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Emergency Crews Respond to Semi Trailer Fire at Barretts Exit on I-15

Jeremy Crawford, Southwestern Montana News

The Dillon Volunteer Fire Department, along with the Beaverhead County Sheriff's Office and Montana Highway Patrol, responded to a fire incident Sunday night at the Barretts exit off Interstate 15.

A semi trailer was reported to be on fire on the northbound exit. The driver successfully detached the semi from the trailer before the fire intensified. Emergency crews quickly arrived on scene to extinguish the flames and ensure public safety.

As firefighters worked to put out the fire, they also focused on cleaning up any hotspots to prevent flare-ups.

No injuries have been reported in connection with this incident. More information will be provided as it becomes available.



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**PARTIAL PLATE***By "Swede" Troedsson*

During the early eighties, I was an EMT on the local Dillon Ambulance. One late winter evening we responded to a request for an ambulance to pick up a patient at the Dewey Bar.

Dewey is located between Wise River and Divide, Montana, forty miles north of Dillon.

Three well-liquored young men from Butte had been driving back home from the Wise River Club when their vehicle skidded on some ice and impacted the rock bluff near the edge of the highway between Dewey and Divide.

One of the passengers was injured, but was transported by a passersby to the nearby Dewey Bar to wait for an ambulance.

When we arrived at the Dewey Bar, the injured passenger was in the bathroom throwing up into the toilet. We loaded the patient into the ambulance and headed to St. James Hospital in Butte.

The patient's mother was waiting for us in the ER. She was a large heavy-set woman and was gripping a heavy-looking purse.

While the physician was examining her son, the mother started angrily shouting, "Where is his partial plate?"

Puzzled, I asked her what did she mean? (Nervously, I keep my eye on that large purse!)

The patient's mother explained that her son wore a partial dental plate to replace some teeth that had been knocked out in an accident!

It then occurred to me that her son must have removed his partial plate when he was throwing up in the Dewey Bar bathroom, probably placing it on the floor next to the toilet. But the patient and we EMTs failed to pick up the partial plate as we were loading him onto the ambulance cot.

We left the hospital realizing that the patient's partial plate was probably still sitting by the toilet at the Dewey Bar!

We were thankful we didn't get clobbered by that angry mother's purse!



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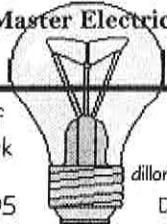
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CSI Settlement with Vanguard Marketing Corporation

James Brown, Montana State Auditor and Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, announced that the Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI) has joined a task force of state securities regulators and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in a \$106 million settlement with Vanguard Marketing Corporation (VMC) and The Vanguard Group, Inc. (Vanguard). The settlement addresses Vanguard's failure to properly supervise certain registered individuals and disclose potential tax consequences to investors after changes were made to the investment minimums for certain target date retirement funds.

This settlement follows a comprehensive three-year investigation coordinated through the North American Securities Administrators Association's Enforcement Section Committee (NASAA), in parallel with a concurrent SEC investigation.

The investigation found that in 2020, Vanguard lowered the investment minimums for its Institutional Target Retirement Funds (TRFs). As a result, many retirement plan investors redeemed shares in the Investor TRF to purchase Institutional TRF shares. This large-scale shift led Vanguard to sell highly appreciated assets in the Investor TRF, triggering significant capital gains taxes for hundreds of thousands of retail investors who remained invested in the Investor TRF. Vanguard failed to disclose the potential tax implications to these investors due to the migration of shareholders from the Investor TRF to the Institutional TRF.

Commissioner Brown stated, "This settlement underscores the importance of holding financial institutions accountable for their actions, especially when those actions affect the retirement savings of hard-working Montanans and investors nationwide. The CSI is committed to working alongside other state regulators and the SEC to ensure that firms operating in Montana—and across the nation—are held to the highest standards of transparency and investor protection."

The Vanguard Group, Inc., the parent company of Vanguard Marketing Corporation (a FINRA and state-registered broker-dealer), markets and sells target retirement funds to investors in tax-deferred and taxable accounts. Historically, capital gains distributions for Investor TRF shareholders have been modest. However, in this case, the redemptions resulted in a substantial tax liability for investors. The SEC will notify impacted investors and administer remediation payments through its Fair Fund program to compensate those who incurred capital gains taxes.

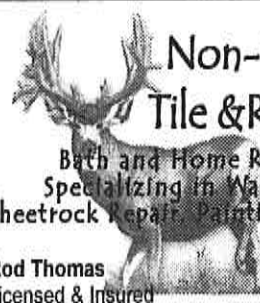
For inquiries, please contact David Sanders, CSI Communications, at 406.444.3778 or dsanders@mt.gov.

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Senior Commodity Boxes

Beaverhead Senior Commodity boxes will be available for pick up only Thursday January 23rd from 9-10:30 at 761 Kentucky Ave. Questions, please contact Russ Schwandt at 406-498-1753. Please bring an empty box. Thursday, January 23rd.

Reserve your Table for the Gala

The Friends of the Jaycee Park invite you to their Annual Gala, Evening in Italy with an Italian Buffet. Tuesday, March 18th, at the Lewis & Clark Room at the University of Montana Western, 710 S. Atlantic St. Dillon.

RSVP by March 3rd, \$45 per person, Table for 8 \$360. Paid reservations can be made at Womack's Printing, 126 N. Montana Street, Dillon 406-683-8983 or 406-683-4903 or email dillonnews@womackspainting.com

If you would like to donate to the auction please drop off items at Womack's Printing Place, 126 N. Montana St. or call Jim Valach, 406-660-2000, or Womack's 406-683-8983 or 406-683-4903. We would be more than happy to come by and pick up your donation. Proceeds benefit continued improvements and maintenance in the Jaycee Park

Soroptimist Purses with a Purpose Mardi Gras

The Soroptimist of Dillon will be celebrating Mardi Gras on Thursday, March 6th at 5:30 pm. Jambalaya prepared by chef Jeff Welborn, and Mardi Gras theme food. \$30/person, table of 8/\$220 for or 1/2 table at \$110. Get advanced tickets at Womack's Printing Place.

Knudsen's statement congratulating President Trump

Montana Attorney General Austin Knudsen issued the following statement congratulating President Donald J. Trump on his inauguration: "Today marks a new day in America. President Trump is the leader our country needs to make our country great and prosperous again after the last four years of the Biden administration's disastrous decisions that left our southern border wide open, the energy industry in peril, and our rights and freedoms at risk. I look forward to working with the Trump Administration to reverse the damage caused by Biden's actions and keep Montana and our country safe, secure, and prosperous. Congratulations to President Donald J. Trump!"



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Jan 29: Ham and Au Gratin potatoes, vegetable or salad,
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Beaverhead County HS Activity List

1/23	Thu	Wrestling vs Columbia Falls/Whitefish Home	4:00 pm
1/23	Thu	Boys & Girls Basketball @ Hamilton	
		Doubleheader-Girls Sub-varsity @ HMS	
		Away B-3/4:30/6:00 pm	G-3/4:30/7:30 pm

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Girls Varsity Tournament Summary

- 100 Brown, Gwyn (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Brooklyn Hettick (Butte) == {Fall 0:47}
110 Jensen , Avery (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Irelynn Cullen (Butte) == {Fall 1:30}
115 Barnes, Tymber (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Jessie Lapier (Butte) == {Fall 3:45}
115 Barnes, Tymber (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. morgan (Butte) == {Fall 1:19}
125 Jensen, Reese (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Deearen Smith (Butte) == {Fall 0:48}
130 Bayleah Richardson (Bozeman) def. Eddie, Baya (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) == {Fall 3:21}
135 Reynolds, Beau (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Keeleigh Doherty (Butte High) == {Maj Dec 10-0}
135 Tazlyn Hoffman (Butte) def. Reynolds, Beau (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) == {Fall 3:23}
140 Kaitlyn Thorn (Bozeman) def. Holland, Faye (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) == {Maj Dec 15-4}
140 Holland, Faye (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Brooke Johnson (Butte) == {Fall 2:50}
145 Katlin Thorn (Bozeman) def. Blake, Bailey (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) == {Fall 1:07}
145 Blake, Bailey (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Bayleah Richardson (Bozeman) == {Tech Fall 18-0}
170 Pilon, Adi (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Rachel Vaughn (Butte) == {Decision 7-6}
170 Pilon, Adi (Beaverhead Co. (Dillon) / Twin Bridges / Sheridan) def. Mattison Neighbor (Butte) == {Fall 2:08}

Rotary Club of Dillon

Rotary Club of Dillon, meeting Wednesday, Jan. 22nd at 12 Noon at St. James Episcopal Church-Guild Hall:

Join us on January 22 at noon for our Rotary meeting featuring Marti Laknar, Education and Outreach Director at Bee Haven Gardens. Guests are welcomed!

Our menu for the luncheon:

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Bulldog Track and Field Open Indoor Season

The Montana Western track and field team opened their indoor season at Idaho State Univ. at the Snake River Open.

Layne Cooney set a personal best in the shot put with a throw of 13.21m, placing 18th out of 30 competitors.

Justin Maier also competed in the shot put, finishing with a throw of 8.98m.

In the long jump, Wade Dahood recorded a mark of 5.72m. He also competed in the 60m hurdles, placing seventh with a time of 9.49.

In the mile, Olivia Canney finished with a time of 6:47.86, followed by teammate Kylee Wyatt, who completed the race in 7:22.85.

Canney also raced in the 800m, finishing in 3:00.62.

In the men's 3000m, Harrison Silverio crossed the finish line in 9:52.14, while Noah Rovente completed the race in 10:24.31.

The women's 3000m featured Ruby Smith, Justene Santi, and Destiny Vogl. Smith led the Bulldogs with a time of 12:14.06, while Santi finished in 12:32.23 and Vogl followed closely with a time of 12:35.82.

Brody Henry and Bridger Wheeler competed in both the men's 800m and the mile.

Henry finished the 800m in 2:07.10 and the mile in 4:55.06, while Wheeler clocked in at 2:23.97 in the 800m and 5:19.49 in the mile.

Bulldog Women Come Up Short

The Montana Western women's basketball team fell short against No. 20 Rocky Mountain College, losing 68-81.

The Bulldogs were led by Payton Hagy, who scored a career-high 20 points, including six three-pointers.

Moy recorded a double-double with 16 points, 11 rebounds, and four assists.

Nichols added 12 points, shooting an impressive 4-5 from beyond the arc.

The Bulldogs shot 56.5% from three-point range (13-23). A total of 47 three-point shots were attempted between the two teams.

Rocky Mountain outscored Montana Western 36-10 in the paint.



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Bulldog Men Defeated at Rocky Mountain College

The Montana Western men's basketball team dropped their game with No. 19 Rocky Mountain College, losing 68-79.

The Bulldogs were led in scoring by Jayln Stepney and Alan Kane who both had 16 points.

Adedo led the team with nine rebounds.

Kyle Gruhler contributed seven points, five rebounds, and three assists.

The Bears capitalized on 15 Bulldog turnovers, converting them into 21 points.

Rocky Mountain scored 38 points in the paint.

Bulldog Women Beat Tech

The Montana Western women's basketball team (7-9) upset (RV) Montana Tech (11-6) 72-68.

"After a slow start, we persevered and had a great second half," said Head Coach Britt Cooper. "The fight this team has is uncontainable."

Leading the Bulldogs was Kenzi Pedersen, who tied her career high with 20 points.

Hagy finished with 18 points, shooting 5-for-9 from beyond the arc, and added four assists.

Nichols scored 11 points and grabbed four rebounds.

Maddy Moy contributed six points and five rebounds.

Montana Tech out rebounded the Bulldogs 43-27.

Bulldog Men Drop Game to Tech

The Montana Western men's basketball team (10-7) fell to No. 11 Montana Tech (15-2) 69-47.

Abi Adedo led the Bulldogs with a game-high 18 points.

Kyle Gruhler finished with 10 points and a team-high seven rebounds.

Alan Kane contributed eight points, four rebounds, and three assists.

The Bulldogs shot just 3-of-14 (21.4%) from three-point range.

Montana Tech shot 45% (9-of-20) from beyond the arc.

The Orediggers had four players score in double digits.

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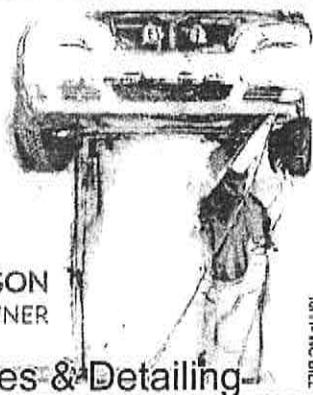
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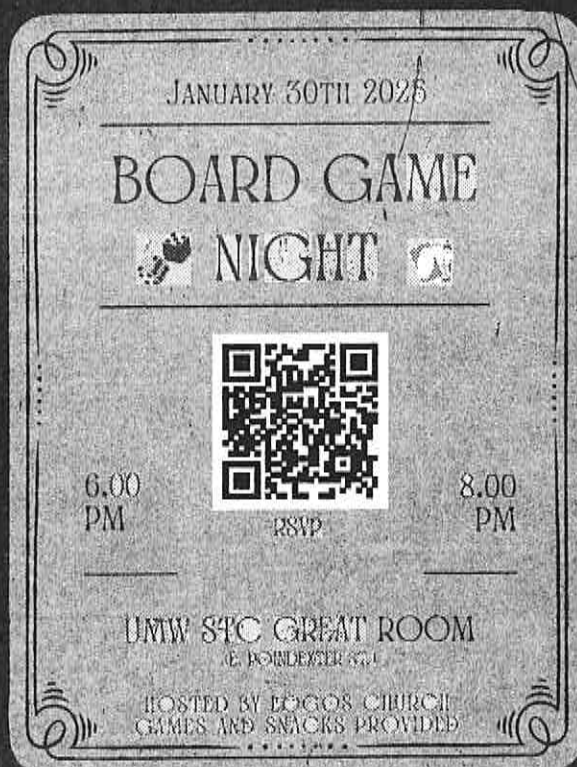


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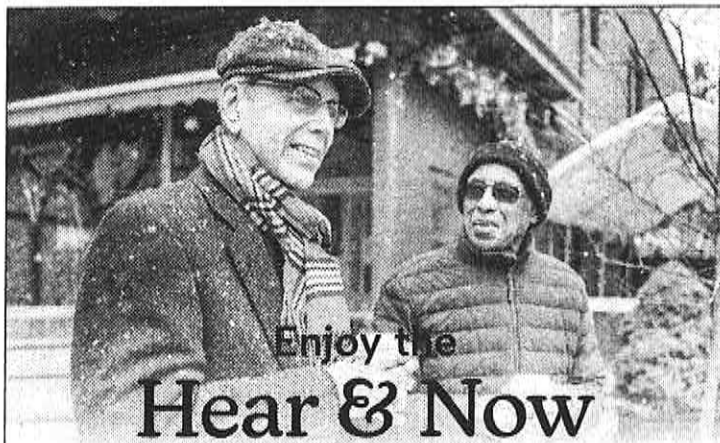
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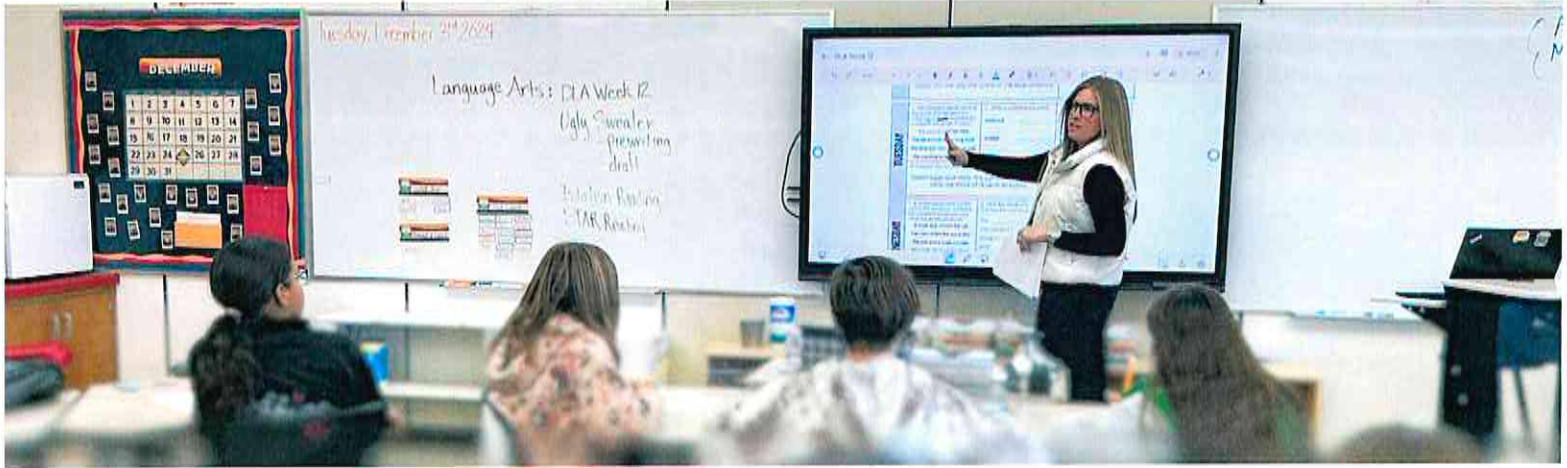
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Dillon Elementary School District #10

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.

 **\$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.

 **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.

 **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.

 **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.

 **\$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.



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?

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\$8.01 per year	Estimate for a home with a market value of \$100,000
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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.

