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## Thomas Mitchell McCarthy

October 30, 1956 — February 22, 2025



Thomas Mitchell McCarthy was born October 30, 1956, to Richard Matthew and Ruth Lucile McCarthy in Cleveland, Ohio. When Tom was 9 years old, the family moved to Mentor, Ohio, where he spent his formative years. At Mentor High School, he studied auto body, kindling a lifelong passion for muscle cars that would remain with him throughout his life.

It was during his high school years that Tom met the love of his life, Cheri McLane. The couple married on December 5, 1981, in Littleton, Colorado, where Tom worked in several beef processing facilities in the Denver area. After two years in Colorado, Tom and Cheri relocated to Dillon, Montana, which became their permanent home. Tom served as plant manager at the Nutracea plant in Dillon until his retirement in 2008.

In 1998, Tom embraced his most cherished role when he became a loving father to Ralph and Mandi. Despite his busy schedule, he prioritized family time, regularly taking them hunting, fishing, and camping - activities that brought him great joy. His dedication to family grew even stronger with the arrival of his first granddaughter, Avery, in 2017, who quickly captured his heart. His family expanded further in 2021 when Mandi married Jake Cain, and Tom welcomed Jake's daughter Kinslei as his second beloved granddaughter.

An avid sportsman, Tom was particularly passionate about pool, becoming the top-ranked player in his local Dillon league at the time of his passing. Through pool, he formed many lasting friendships that enriched his life. His love for hunting led to a memorable achievement in 2020 when, accompanied by his brother Rich, he harvested his largest bull elk in Colorado. Tom's brother Rich and nephew Mike also facilitated numerous family adventures, creating cherished memories through their travels together. In 2021, Tom received his brother Rich's 2020 Shelby Cobra GT 500, which became his most treasured possession.

Tom was preceded in death by his father, Richard Sr., mother Ruth, and brother Richard Jr. He is survived by his loving wife, Cheri; son Ralph (granddaughter Avery); daughter Mandi (Jake, granddaughter Kinslei); nephew Mike (Lindsay, Tyler, Ember); sisters-in-law Sue Borwick, Jan McCarthy, and Jeannie Spoon (Earl); Bonnie Barnes; brother-in-law Ralph McLane Jr. (Hope, Becky, Ralph III); and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Tom will be remembered as a generous soul who touched countless lives with his willingness to help others and his

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genuine care for those around him. His kind spirit and unique character left an indelible mark on all who knew him.

Funeral services will be held 11am Friday, February 28, 2025, at Dillon Baptist Church, 539 Thomsen Avenue, Dillon. Interment will follow at Mountain View Cemetery, with a lunch reception afterward at the Dillon Baptist Church activities building.

Friday evening before the Calcutta & the Crawshaw Tournament at the Elks Lodge, there will be a moment of silence to honor Tom, a beloved member of the billard community. Following that there will be a Celebration of Life at the Buffalo Lodge from 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM.

**75th Anniversary Dinner for  
Beaverhead County Museum**

Be sure to get your tickets for the Diamond Anniversary celebration of the Museum in its current location. The dinner will be held on March 19, 2025, at the Lewis and Clark room of UMW and will kick off a year of celebration. There will also be a silent auction of donated items.

Don't miss this celebration. Tickets are available at High Peaks Credit Union, The Museum, Womack's Printing and the NV salon. The ticket prices are \$30 for an individual, \$50 for two people, and \$200 for a table of eight. So, gather your friends and come and see what has evolved in the last 75 years at the Museum.

**NOTICE OF WOLF CLOSURE  
WOLF REGION 4**

By order of the Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission, the above listed Region as described in the current legal descriptions, shall be closed to the hunting of ALL Wolves one-half hour after sunset on Tuesday, February 25th, 2025.

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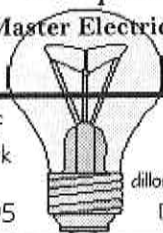
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## Montana Department of Commerce

*The Weekly Roundup is designed to be simple, easy to digest  
and informative - just the information you need.*

Made in Montana Trade Show wholesale buyer registration is open. Join the Montana Department of Commerce at the 2025 Made in Montana Trade Show on Wholesale Buyer Day on March 7, 2025. You must own, manage or buy for a retail store, shop or restaurant to pre-register as a wholesale buyer on our website.

Registration for the Montana Department of Commerce's Governor's Conference on Tourism is open through April 1, 2025. The event will feature a wide variety of sessions focusing on a "The Road Ahead" theme. Hear from industry leaders and get the inside scoop on what tourism is looking like in Montana.

Applications are sought for the "Exporter of the Year" awards. Don't miss this opportunity to spread the word about your 2024 export success. Contact our Export team for more information.

## 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.

**March 5:** Beef taco, corn, condiments, rice, fruit or juice, dessert.  
**March 12:** Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies, fruit or juice, dessert. **March 19:** Corned beef, potatoes, carrots, fruit or juice, dessert. **March 26:** Stroganoff, vegetable or salad, fruit or juice, dessert.

## Beaverhead GOP Announces Annual Lincoln-Reagan Day Dinner.

The Annual Beaverhead Republican Dinner is scheduled for Sat., March 15, 2025 at the Frontier Event Center. Speakers will be Dan Happel, Radio Pod cast Host at Patriots Soapbox. Com., Senator Tony Tezak, and Representative, Shannon Maness.

Prime Rib is on the Menu for \$45.00. Please call your reservations in by March 7th to J.S. Turner at 406-660-6831, Nancy Johnson at 406-865-0037 or Danna Harrison at 406-660-1136. Please plan to come for information, food and fun.

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## BCHS School Play

The BCBS school play this year is Oz, by Don Zolidis. The play, Oz, puts a modern spin on the classic story, The Wizard of Oz, and is a hilarious and heart-wrenching exploration of grief and perseverance on the road to acceptance.

Oz will be performed by the BCBS Drama Club and is directed by Ellie Currey.

Performances will be held in the BCBS auditorium at 7 pm on Thursday, February 27th, and on Saturday, March 1st at 3 pm and 7 pm.

Tickets are \$7/adults, \$4/kids under 18 and free to all BCBS students and staff. Thank you so much!

## Bulldogs Defeat Rocky, Lock in No. 4 Seed for Frontier Tournament

The Montana Western men's basketball team (16-12) closed out the regular season with a strong 80-66 victory over Rocky Mountain College (18-10).

Jalyn Stepney led the Bulldogs in scoring with 26 points, knocking down six three-pointers.

"I'm so happy for our three seniors to go out at home like we did today," Head Coach Pat Jensen said. "We had huge contributions tonight, and it was a total team effort. Thank you to everyone who came out—it was a great crowd, and our guys thrived on it."

In a back-and-forth first half, both teams struggled with their shooting early. Stepney provided a spark with two three-pointers, while Jacob Ankeny and Kevin Bethel also contributed baskets for the Bulldogs.

Abi Adedo added four points, including a thunderous dunk, while Billy Carlson chipped in five. Stepney continued his strong play, scoring eight more points and hitting two additional three-pointers. Western took a 31-27 lead into halftime.

Stepney stayed hot in the second half, draining two more three-pointers. Bethel turned defense into offense, scoring five points as the Bulldogs extended their lead to 51-41 midway through the half.

Rocky responded with a quick 6-0 run to cut the deficit, but the Bulldogs answered with a 9-1 run fueled by Adedo's strong play inside. That surge put the game away, securing the victory for Montana Western.



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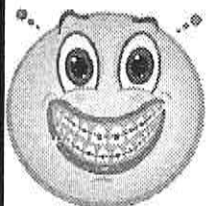
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## Bulldogs Battle Early but Fall to Montana Tech

The Montana Western men's basketball team (15-12) fell on the road to No. 15 Montana Tech (21-6) by a score of 80-61.

Clarence Martin led the Bulldogs with a career-high 13 points.

Bethel, Merritt, and Carleson each scored eight points for the Bulldogs.

Bethel led the team with seven assists and two steals. Merritt paced Western with nine rebounds.

The Bulldogs shot just 33.9% from the field and they finished 13-of-17 from the free throw line.

## Women Battle Hard but Fall Short Against Tech

The Montana Western women's basketball team (7-19) fell to RV Montana Tech (18-9) 80-67.

Isabella Lund and Keke Davis would each score 16 points to lead the Bulldogs in scoring. Despite shooting just 7-of-20 in the first quarter, the Bulldogs out rebounded Tech 11-6 and scored seven second-chance points that would keep them close, trailing 18-17. The Orediggers went on a 9-0 run to take a 27-19 lead, but Davis responded with six second-quarter points, keeping Western within striking distance at halftime, 33-25.

The Bulldogs went 7-of-9 from the free throw line in the third quarter. Sammi Love and Payton Hagy each hit a three to try and keep Western in the game. However, Tech outscored Western 25-21 to maintain their lead. In the fourth quarter, the Orediggers continued to shoot the ball well and held the Bulldogs scoreless for a span of nearly two minutes. Western would be out rebounded 12-6 in the quarter.

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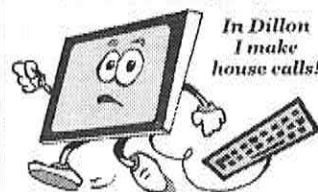
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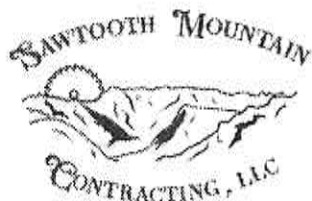
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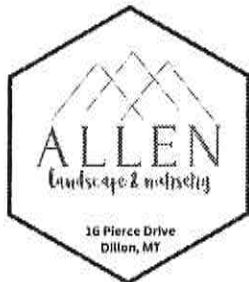
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- 2/24 Mon Scholarship Information Night Room 213 6:00 pm
- 2/24-2/25 Mon-Tue Band @ UM Concert Band Festival  
U of M 8:00 am
- 2/25 Tue Boys & Girls Basketball vs Butte Central  
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- 2/25 Tue Junior Class Registration Presentations BCHS

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## PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: Beaverhead County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

Beaverhead County Disaster and Emergency Services will be hosting public meetings to discuss the update of the county's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and to gather input from the public and community stakeholders.

Meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

- **Monday, Feb. 24, 4:30-6 pm**  
**Beaverhead County Courthouse**
- **Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6-7:30 pm**  
**Grasshopper Valley Firehall**

CWPP's are a crucial planning document to prepare communities for wildfire. Creating and regularly updating a CWPP allows a community to influence how land is managed on federal and state lands for wildfire risk reduction, identify and map wildfire hazards, identify effective wildfire risk mitigation strategies, and be eligible for certain nationally competitive grants.

## FWP releases final environmental impact statement for the 2025 Wolf Management Plan

- Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has released a final environmental impact statement (EIS) analyzing potential environmental impacts from the statewide management of gray wolves.

Issuing the final EIS is a key step in a process that started in 2023, when FWP originally released the draft EIS. The draft EIS was made available for public review and comment from Oct. 20, 2023, through Dec. 19, 2023, and again from Feb. 8, 2024, through March 9, 2024. The additional 30-day comment window was to offer an opportunity for additional input from Tribes and affected counties.

"This final EIS means the update to the 2003 Wolf Plan is nearly complete," said FWP Director Christy Clark. "We appreciate the comments and feedback we've received on our draft documents from people across the state and country. That input is critical in ensuring we have a plan that is effective in managing wolves moving forward."

FWP analyzed two alternatives in the final EIS. Alternative 1, the "no action" alternative, would represent the status quo. Under Alternative 2, FWP's proposed alternative, FWP would adopt and implement the 2025 Montana Gray Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. If approved, the statewide plan would



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replace the 2003 Montana Wolf Conservation and Management Planning Document. The 2003 Wolf Plan does not include details on how wolves are currently monitored and managed. It also does not address recent research regarding monitoring methods and management strategies, such as surveys on wolf tolerance and nonlethal preventative strategies.

The final EIS addresses issues and concerns raised during the public comment period. All new information and analysis supplied during the comment period were used to prepare the final EIS and FWP's response to comments received on the draft EIS.

To view the final EIS, comments received on the document and FWP's responses, and edits to the EIS, please visit the FWP wolf management webpage.

### Nichols' Career Night Falls Short as Bulldogs Drop Thriller to Rocky, 84-81

The Montana Western women's basketball team (7-20) lost a hard-fought battle against RV Rocky Mountain College (19-9) 84-81.

Trinidad Nichols led the Bulldogs with a career-high performance, knocking down seven three-pointers (7-10) and finishing with 34 points on 13-21 shooting from the field.

Both teams came out strong from beyond the arc, with Rocky shooting 4-8 and the Bulldogs hitting 5-7. Nichols connected on three triples in the first quarter, but Rocky held a narrow 22-20 lead.

Rocky continued to shoot 50% in the first half while scoring 18 points in the paint. Payton Hagy contributed to the Bulldogs' offensive success, knocking down three three-pointers. Montana Western won the rebounding battle and carried a 45-41 lead into halftime.

Rocky responded with a 10-0 run to start the second half, reclaiming the lead. Maddy Moy chipped in four points and recorded a block on the defensive end, but the Bears maintained a 63-54 advantage.

Nichols led the Bulldogs' fourth-quarter push, scoring 14 points, while Hagy added five points and Moy provided key rebounding. Down 83-80 in the closing moments, Montana Western had possession but committed a costly turnover. Rocky then sealed the game at the free-throw line.

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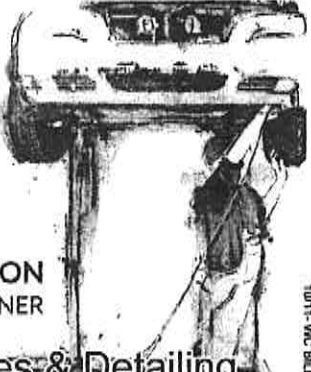
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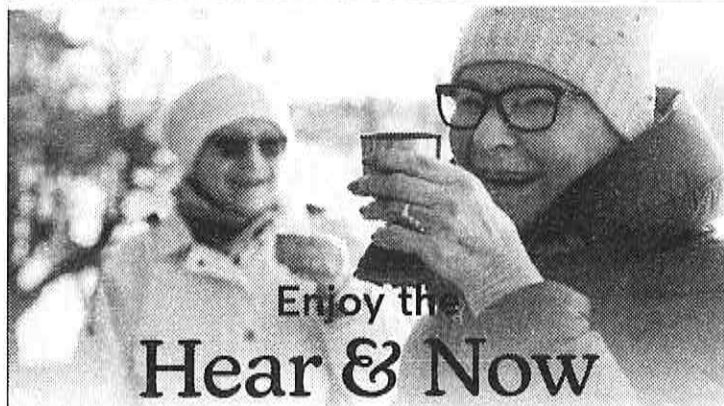
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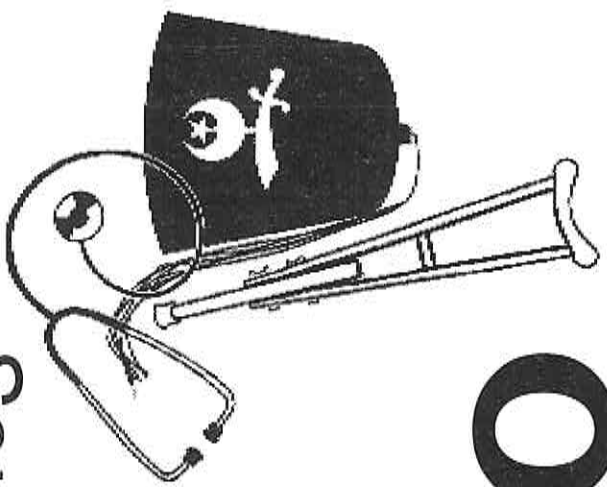
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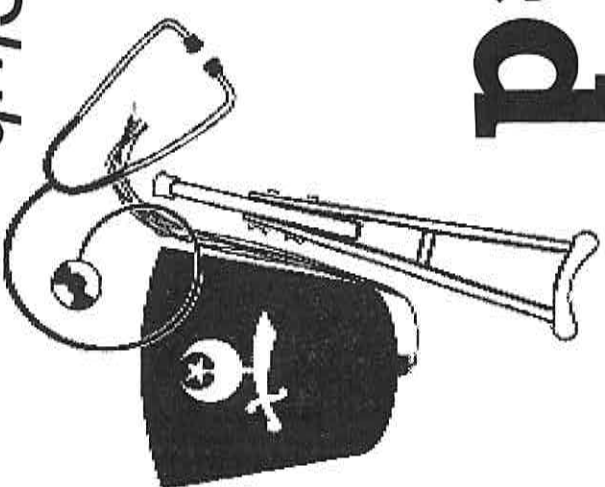
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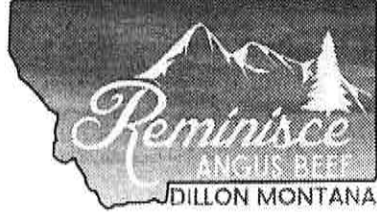
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Duties: Oversee all aspects of the operation, not limited to, but  
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2/17-28 BILL

# 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

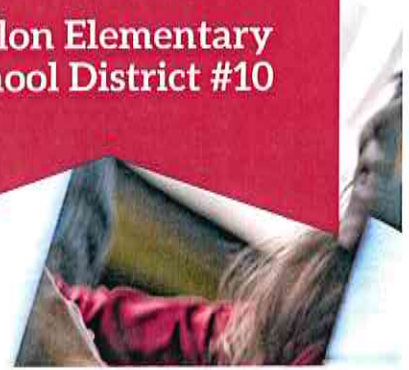
Thursday, April 10th at 7:00pm

# 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.



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

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

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