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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

Festival of Trees Committee Thanks Community

Festival of Trees 2024 is very grateful for the continued support we received for Children's Night and our Gala.

We had another successful year because of your wonderful donations.

Festival of Trees is proud to announce our allocations for 2024.

2024 Allocations include:

- \$12,000.00 Beaverhead Meals on Wheels
 - \$12,000.00 Dillon Elks Lodge
 - \$250.00 Friends of Music
 - \$250.00 Beaverhead Animal Shelter
 - \$1000.00 Scholarship to a BCHS Graduating Senior
- Merry Christmas and Happy 2025,
Festival of Trees Committee

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare Earns Recognition from the American Diabetes Association

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare is proud to announce that it has received recertification from the American Diabetes Association (ADA) through its Education Recognition Program (ERP). This esteemed recognition confirms the organization's commitment to providing high-quality education and care for patients living with diabetes.

The ADA's Education Recognition Program helps ensure that patients receive a consistent level of education and care, which is crucial for managing diabetes effectively. The ADA's ERP certificate assures that educational services meet the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Services (DSMES). The ADA-ERP recognition lasts for four years.

Benefits for Patients:

Access to Skilled Care: The recognition from the ADA ensures that patients have access to qualified healthcare professionals who are well-versed in the latest diabetes management strategies. This expert guidance is vital for preventing complications and improving overall health outcomes.

Comprehensive Diabetes Management: Patients at Barrett Hospital & HealthCare can expect a comprehensive diabetes management program that focuses on the critical aspects of living with diabetes, including monitoring blood sugar levels, education, lifestyle changes, and medication management.

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Hospital & HealthCare plays an essential role in improving patients' quality of life, enabling them to lead healthier, more active lives.

"We are incredibly honored to receive this recertification from the American Diabetes Association," said Taylor Rose, Chief Executive Officer of Barrett Hospital & HealthCare. "This recognition underscores our ongoing dedication to providing high-quality, patient-centered care. We believe that education is a powerful tool in managing diabetes, and we are committed to empowering our patients with the knowledge and resources they need."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Diabetes Fact Sheet, there are over 38 million people, or 11.6%, of the U.S. population who have diabetes. While an estimated 29.7 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately 8.7 million people are not aware they have this disease. Each day, nearly 3,300 Americans are diagnosed with diabetes. Many will first learn they have diabetes when they are treated for one of its life-threatening complications—heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness, nerve disease, or amputation. Diabetes is the eighth leading cause of death in the U.S.—in 2021, it contributed to 399,401 deaths. The ADA's Economic Costs of Diabetes in the U.S. in 2022 report confirms diabetes continues to be one of the nation's most expensive chronic health care conditions with an estimated cost of diagnosed diabetes of \$412.9 billion.

"Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Services are an essential part of managing diabetes and are as effective as diabetes medication. Therefore, all people with diabetes benefit from it," said Barbara Eichorst, MS, RD, CDCES, the ADA's vice president of health programs.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

December 27, 2024 • 9:00 A.M.

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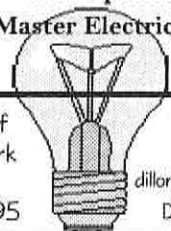
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Christmas for Axel**Bryce Angell**

Axel thought of Christmas, then he tossed a frozen bale. The cowhand had no fam'ly. He was fresh, right out of jail.

Christmas wasn't Axel Harker's favorite time of year. He lived out in the bunkhouse and he needed winter gear.

The foreman's wife loved Christmas. She could mother anyone. She taught the cowboys 'bout the birth of Heavenly Father's Son.

She reminded all the cowboys, "You'll be home on Christmas Day. But Axel is alone, could use a gift or two his way."

The cowboys had no money, so they chose a piece of tack. Floyd had an extra rope of horsehair dyed in black.

Wilbur found two right hand mitts and pulled one inside out. Axel would have a proper pair just good enough to tout.

Whitey had a second coat which no one did back then. He wrapped it in a gunny sack and placed in Axel's bin.

Dalley spent the day in town. The feed store had a hat. The owner said, "It's yours for free." Can't beat a deal like that.

The foreman's wife was quite a gal. She made a brand-new shirt. She tore up one old tablecloth and one well worn-out skirt.

With presents wrapped and put away, those cowboys felt akin to a quiet man who they called friend. Now Christmas settled in.

Axel woke up Christmas morning, went out to do the chores. He fed the cows and gathered eggs, swung open all their doors.

Axel wondered if this Christmas Day he'd be alone. The cold wind, unforgiving, chilled him right down to the bone.

Then walking back toward the house, he noticed teams and sleighs with cowboys and their families too, tucked tightly in the hay.

They all sat down for breakfast. It was dang near half past ten. Then the foreman's wife set out the gifts to Axel from the men.

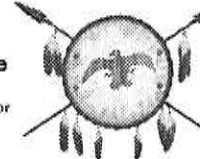
The tears of joy flowed freely, which at first were out of place, were now a part of this old cowboy's worn and grizzled face.

With children smiling back at him he heard the foreman say, "Merry Christmas to you Axel on this very special day."

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- Community Christmas Dinner: Dillon Elks Lodge 11 am - 3 pm Christmas Day

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Three Bulldogs Earn AP All-American Honors

The Associated Press (AP) NAIA All-American teams were released on Friday morning, with three Bulldogs earning nods on this year's list. The AP All-American teams are selected by a panel of sports writers and sports information directors.

UMW offensive lineman Marcus Lombard earned a selection on the AP NAIA First Team All-American.

Lombard, a 6-1, 300lb redshirt senior offensive lineman from Laie, Hawaii, earned his first AP All-American nod after previously being selected to the AFCA NAIA First Team All-American team. He was also named Frontier first team all-conference offensive line this season.

This season, the Bulldog offense broke the total offense in a season record set in 2021 at 5,399 yards. They totaled 5,773 yards of offense this season and broke the record for passing yards in a season with a previous record set in 1994 at 3,535. They also broke the total points scored record that was set in 2021. They totaled 3,735 passing yards and totaled 498 points this season.

Bulldog quarterback Michael Palandri earned AP Second Team All-American honors. Palandri, a 6-1, 215lb quarterback from Maple Valley, Wash., earned his spot on the AP All-American list after another impressive season that saw him break three passing records and leading the Bulldog offense to break another three records. He was also selected Frontier first team all-conference previously this season.

Palandri completed 68.26% of his passes this season, surpassing the previous record of 64.9% set by Jason Truman in 1995. He also broke Truman's single-season passing yards record from 1994, eclipsing the former mark of 3,503 yards with an impressive 3,670-yard total. Additionally, Palandri amassed 3,972 total offensive yards and threw 34 touchdown passes, shattering Truman's 1994 records of 3,758 total yards and 33 passing touchdowns.

UMW wide receiver Eli Nourse also earned a spot as an AP Second Team All-American.

Nourse, a 5-10, 170lb sophomore from Dillon, Mont. earned his second AP All-American nod in his career. In addition, he was recently named AFCA All-America second-after he led the Bulldogs this season with 1205 receiving yards and averaged 100.42 yards per game. He broke his own single season record for receiving yards of 1,186 in the final game of the season, totaling 1,205 yards this season. Nourse finished eighth in the country in yards per game and sixth in total touchdowns with 12 this season.



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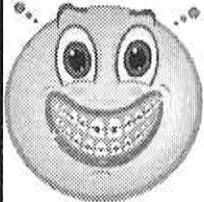
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NOTICE OF ASSEMBLING A COMMITTEE TO UPDATE BEAVERHEAD COUNTY RESOURCE USE PLAN

The Beaverhead County Commissioners are taking letters of interest to work with a committee to update the Beaverhead County Resource Use Plan.

The Commissioners request these letters be delivered to the Commissioner's Office by December 31, 2024.

These letters should include your interest, experience, and any past involvement in working on any and all resource issues in the county.

Submissions may be dropped off at the courthouse, mailed or emailed to dbasile@beaverheadcountymt.gov.

Beaverhead County Commissioners

2 South Pacific Street, Ste. #4 Dillon, MT 59725-4000

For further information, please call the
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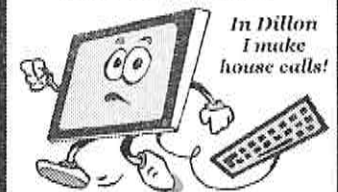
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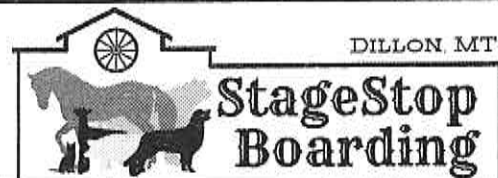
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Montana Department of Commerce Awards Nearly \$800,000 of Planning Grants to 21 Montana Communities

The Montana Department of Commerce announced today that 21 Montana cities, towns, counties and water and sewer districts will share nearly \$800,000 of grant funding to help communities plan infrastructure projects that will construct or upgrade drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems. The funding is through Commerce's Montana Coal Endowment Program.

"MCEP planning grants help communities prepare for critical infrastructure system improvements so residents can count on good quality drinking water and reliable wastewater services," said Paul Green, Director of the Montana Department of Commerce.

The MCEP program is designed to help address the affordability of local infrastructure projects by providing grants to lower the cost of constructing public facilities.

The following communities and districts will receive MCEP planning grants:

- The Assiniboine and Sioux Tribe will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.
- The Town of Bearcreek will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.
- **Beaverhead County Jackson Water and Sewer District will receive \$27,000 to complete a wastewater system preliminary engineering report.**
- The Town of Belt will receive \$32,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.
- The City of Billings will receive \$40,000 to complete a stormwater system preliminary engineering report.
- The City of Choteau will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report update.
- The Town of Clyde Park will receive \$30,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.
- The City of Cut Bank will receive \$40,000 to complete a wastewater system preliminary engineering report.
- **The City of Dillon will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.**
- The Town of Fairview will receive \$40,000 to complete a wastewater system preliminary engineering report.
- The Fort Belknap Indian Community will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.

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- The City of Fort Benton will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report update.
- The City of Hamilton will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.
- The Hinsdale County Water and Sewer District will receive \$40,000 to complete a wastewater system preliminary engineering report.
- The North Havre County Water District will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.
- Powell County will receive \$40,000 to complete a stormwater system preliminary engineering report.
- The City of Red Lodge will receive \$30,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report update.
- The Riverside County Water and Sewer District will receive \$40,000 to complete a water system preliminary engineering report.
- The Seeley Lake Sewer District will receive \$38,362 to complete a wastewater system preliminary engineering report.
- The Town of Virginia City will receive \$40,000 to complete a wastewater preliminary engineering report.
- The City of Wolf Point will receive \$40,000 to complete a stormwater system preliminary engineering report.

In 2021, the City of Thompson Falls received \$15,000 in grant funding from the Treasure State Endowment Program, now called MCEP, for a preliminary engineering report that eventually led to the city receiving \$750,000 of MCEP grant funding to help improve and upgrade the community's aging sewer system to meet modern environmental and public health standards.

"The City of Thompson Falls is excited to announce a major milestone in the completion of its sewer project, made possible by a generous grant from the Montana Coal Endowment Program. This grant has played a crucial role in reducing the financial burden on the city's sewer system improvements, providing significant benefits to both the community and its residents," said Chelsea Peterson, Thompson Falls City Clerk and Treasurer.

Eligible applicants for MCEP planning grants include incorporated cities or towns, counties, consolidated governments, tribal governments and county or multi-county water, sewer or solid waste districts. The funding for the program comes from revenues earned on interest from Coal Severance Taxes.

For more information about MCEP planning grants, visit comdev.mt.gov.



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To improve service to Montana veterans, the Montana Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) is now accepting additional documents for United States veterans to receive the veteran designation on their state-issued driver license. Going forward, MVD will accept a current Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) or an American Legion card from veterans, which both indicate good standing, to receive the designation. MVD will also continue to accept DD form 214 or a letter from Veterans Affairs (VA) to receive the designation on their driver license. "Montana veterans are proud of their service and want to showcase that service on their driver license. They shouldn't have to jump through unnecessary hoops to do so. This is a way for MVD to support those who defended our freedoms and relieve a headache they were facing," MVD Administrator Laurie Bakri said.

The Department of Montana VFW and its 7,300 members are very happy that the Montana Motor Vehicle Division is going to make it much easier to get special recognition on their driver license by showing a current VFW ID card. Some of them are older veterans who do not have copies of their DD 214 and by showing their VFW card will make this process much easier," State Adjutant and Quartermaster for the VFW of Montana Jeff Schepp said.

"Montana's veterans have made significant contributions to our military, nation, and local communities. Making it easier to obtain the veteran designation on their driver license allows veterans to display the same pride and honor they served their country with. Recognizing this commitment and honoring their service is a meaningful way for Montanans to express their deep gratitude to the veterans who have proudly served our nation," American Legion Department Commander Ken Simon said.

For more information about driver license and where to find your MVD office visit <https://mvdmt.gov/>

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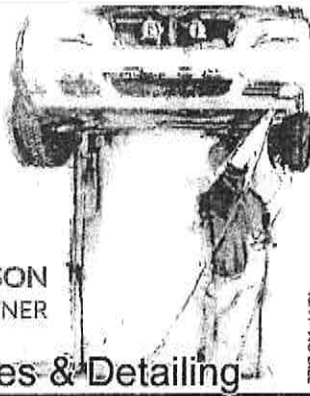
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Raise A Toast

DO EPIC SHIT BRUT 7

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Wednesday- Merry Christmas

Thursday - Chicken Bowl

Friday- Fish & Chips

Lunch Specials Available After 11am

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:

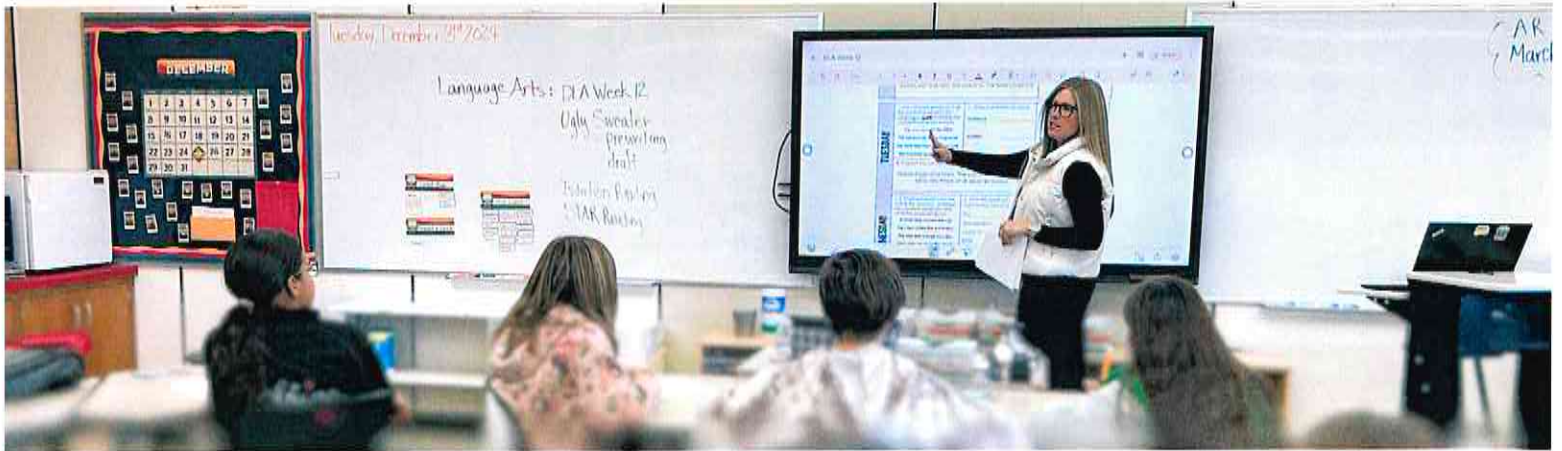
Maintaining and replacing instructional devices is crucial for keeping technology up to date and supporting effective teaching. Annual IT support contracts help our small school manage technical issues, maintain a productive learning environment, and allow educators to focus on student success. We also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

