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Renowned Glass Artist Katherine Gray to Speak at UMW on February 27

The University of Montana Western is pleased to welcome acclaimed glass artist Katherine Gray for a free public presentation on her career, artistic process, and experience as the resident evaluator on Netflix's "Blown Away". The event will take place on Thursday, February 27, at 4:00 p.m. in UMW's Beier Auditorium.

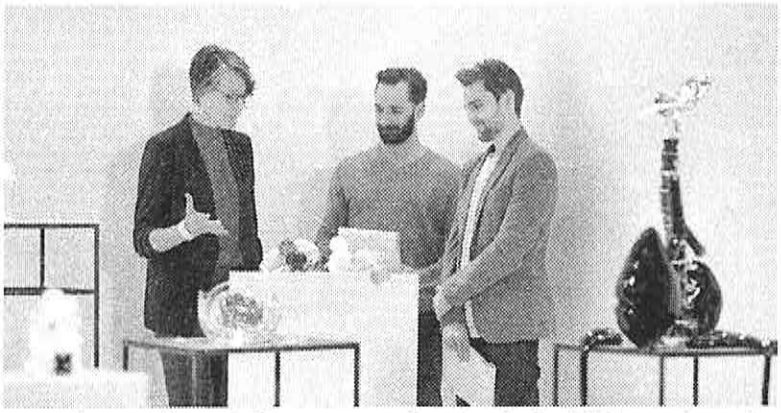
Katherine Gray is a distinguished Canadian glass artist known for her innovative and thought-provoking work. She earned her undergraduate degree from the Ontario College of Art in 1989 and her Master of Fine Arts from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1991.

Throughout her career, Gray has explored the multifaceted nature of glass, creating pieces that range from blown glass sculptures to installations using found glass objects. Her work often examines themes of transparency, functionality, and the everyday presence of glass in modern life. One of her most notable installations, "Forest Glass", features assembled found glass arranged to mimic the appearance of trees, encouraging viewers to reconsider the material's role and significance.

Gray's art has been exhibited internationally, with her pieces held in the Corning Museum of Glass in New York, the Museum of American Glass in New Jersey, and the Museum of Glass in Washington. In addition to her artistic practice, she is a professor of art at California State University, San Bernardino, where she shares her expertise with emerging artists.

Beyond academia, Gray has gained wider recognition through her role on "Blown Away", where she evaluates contestants' glassblowing skills and offers expert insights. Her contributions to the field have been recognized with several awards, including the Libenský/Brychtová Award from the Pilchuck Glass School in 2017, honoring her impact as both an artist and educator.

Gray's work continues to captivate audiences, inviting them to explore the unique qualities of glass and its often-



Katherine Gray (left) on season 2 episode 1 of "Blown Away"

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Join the Montana Western Glass Department in welcoming Katherine Gray to campus for an inspiring and educational evening. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, please contact UMW's Glass Program Coordinator and Associate Professor of Fine Art, Ruth King, at ruth.king@umwestern.edu or 406-683-7344.

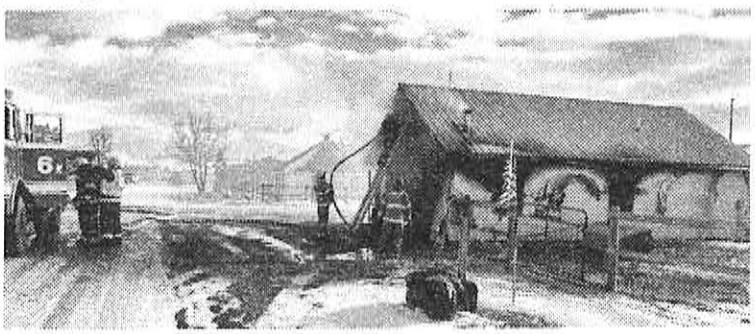
House Fire in Lima Results in Total Loss

Jeremy Crawford, Southwestern Montana News

On February 20, 2025, at 3:31 PM, Lima Fire and Ambulance were dispatched to respond to a house fire in Lima. Upon arrival, firefighters found the home fully engulfed in flames.

Fortunately, all occupants had safely evacuated the house prior to the firefighters' arrival. After speaking with the homeowner, it was determined that a suspected chimney fire may have been the cause of the blaze.

Despite the quick response from emergency services, the house was deemed a total loss. The investigation into the cause of the fire is ongoing, and officials remind residents to prioritize regular maintenance of chimneys and heating systems to prevent similar incidents in the future.



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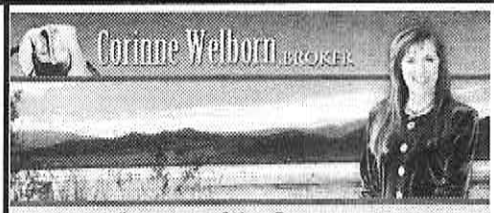

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LAW AND MOTION CALENDAR
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, BEAVERHEAD COUNTY

Time	Cause	Proceeding	Attorney for Plaintiff	Attorney for Defendant
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025				
Judge Berger is in Virginia City				
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025				
9:00	#24-4276, State vs Johnston	Outstanding motions/prior bad acts	Coty Calvin	Walter Hennessey
9:15	#25-4289, State vs Scharen	Change of plea	Coty Calvin	Walter Hennessey
9:30	#24-4265, State vs Steffens	Transfer hearing	Coty Calvin	Walter Hennessey
9:45	#25-4288, State vs Trombley	Initial appearance	Sky Jones	Addam Pincock
10:00	#23-4167, State vs Van Hook	Sentencing	Coty Calvin	Addam Pincock
10:15	#23-4169 & 4170, State vs Schmidt	Sentencing	Coty Calvin	Jill Gannon-Nagle
1:00	#23-14006, DeCock vs DeCock	Final hearing	Joshua Hudson	Kylee Gibson
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025				
Judge Berger is in Boulder				
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025				
9:30	#24-14034, Hiltz vs Hiltz	Final hearing	*pro se*	*pro se*
1:00	#25-887, 888 & 889, In re youths	Show Cause hearing (CLOSED)	Jim Reintsma	Katie Green Taryn Gray Helen McCarthy
3:00	#25-14785, Smith vs Barns PRCA Rodeo, *et al.*	Hearing on TRO	Jill Gannon-Nagle	TBD
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025				

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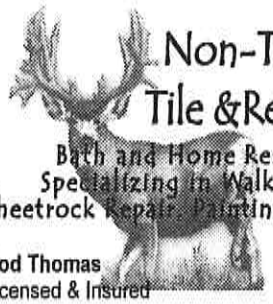
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Mountain lion management is a cooperative effort

For the past several years, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has worked with local hound handlers to monitor lion populations. This unique and beneficial relationship is an efficient way to monitor a highly elusive species.

"We contract with hound handlers from the public," said Molly Parks, FWP's carnivore coordinator. "The hound handlers are very skilled with highly trained hounds. That's exactly the skill we need to make this research project work."

The local handlers bring a high level of integrity to the data being collected.

"They care deeply for the resource and are committed to collecting high quality data. Plus, they are trusted members of the community and can help communicate results," Parks said.

Routine population monitoring began in 2019, when FWP developed a mountain lion monitoring and management strategy. Each winter, the hound handlers contract with FWP to use their dogs to track, tree, and biopsy dart the cats to collect a DNA sample in a new monitoring area

New this season, FWP biologists are also deploying GPS collars on a subset of the treed cats to collect additional data. The data collected from both biopsy darts and GPS collars will be combined with 25 years of lion ecology research and lion harvest data is combined in statistical models that estimate ecoregional lion abundance and density, predict the effects of lion harvest on those populations, inform management recommendations and set quotas.

The information gathered from field monitoring and results from population models are considered by the Lion Ecoregional Population Objective Committees (LEPOC), which are made up of hunters, livestock producers, hound handlers and others who have an interest in mountain lion management and live in the lion ecoregion. The LEPOC makes recommendations to FWP regarding population targets and highlight localized areas of concern. FWP staff propose quotas to the Fish and Wildlife Commission based on the LEPOC recommendations. The commission makes the final decisions on quotas and regulations each year.

"This field work is really the core of our lion monitoring," Parks said of the program. "We couldn't do it without lion hunters and hound handlers.".

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ZONING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, February 25th, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

1. Call To Order
2. Review and Approval of Minutes
   a. January 28th, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
   b. February 18th, 2025 Public Hearing Transcript
3. Director of Operations Report
4. Applications for Zoning Compliance Certificates for Review: 2025-004 685 Thomsen Ave David Waters Garage
5. Zoning Request for Brundage Garage Minor Subdivision
6. Discuss/Recommend Conditional Use Permit 2025-001 – 421 Glendale Street
7. Discuss/Recommend Changes to 17.104 and Set Public Hearing Date
8. Public Comment on Items of Significant Public Interest Not on the Agenda and Within the Jurisdiction of the Zoning Commission.
9. Adjournment

CALLING ALL SENIORS

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. **Feb. 26**: Breakfast for Lunch! Night-before French Toast, potato, egg & bacon side dish, fruit or juice and dessert.

Planning Board Special Meeting

Tuesday, February 25th, 2025 12:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

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Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance Urges Residents to Prepare for Flood Season

The Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI) is launching a public awareness campaign to educate residents about the critical importance of flood insurance and provide essential resources for protecting property against flood damage.

Flood Insurance Coverage and Eligibility

The CSI emphasizes that standard homeowners' insurance policies typically do not cover flood damage. Montanans are encouraged to consider separate flood insurance, which can be obtained through:

1. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) for residents in participating communities
2. Private insurance companies offering flood coverage

Commissioner Brown notes that "Many Montanans may not realize that their regular homeowner's insurance doesn't protect them from flood damage. We want to ensure all residents understand their options and can make informed decisions to safeguard their homes and belongings."

Key Information for Montana Residents

- 30-Day Waiting Period: There is a 30-day waiting period for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policy before coverage takes effect.
- Loss Avoidance Reimbursement: NFIP policyholders may be eligible for up to $1,000 to purchase loss avoidance supplies when flooding is imminent.
- Federal Disaster Assistance: This assistance is available only when the President declares a disaster; this assistance usually comes as a low-interest loan that must be repaid.
- Mandatory Insurance: Federal law requires flood insurance for federal or federally related financial assistance for buildings in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs).

Resources and Support

The CSI is committed to assisting Montana residents with flood insurance inquiries and concerns. Residents can access help through:

- CSI Helpline: 800-332-6148 or 406-444-2040
- FEMA Helpline: 800-621-3362
- FloodSmart Hotline (for those experiencing flooding): 888-379-9531

For comprehensive information on flood insurance and related resources, residents are directed to visit the CSI website at csimt.gov/your-insurance/flood.

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Track & Field Finishes Season on a High Note

The Montana Western track and field team closed out the indoor season at the Big Sky Turner meet on the campus of Montana State University.

In the women's 60m hurdles, Gracie Yakos got the meet started for the Bulldogs and earned a PR with a time of 10.32. She also competed in the 200m, finishing with a time of 29.16.

Erick Piazzola followed with a personal-best time of 7.80 in the 60m and later competed in the 200m, finishing in 25.41.

Competing in the men's 400m, Drake Delude would finish seventh with a time of 54.55.

Brody Henry set a personal record in the 800m, improving his best time by 3.40 seconds. He also competed in the mile, finishing with a time of 4:51.05. He was joined in the mile by Bridger Wheeler who finished with a time of 5:17.98.

In the women's mile Justene Santi led the Bulldogs with a time of 6:18.49, while Olivia Canney came in with a PR at 6:40.16 and Kylee Wyatt finished with a time of 7:11.68.

Kreg Butler ran his first 3000m of the season and came in with a time of 10:56.01.

Santi would return to the track competing in the women's 3000m and finished with a time of 12:19.79.

In the men's shot, Layne Cooney would finish with a throw of 12.94, while in the women's shot Ellie Stutsman would record a PR with her throw of 9.76.

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Dillon Garden Club February Workshop

The Dillon Garden Club will host a workshop presented by Trouts and Sprouts on Monday, February 24th, 6:00 pm, at the Bank of Commerce Conference Room, 2nd Floor, located at 110 South Idaho Street.

Trouts and Sprouts is a local aquaponic and micro-greens gardener. Aquaponics is a unique farming method that combines aquaculture, the practice of raising fish, with hydroponics, the method of growing plants in a soilless environment. Come and learn about this innovative method of growing your own food.

The Dillon Garden Club's regular business meeting will follow at 7:00 pm. All are invited to attend.

El Chapulin
705 N Montana St,
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Open
Tuesday - Saturday
8:30 am - 8 pm
Sunday
8:30 am - 5 pm
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

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Dillon Middle School News for February 24-28

The lunch menu for the week is as follows:

Monday: Chicken Teriyaki or Chicken Salad Bar
Tuesday: Swedish Meatballs or Taco Salad Bar
Wednesday: Pulled Pork or Chef Salad Bar
Thursday: Cheeseburger Calzones or Cobb Salad Bar
Friday: Chili with Cinnamon Rolls or Asian Chicken Salad Bar

On Tuesday, February 25, DMS Wrestling teams will depart for a Wrestling meet at 1:00 pm. The meet will be in Anaconda at 3:00pm.

On Thursday, February 27, DMS Wrestling teams will depart for a Wrestling meet at 2:00 pm. The meet will be in Butte Central in the Butte Central gym at 4:00pm.

On Friday, February 28, DMS Wrestling teams will depart for a Wrestling meet at 8:15 am. The Dual Wrestling Tournament will be in Butte East at 10:00 am.

On Tuesday, February 18th, MATHCOUNTS had a competition in Butte. Congratulations to 8th graders: Ripley Reasoner, Mya Creighton, Sage Rhodes, Kestrel Aiken, Lizzy Steadman, and Kendalyn Martin. 7th graders: Katelyn Smith, Reese Roberts, and Kaia Salix. 6th graders: Kora Wright, Adeline Bennett, and Quincy Jones for participating in the competition.

The MATHCOUNTS Dillon Middle School team of 4 placed first in the team competition. The students on the team were Mya Creighton, Ripley Reasoner, Kestrel Aiken and Kendalyn Martin. The school also found success in the individual competition earning five of the eight qualifying spots at the state competition. A score of 23 is considered exemplary, and we had two students who completed the competition with a score of 21 and 20. The following students who placed are Elizabeth Steadman (2nd place overall), Mya Creighton (3rd place overall), Sage Rhodes (6th overall), Kaia Salix (7th overall) and Kestrel Aiken (8th overall) out of a total of 35 students.

This is the first time Dillon middle School has sent students to the state competition since 2014. The 7 qualifying students will compete in the State MATHCOUNTS competition at Montana Tech on Monday, March 10th.

Mrs. Zier is very proud of their dedication and effort!

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Breakfast: Ham, Mushroom, Onion Scramble
Lunch: Chicken Cordon Bleu Sandwich
Soup: Homemade Cheesey Brocolli Soup
***Homemade soups are available on weekends too!
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Seasonal Labor
Elevation Agronomy, LLC is looking to hire seasonal labor. Loading and unloading of trucks, fuel delivery, general maintenance, and yard duties are some responsibilities. Overtime and weekend hours are possible. $16-$18 per hour with overtime wage starting after 40 hours/ week. Call 406-596-1572 for application information.

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- 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
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Please call 406-925-9931 with any questions or to apply.

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HELP WANTED 2/20-26 BILL
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The City of Dillon is now accepting applications for a Water/Sewer Clerk. The employee performs routine clerical, administrative, data processing, and other public services. Excellent benefits including State retirement, health insurance, paid vacation and sick leave. Beginning salary will depend upon experience, education and other beneficial qualifications. To apply, submit a cover letter, resume and City application to the City Clerk at 125 N Idaho. The deadline to apply is February 28, 2025. We begin interviewing on March 3. The City of Dillon is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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8/15- WC BILL

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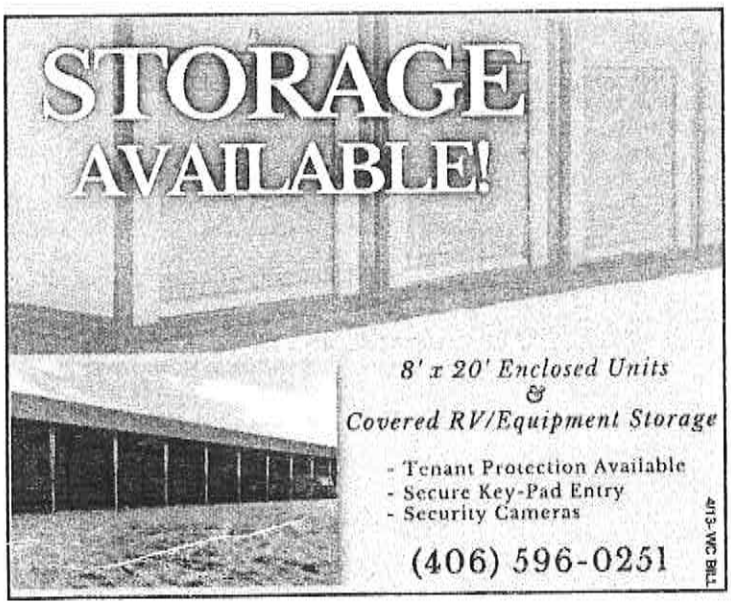

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Dillonite Advertiser

To the Dillon community and beyond:

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It has been my honor to serve this community for the last 7 years. Moving forward I will be working around the country until I can fulfill my dream of moving abroad. Thank you for all your support and memories. I will take them with me wherever I go.

2/24 C2P

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Everyone Welcome!

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2/13-3/4 BILL

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2/10-14 24-28 BILL

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March 5 & 19

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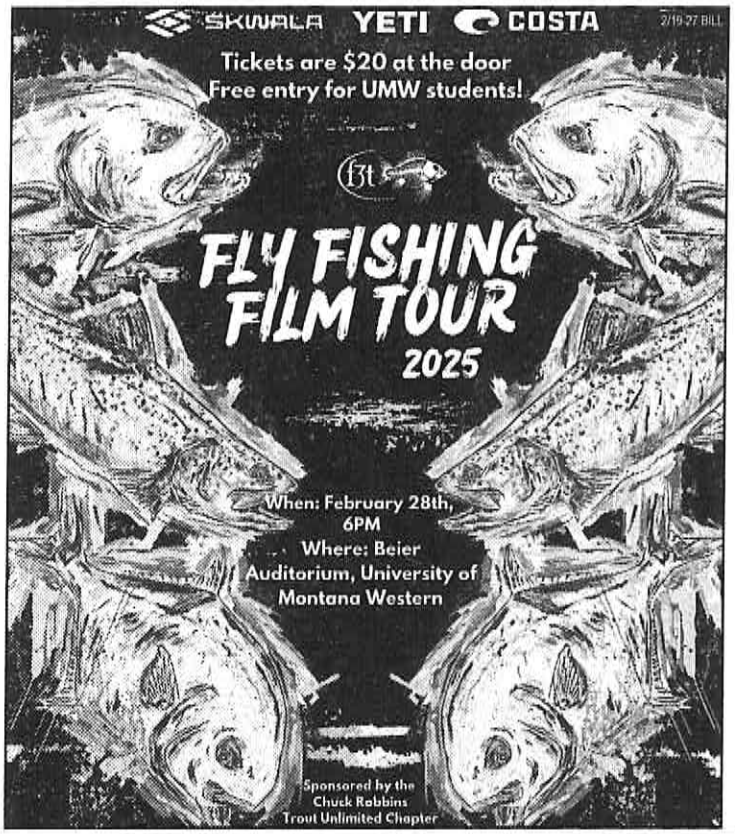

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Join us for the Annual Beaverhead FFA Alumni Friends Banquet

Saturday, March 1st

at the Keltz Arena

Social hour at 5 pm • Dinner at 6 pm

Tickets are $35 and can be purchased from any alumni member or at Womack's Printing.

Proceeds help the Alumni provide scholarships to FFA Members

2/17-28

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a detail-oriented administrative assistant with QuickBooks experience to join our team! In this role, you will manage accounts payable, reconcile bank statements, and assist with payroll and general office tasks. The ideal candidate should have QuickBooks experience, strong organizational skills, and basic accounting knowledge. Wage is commensurate with experience. If you're interested, please send your resume and cover letter to ap@ppincmontana.com with the subject line "Admin. Assistant."

Please call (406) 683-4471 with any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you!

2/14-27 BILL

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
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- Vision insurance

406.683.2550

301 Southside Blvd Dillon

7/12 WC BILL

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2/7-28 BILL

2/13-4/13 BILL
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3/10 PD

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www.remangusbeef.com

Apply Now – Accepting Applications
Position: Admin Assistant & Customer Service Rep
Fulltime: 8:00 to 5:00 Monday thru Friday
Compensation: $18 Dependent upon experience

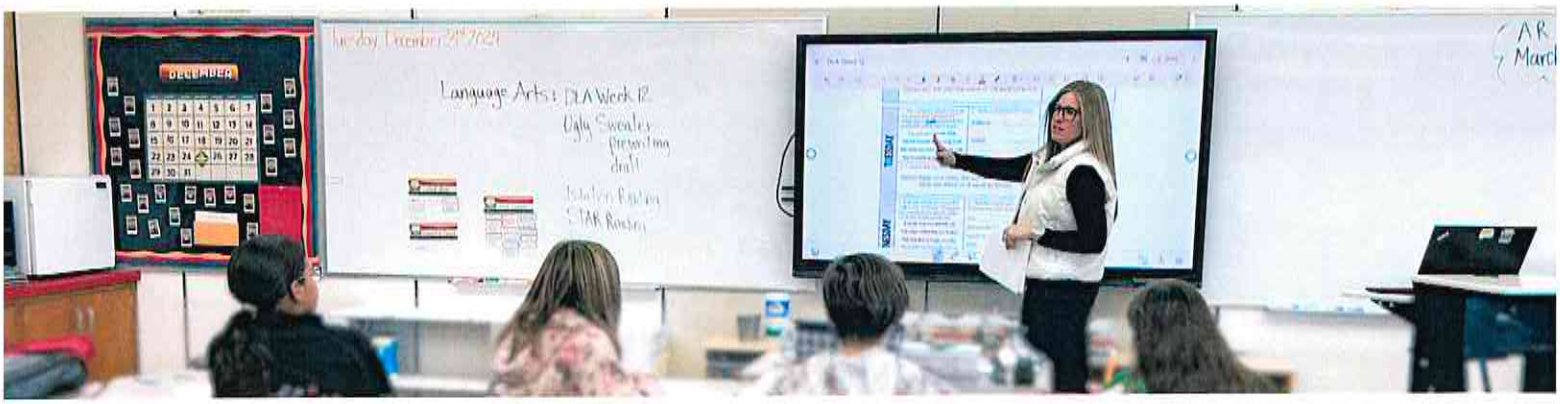
Interested parties: For more information on the position please feel free to contact the office at 406.683.6363 or email a resume to:
info@remangusbeef.com

Duties: Oversee all aspects of the operation, not limited to, but including:
- Working knowledge of office workflow
- Basic computer knowledge, operation of Windows, Microsoft Office, Excel, and Dropbox
- QuickBooks software
- Excellent communication skills
- Able to perform clerical duties
- Knowledge of working with websites and social media
- Skilled at developing and maintaining good relations with consumers, supplier partners, and team members
- Sales and Cold calls
- Logistics and Order Fulfillment

2/17-28 BILL

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.

You're Invited to Elementary Technology Levy Information Meetings

Join us for one of three community meetings to provide information and answer questions about the upcoming levy. Each session will be simultaneously available both via in-person and virtually at the following dates and times, taking place in the Parkview Elementary Cafeteria. We encourage you to join us at one of the sessions to learn more about the 2025 elementary technology levy that will appear on the ballot this May!

Tuesday, February 18th at 5:30pm **Tuesday, March 18th at 6:00pm** **Thursday, April 10th at 7:00pm**

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.