card, Eldon Wheelky	G.O.'s Jerky Barn-Beef Nuggets, Joni Remely
Dillon Liquor Store-\$25 Gift Card, Jack McKey	G.O.'s Jerky Barn-Beef Jerky, Kirk Bergeson
Dillon Medical-First Aid Kit, Andy Tate	G.O.'s Jerky Barn-Beef Jerky, Brian Remely
NV Salon-Revzel, Chad Rice	G.O.'s Jerky Barn-Salami & Cheese, Colton Harrison
Intermountain Irrigation, \$50 Cash, Joey Beers	Search & Rescue-\$150 Cash, Alden Cashmor

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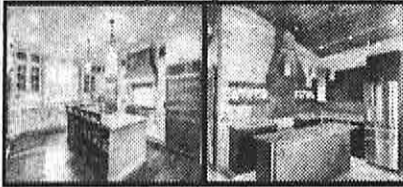
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