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Holiday Closures

- **Womack's Printing** will close at Noon on December 24th, And be closed on Christmas. There will be NO DILLONITE December 25th & 26th
- **Papa T's** will be closed Monday - Thursday December 23-26th and December 30- January 1st Happy Holidays
- The Klondike will be Closed December 24th & 25th

Highlands College students overcome fear of heights to earn pre-apprentice line certificate

When Misty Gittleston, of Dillon, Montana, and Kaila Roberson, of Tennessee, began the Pre-Apprentice Line Program at Highlands College this fall, they both had the same major fear to overcome.



"I have been afraid of heights my whole life," Roberson said, adding that she went skydiving last year to help her overcome the fear.

"I'm also terrified of heights, so the first week of class was very tough,"

Gittleston said. "That was the hardest part for me. It's more enjoyable after you start to trust your equipment."

Line workers are responsible for placing, maintaining and repairing power utility lines. The line program at Highlands College requires students to move heavy equipment, perched high above the ground on power poles 30 to 60 feet in height, in all sorts of weather.

To get confident in the air, students climb to the top and throw each other weighted balls to learn to trust their equipment, to keep them in place, and take their hands off the pole.

Gittleston and Roberson feel more confident after weeks of practice.

"I still struggle to this day, but it's just part of the program," Roberson said. "You have to do it. I also didn't know how to drive a stick shift, and I learned to do that, too."

Students earn their commercial driver's license (CDL) as part of the program. They also learn how to calculate vector equations necessary to calculate voltage and rigging loads.

"It's physically demanding, but the math part is also hard," Roberson said. "For anyone who wants to do this, be prepared that for the next four months you need to be solely focused on the program."

As young women in a male-dominated field, Roberson and Gittleston said there are additional challenges.

"You've got to be tough," Roberson said. "These guys are going to joke with you."

Gittleston approached being in the minority from a place of

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confidence and assertiveness.

"If you need help, you just have to tell them to come help," Gittleson said.

Roberson recommends making friends.

"You'll never make it unless you get to be friends with the guys," Roberson said.

Gittleson said she enjoys the light-heartedness of her classmates.

"With the guys, the jokes and humor are great," she said.

Gittleson has been dreaming of becoming a line worker since her sophomore year of high school, when her father, an oilfield worker, mentioned that it was a good career with steady work.

Roberson said her interest in being a line worker sparked when she took an automotive class with someone who mentioned that they wanted to pursue the career. Her aunt, a former employee of power provider Southern California Edison, recommended the Highlands College program.

"My friends and my family got me through this program, but mostly my mom," Roberson said. "She's my support system."

All their hard work will pay off on graduation day, Saturday, December 14, 2024, when they walk across the stage at the Montana Tech HPER. The Line Rodeo, which allows students to demonstrate their learned skills, will take place on Friday, December 13 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the pole yard at Highlands College.

For now, both women are planning on applying to utility companies in pursuit of an apprenticeship.

Line workers are in high demand in the United States. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the industry will experience 8% growth from 2023-2033, which is faster growth than average for career fields in the U.S. The Bureau of Labor Statistics notes median pay for line workers in 2023 was \$85,420 per year.



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Bulldogs Earn Decisive 80-64 Victory Over Benedictine-Mesa

The Montana Western women's basketball team (3-5) got back in the win column this afternoon after they took down Benedictine-Mesa (Ariz.) by a final score of 80-64.

The Bulldogs impressed in the opening quarter, rattling off 30 points off of five three-pointers and a 12-17 shooting performance from the field.

How It Happened: The Bulldogs started strong with a 30-point first quarter, fueled by quick ball movement and sharp shooting. Sammi Love went a perfect 3-3 from the arc and Keke Davis went 4-4 from the field in the quarter.

Maddy Moy pushed the Bulldogs further on at the start of the second, pairing a layup with a triple to kick off an 11-0 scoring run for the Bulldogs.

Up 48-27 at the start of the second half, the Bulldog women were able to hold the Redhawks to 15 points as they outscored Benedictine-Mesa by four in the frame.

Despite being outscored 22-13 in the final quarter, the Bulldog women held onto the built-up lead to take the game by a final score of 80-64.

Friends of the Museum Thrift Store Will be closed Dec 26 and Jan 2nd

All Christmas is 50% off. At the Beaverhead County Friends of the Museum Thrift Store Donations are needed for clean, gently used resaleable items. We also take electrical items (the bargain basement does not take electrical items) donate them to the thrift store. You may call Linda Roberts at 406-407-5113 and she can pick up your items, or you can drop them off at NV salon on days they are open. Store hours are 11:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday

FOOD PANTRY CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION

The Food Pantry will be open on Monday, December 23, 2024, from 3 – 7 PM to hand out Christmas items.

We will not be open on Tuesday, December 24 or Wednesday, December 25, 2024.

We will be open regular hours on Tuesday, December 31, 2024, and Wednesday, January 1, 2025



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Beaverhead Food Pantry: open Tuesday Nights 5:30 - 7:30 & Wednesday 12-2:30
- Community Christmas Dinner: Dillon Elks Lodge 11 am - 3 pm Christmas Day

Stay Safe Online this Holiday Shopping Season!

Beware of Seasonal Scams: Only use trusted online retailers and avoid websites of retailers you've never heard of.

Be Safe on Social Media: Avoid oversharing, refrain from posting your location in real-time, and regularly review the privacy settings on all your platforms.

Use Secure Internet Connections: Only connect to known Wi-Fi networks, especially in public; beware of network names that have typos, extra characters, or that do not require a password.

Check Banking Information: Keep an eye on all activity in your banking and credit card accounts. Also, be sure to monitor your credit report on a regular basis.

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Search and Rescue Holds Appreciation Dinner

Submitted by: Mel Rice, Public Relations



Left to Right- Parke Scott, Steve Mock, Adam Norlander, Jaime Trivette

On the evening of December 19, the Beaverhead County Search and Rescue held its annual appreciation dinner at the Beaverhead Golf Course. A wonderful meal and refreshments were had by all. This evening is to thank all of our spouses and family members for putting up with the late-night and weekend call outs and other interruptions in family routines. Sometimes they can be very trying, not only for family members but also for S&R members as well. During the evening several individuals were acknowledged for their outstanding contributions during the year. Since there haven't been any awards presented since 2021 because of covid, there was some catching up to do.

Commander Kolby Malesich made several presentations on the evening. The first one was a plaque to Parke Scott for his dedication and longevity to the unit. As previously noted, Parke retired from the



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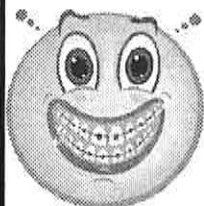
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BVHD S&R in October of this year. Next, awards were presented to three individuals representing "Rookie of the Year"; Steve Mock for 2022, Adam Norlander for 2023, and Jaime Trivette for 2024. After these awards, Kolby presented Steve Mock with the 2024 "Member of the Year" award. Steve with all his expertise has been very instrumental in developing a good rope team for working on moderate to steep inclines. He has put on several trainings during the last two years. Steve has also been very reliable when it comes to showing up and working callouts on searches and rescues. Congratulations to each of the award recipients. Keep up the great work.

Commander Malesich then thanked the entire Unit for their dedication to serving the people of Beaverhead County and all those who come here to recreate in our great outdoors. Your Beaverhead Search and Rescue would also like to wish everyone a "Very Merry Christmas" and a Joyous Holiday Season. Thank you for all your support over the years.



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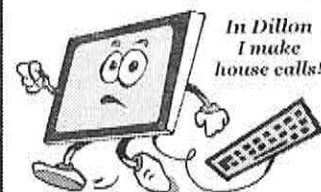
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Montana Board of Housing Allocates Over \$37 Million in Housing Tax Credits

Funding will help develop 136 affordable homes in Montana

The Montana Department of Commerce announced today more than \$37 million in federal housing tax credits will be allocated to six developments to build new affordable homes in five Montana communities.

"The Montana Board of Housing has selected a variety of projects that will help local families and seniors looking for affordable homes in their communities," said Paul Green, Director of the Montana Department of Commerce. "These properties will provide 136 much-needed new affordable homes in Billings, Bozeman, Dillon, Missoula and Polson."

The Board allocated the competitive federal housing tax credits to:

- Hidden Creek in Bozeman will receive \$6.5 million to build 20 new affordable homes for families and individuals.
- **The Homestead in Dillon will receive \$6.5 million to build 20 new affordable homes for seniors.**
- LB Lofts in Billings will receive \$6.5 million to build 22 new affordable homes for families and individuals.
- Opportunity Place in Missoula will receive \$6.5 million to build 24 new affordable homes for families and individuals, with service connections to Opportunity Resources, Inc., providing independent living opportunities for tenants experiencing developmental disabilities.
- Polson Gardens in Polson will receive \$6.5 million to build 24 new affordable homes seniors.
- Skyview in Billings will receive \$4,702,040 to build 26 new affordable homes for families and individuals.

"These units represent housing for rural and urban communities and families, as well as senior living. The most gratifying aspect of these projects was how the communities and developers stepped up to the plate with donated land and cash contributions, once again showing dedication to providing affordable housing," said Bruce Posey, Montana Board of Housing Chair.

The Montana Board of Housing is administratively attached to the Montana Department of Commerce. Federal housing tax credits flow through the state agency and fund the new construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental homes each year. This year's awarded properties will support the creation of an estimated 536 jobs and about \$31.1 million in local wages.

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They will service all your current policies for property, auto, commercial, farm and ranch, workers comp, life and Medicare. Sara and her team will continue to provide the same dedicated customer care that has been our hallmark.

We will have special holiday hours-our office will close at 1 pm on Tuesday, December 24th and then remain closed through that week opening back up Monday, December 30th for our last two days.

Thank you again for your trust and loyalty-it has been my pleasure doing business in Dillon and Southwest Montana.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Judy Siring

Public Service Announcement

With the New Year's holiday approaching, the City of Dillon, the Dillon Volunteer Fire Department, and the City of Dillon Police Department wish to ensure that all residents have a fun and safe holiday.

Please help us by only using legal fireworks within the city limits between 7:30 p.m. on December 31st, 2024 through 1:00 a.m. on January 1st, 2025. This is the only time that fireworks are permitted within the city limits.

Please take all safety precautions when using fireworks. The City of Dillon would like to remind everyone that loud noises and sudden flashes of light from fireworks can be scary and traumatic for individuals and our beloved family pets. Please be respectful of our neighbors and pets.

The City of Dillon, City of Dillon Police Department, and Dillon Volunteer Fire Department wish you a safe and fun-filled New Year's holiday.



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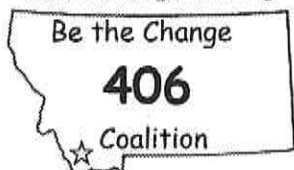


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4:00 P.M.

Bricks at SW Montana Veterans Memorial

The S.W. Montana Veterans Memorial is accepting applications for Veterans bricks to be placed in the memorial by 30, May 2025. The bricks are \$100 each, the same price that they were in 2003. Orders will be placed on 1, April to ensure that the bricks are here and will be installed by Memorial Day. Orders application forms are available at www.beaverhead.com/veterans or by calling Harvey Lake at 406-683-4514 or Cell 406-596-4514

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

December 27, 2024 • 9:00 A.M.
~ AGENDA ~

1. Approval of December 2024 Claims
2. Public Comment on Items of Significant Public Interest Not on The Agenda And Within The Jurisdiction of The City
3. Adjournment

Unclaimed Fair Checks

The following checks have been unclaimed from the 2024 Beaverhead County Fair. Checks will be available for pick-up at the Beaverhead County Extension Office. You can also contact 406-925-3645 to leave a valid mailing address.

- Abigail Pierce
- Dustin Nelson
- Maxine Hardy
- Charissa Boerner
- Annie Bush
- Iza Bush
- Talon Gonsalves

Retirement Celebration

Come celebrate with Judy Siring & Sara Bennett
Tuesday, December 31st 4-6 pm at
Anglers Village 335 S. Atlantic St. Dillon MT

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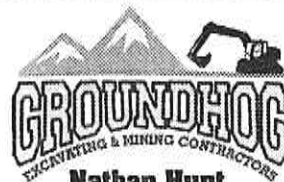
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2/1 WC BILL

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Help Wanted 7/28 - WC BILL

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Call for Rates 406-660-2276
www.rtcvrvpark.com

Wanted to Buy 10/18 - WC BILL

Antiques - No Furniture
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Ph 610-703-4349 Dillon

TRAILER REPAIR 12/30 - WC BILL

Trailer sales, service & professional repairs. Lights, brakes, axles, electrical Welding and metal fabrication. Your trailering solutions professionals. Stock Drive Trailer Sales, LLC 1101 Nissen Lane, Dillon, MT 406-949-6070 stockdrivemt.com or find us on Facebook @stockdrivemt

For Sale 7/2 - WC BILL

Utility Trailer 82"x14" \$2500
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308-279-1248

FOR RENT 10/1 - WC BILL

Office/store 28x12. \$300/month.
Clean, nice yard, available now.
Call 406-660-0852

LJM 11/27-2/27 PD

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Cleaning in and outside of your home, Yard maintenance, pre washing, staining & oiling, Decks & Fencing, Snow Shoveling

Gracie's New & Used 12/19

Artificial Christmas trees For Sale
140 West Bannack Dillon, MT
Lit & unlit. Some new - still in box
Stands and decorations
Please text me at: 406-660-0309

HELP WANTED WC

Are you a reliable, caring & compassionate person that needs a flexible job? Home Care Montana is currently seeking part-time PCAs /CNAs for our Dillon area.
406-582-1680

Buying Guns 3/15 PD

Want to liquidate a collection or estate guns? Looking for a little extra cash? Maybe you just need to clean out the safe. Please call 406-596-3475 for a fair and competitive offer

All American Construction & Rain Gutters 1/18 PD

24/Hr Handyman Service & Remodels. No job to big or small!
Call MAtt at 406-209-0897

HELP WANTED9/19 - WC BILL

MEA is seeking a full time Service Technician Job Duties:

1. Installation of propane takes, Heaters, Stoves & Gas Lines
2. Assist with taking physical inventories
3. Attends schools and meetings as required
4. Performs other duties as assigned

Requirements:

- High School Diploma or equivalent
 - 21 years of age
 - Valid Class B CDL including Tanker, Air Break and Hazmat endorsements.
 - Must be able to pass a pre-employment DOT physical, drug test and Homeland Security Background test
 - Must be able to work with and communicate well with others.
 - Proficient verbal and written communication skills.
 - Knowledgeable with computers.
 - Lifting, pushing, pulling, bending and climbing in and out of trucks
 - Must have a willingness to work outdoors and drive in all weather conditions.
 - Must maintain a professional image
- Montana Energy Alliance is a drug free work place. We offer competitive wages, benefits and a 401K package. \$25- \$30/hour DOE. Please drop resume and cover letter off at 300 Cleverley Dr., Dillon, MT Montana Energy Alliance, LLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

For Rent 7/10 - WC BILL

Luxury apartments available in downtown Dillon. 1 and 2 bedroom units. Second floor. Newly remodeled. All utilities except internet/wifi included. Coin laundry on site. Approved pet friendly. Call 406 925 5024. Managed by Old Towne Improvement Group

HELP WANTED 1/6 - WC BILL

Parts Specialist

Local company looking for the right person to provide superb customer service while overseeing operation of our parts department: Job Requirements:

- Basic computer knowledge
- Excellent communication skills
- Desire to effectively manage assistants to provide unparalleled customer service

Compensation:

- Dependent on existing skills, experience, and qualifications
 - Guaranteed raise at 6 and 12 months
 - Commission on OTC sales
- Please call 406-925-9931 with any questions or to apply.

FREEZER BEEF AVAILABLE! WC

Whole or half a beef. Don't have freezer space? NO problem! We also offer steaks, roasts, brisket, pre-made patties and 1# packages of ground beef. All beef is home grown and grain fed. Call for pricing! For more info call Ray 937-533-0341 or Jan 406-925-0524 please leave a message

HELP WANTED 9/19 - WC BILL

Come join a wonderful team at the Super 8! We are seeking full time and part time team members! Even if you have never worked in the hospitality industry, come give us a try- we feel you will love the flexibility and the fun of this job! We have front desk positions as well as room attendant positions available. We work with the hectic schedules of highschool and college and the skills you develop with us can be taken with you anywhere and look great on resumes! We are also looking to fill long term, permanent positions. This is also a great place to work for a semi-retired individual seeking supplemental income! Contact Mandy today at the Super 8! We would love to have you working with us!

THERMAL DRONE 12/24 PD

Home & equipment inspection with software analysis. Livestock, pet and game search & recovery.
Call Stephen VanMarter
406.865.0699
www.montanathermal.com

FIREWOOD 1/10 PD

Firewood for sale
Call 406-596-5227

WANT TO BUY

Looking for old cast iron or old Ruana Knives.
Call Jim 406-596-0232

HELP WANTED 12/12-20 BILL

Dillon City Court is hiring Clerk of Court!

Description: Part/Full time Clerk needs good communication and customer service skills. Clerical work involves managing and recording criminal files, communicating with defendants, lawyers, and providers. Must be highly organized, provide attention to detail, and able to multi-task to ensure court runs smoothly and efficiently.

Min. Qualifications: Must be 18 years or older, hold a high school diploma, must pass background check, 2-3 years previous work experience preferred

BENEFITS: PERS retirement, Health insurance, Paid Holiday, Sick, and Vacation Leave

TO APPLY: City job application, resume, 3 letters of reference to cityclerk@dillonmt.org or drop off at City Hall
City of Dillon is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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**Advent Season at
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715 E Bannack, 406-683-5374
Sundays 12/1-12/22
9:15: Sunday School,
9:30: Adult Sunday School
10:30: Church Service including
Lighting of the Advent Candles
Wednesdays 12/4-12/18
Soup Supper: 5:30,
Special Advent Service: 6:30

0/15- WC BILL

Retired Rentals for Sale - Wholesale

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Hats, Scarfs, Socks, Rugs, Shawls
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Amanda MacDonald, Administrator
p. (406) 683-4002
e. southside@seniorcaremt.com



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With two homes in Dillon, you'll be able to
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ALL-INCLUSIVE MONTHLY RATES

We provide a comfortable, caring
atmosphere designed for the special needs
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- Tenant Protection Available
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4/13- WC BILL



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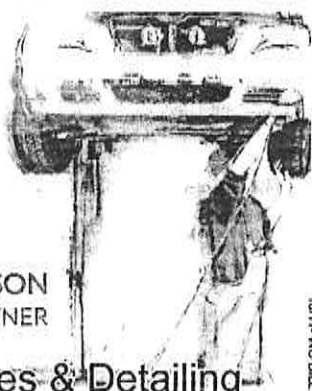
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10/11 WC BILL

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**Fuel • Groceries • Gift Shop
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**Our schedule is filling up fast!
Call to schedule an appointment
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Call 406-902-9115

12/20 PD

Old Fashioned Fruitcake for Sale!

Mizpah Chapter, Order of the Eastern
Star are selling homemade Fruitcake &
Candy for the holidays

1 pound loaves - \$20 each,

Candy \$10/box

Contact Sharon, 406-533-8235

All monies go to Montana Charities

12/23 PD



Holiday Giveaway

\$50 Town and Country Gift Card

LAST Drawing held

December 23rd

Must be 18 years old or over to enter No Purchase Necessary.

Receive an extra entry with a \$5 or more purchase.

Dillonite Advertiser

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BARRETT
HOSPITAL & HEALTHCARE

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare is now hiring. See open positions!

Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting your journey, we have a place for you.

Scan the QR Code with your phone to apply or visit www.barrethospital.org/careers and embark on a meaningful career in healthcare at Barrett Hospital & HealthCare.



TOWN & COUNTRY EST. 1966 FOODS

Lunch specials come with a side and drink

Monday-Kielbasa / Mac & Cheese

Tuesday- Chicken & Beef Enchiladas

Wednesday- Merry Christmas

Thursday - Chicken Bowl

Friday- Fish & Chips

Lunch Specials Available After 11am



Jim Hockemeyer
406-925-1827
exteriordesignspainting@gmail.com
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9/23- WC BILL



9/17-WC BILL

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11/14-1/14 PD

Old Fashioned Fruitcake for Sale!

Mizpah Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star are selling homemade Fruitcake & Candy for the holidays

**1 pound loaves - \$20 each,
Candy \$10/box**

Contact Sharon, 406-533-8235

All monies go to Montana Charities

12/23 PD

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12/29PD



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Offering free 3D layout and quote.
No job too big or small!



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Sunny Harmon

For more information call
Sunny Harmon at: 406-935-0647
Jordan Harmon at: 406-935-0615
Gary Caprara at: 406-580-1574

HELP WANTED

Dillon Family Dental is seeking a full-time Dental Assistant to join our professional growing dental team. We are looking for someone who can work in a team-oriented atmosphere and share a commitment to deliver long-lasting relationships with staff and patients. Dental assisting experience is preferred. Pay will be based on experience.

The practice is looking to fill various shifts Monday- Friday 7a-5p.

Job Type: Full-time

Salary: \$16.00 - \$18.00 per hour

Expected hours: 38 per week.

Benefits:

- Employee discount
- Health insurance
- Life insurance
- Paid time off
- Vision insurance

406.683.2550

301 Southside Blvd Dillon

7/12-MC-BILL

ELKS LODGE #1554

27 E. Center Street, Dillon MT

CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 25 - 11am to 3pm

Join us in sharing the warmth of the season! Everyone is welcome.

Takeout is available - one per family member. Please call 683-5552 to place your order. We are unable to offer rides or delivery. Thank you for understanding.

Please call if you would like to donate cash or food and/or volunteer. Volunteers are needed to help cook, serve food, brew & serve coffee, refill food trays, greet & seat guests, bus tables, wash dishes, and clean.

Let's make this another memorable event!

Dillon Elementary School District #10

2025 Technology Levy



Dillon Elementary
School District #10



Why is Dillon Elementary asking for a technology levy increase?

Dillon Elementary School District #10 is asking for voter approval of a \$150,000 technology levy increase in the May 2025 election to help maintain and update critical educational technology. This additional funding will support the following:

- Protecting Student and Staff Data
- Purchasing Student Learning Software
- Improving Parent Communication Tools
- Maintaining and Replacing Instructional Devices

How much would this cost me?

Tax Increase Estimate	
\$8.01 per year	Estimate for a home with a market value of \$100,000
\$24.02 per year	Estimate for a home with a market value of \$300,000
\$48.03 per year	Estimate for a home with a market value of \$600,000

Please visit the website below for additional tax estimates and information.

The Dillon Elementary School District technology levy will provide sustainable funding to maintain a safe learning environment, ensure reliable access to educational resources, purchase parent communication tools and digital learning platforms as well as maintain and replace instructional devices.

Protecting Student and Staff Data and Privacy:

Annual threat response and cybersecurity subscriptions are vital in protecting student and staff data and maintaining a safe learning environment. In 2023, 22% of all data breaches involved the education sector, highlighting the significant risk and need for effective data protection measures.

Purchasing Student Learning Software:

Annual software fees for student assessment and learning tools are essential to the success of our students. The variety of educational resources provides personalized learning experiences, allowing students to progress, addressing their individual needs in an effective and enjoyable way. Additionally, it offers valuable data and insights to help us track progress, identify areas for improvement and tailor instruction to better support student achievement. Technology directly impacts our students' success.

Improving Parent Communication Tools:

Effective parent communication technology is crucial for fostering a supportive school community focused on student success. These funds will enable timely updates and the purchase of tools that enhance collaboration between parents and educators, improving student outcomes. Additionally, communication technology supports both administrative functions and the diverse needs of students.

Maintaining and Replacing Instructional Devices:

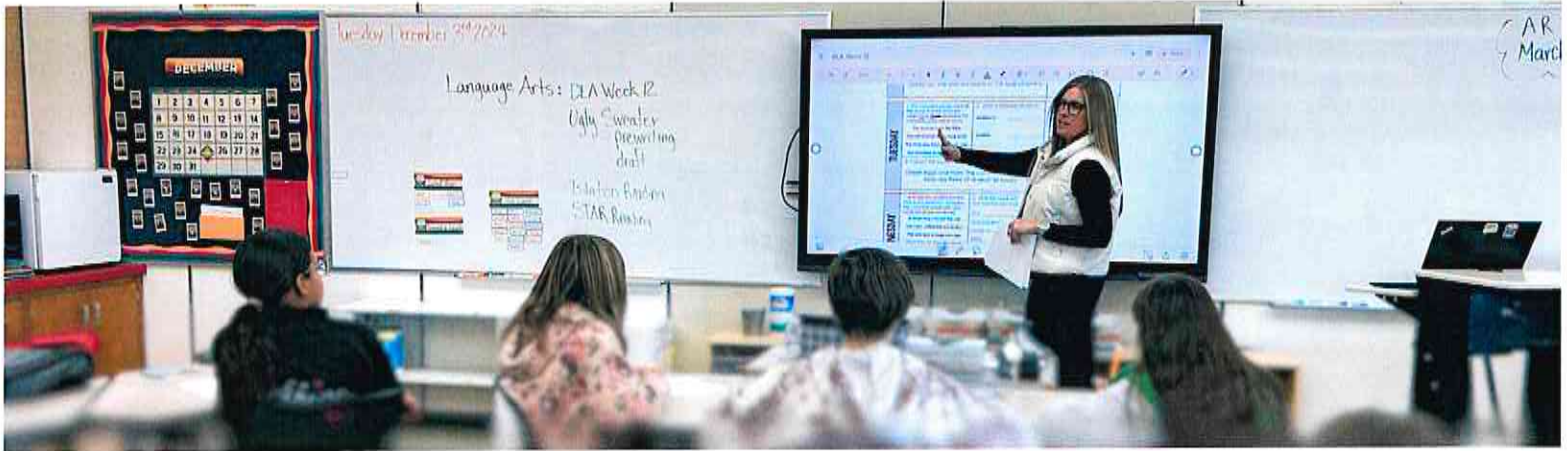
Maintaining and replacing instructional devices is crucial for keeping technology up to date and supporting effective teaching. Annual IT support contracts help our small school manage technical issues, maintain a productive learning environment, and allow educators to focus on student success. We also need repairs for devices used in state-mandated assessments.

Learn more at <https://www.dillonschools.org/page/2025-technology-levy> or scan the QR Code.



Dillon Elementary School District #10

2025 Technology Levy



By the Numbers



\$150,000

Technology Fund increase to protect student and staff data, purchase student learning software, improve parent communication tools and maintain and replace instructional devices.



10 year term for levy

If approved, the technology levy would remain in place until 2035.



14.7% less per-pupil

Dillon Elementary School District spends 14.7% less per-pupil than Montana's per-pupil average. SD #10 spent \$11,388 per pupil, in contrast to Montana's state average of \$13,346, as reported in the 2022-2023 school year.



\$50,000 - \$1 million

Monetary losses to school districts following a cyber incident ranged from \$50,000 to \$1 million according to the U.S. Government Accountability Office.



23 years

Number of years since Dillon Elementary School District has requested technology funds, despite growing demand. Currently, the district has a \$50,000 annual technology levy.



141%

Increase in technology-related costs over the last 7 years ensuring students and the district can keep pace with technological advancements essential for modern education.



\$275,000 current shortfall

Current technology costs exceed the existing \$50,000 technology levy by \$275,000. A new technology levy would increase funding and allow general funds to be reallocated to support our students, teachers, staff, and community.

Learn more at <https://www.dillonschools.org/page/2025-technology-levy> or scan the QR Code.

