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James B. Dupuis

July 25, 1965 - December 4, 2025

James Brian Dupuis, aged 60, of Divide, Mont., passed away at home surrounded by family, December 4, 2025, due to a rare brain degeneration disease. Born on July 25, 1965, in Butte, Mont. to Francis and Sharon Dupuis.



Jim spent his childhood moving around but found a permanent sense of belonging on the family homestead in Divide, Mont., which he proudly called home. He graduated Malta High in 1984 and later earned a BS in Sociology from MSU in 1997. Jim dedicated

17 years of his career to serving as a Juvenile Probation Officer in Butte, where he was deeply committed to the welfare and rehabilitation of young individuals. His work extended beyond professional boundaries, including roles at bible camps and overseeing family visitations, reflecting his dedication to community service.

In 1991, Jim married his beloved wife, Audrey (Weyer) Dupuis. Together, they raised two children, Jonathan Dupuis and Megan (Dupuis) Wolken.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Jonathan Dupuis. Jim is survived by his wife; children; parents; brothers, Joseph and Mark Dupuis; and several nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

Jim's was an enthusiastic motorcycle rider and had a love for the outdoors.

A service to honor Jim's life will be held at the Divide Grange in Divide, Mont. on December 14, at 2 p.m. Jim's commitment to helping others and his vibrant spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew him.



Brad De Groot, DVM, PhD

"Dying in one's sleep is called a kiss of God, and dying on the Sabbath is a gift that is merited by piety."

-Susannah Heschel

Bradley Dean De Groot entered into his eternal reward on the Lord's Day, Sunday, December 7, 2025 after an eight-year trial with neuroendocrine tumors. Brad's parents, Glenn and E. Joy De Groot, welcomed their son into the world on Sunday, October 1,

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1961 at the same hospital in Denver, Colo. where he drew his last breath.

Brad attended school in Denver and Phoenix, but from the time he was eight, he spent his childhood summers working at Nelson Farms in Phillips County, Kan. Working with livestock on the farm became the seedbed of his career as a livestock veterinarian and epidemiologist. Brad received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1988 from Colorado State University, and his Master's and Doctorate in Epidemiology in 1996 and 1998, respectively, from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, after completing coursework and teaching veterinary students at the Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center near Clay Center, Neb. Brad's advanced-degree expertise was in data analysis and data-driven consulting, but his occupational delight was working with cattle in the open-air "grit and bang" alongside cattlemen. He enjoyed any veterinary labors associated with food animal stewardship and production, and was a gifted equine doctor. Brad's career encompassed clinical practice, academic research and teaching, veterinary product development, and state veterinary regulatory work in the Southwest, High Plains, and Rocky Mountain West.

Brad met his wife, Krista, on a senior small-animal surgery rotation in vet school when he picked up her husky's chart for a routine neuter. On July 6, 1988, in an outdoor ceremony at the historic Onahu Ranch, Rocky Mountain National Park, Brad and Krista vowed covenantal lifelong fidelity to one another, cinched tight by the guiding hand of Christ Jesus, their Lord. "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12). In the spirit of God's Genesis 1:3 bidding, they

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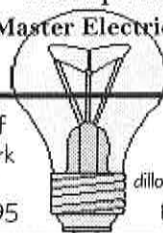
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joyfully welcomed their children, Ingrid Gabrielle in 1996 and Britta Isabel in 1998. Brad solemnly embraced his role as husband and father and lived out his Christian faith by nurturing his family in the ways of God through the power of His Word and the Holy Spirit. He committed himself to the Apostle Paul's admonishment to love his wife "as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her" (Ephesians 5:25) and to the principles of his Lord Jesus, especially as he suffered at the end of his earthly days, to "lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

Brad was preceded in death by his father and two pre-born children. He is survived by his mother, his wife, and two daughters.

Family and friends will honor Brad and his Savior in a funeral at Callaway United Methodist Church, Callaway, Neb. at 10:30 a.m. on December 19, 2025. His body will be interred at Waldheim Cemetery near Callaway. The family will hold a memorial service at First Presbyterian Church in Dillon, Mont. at 11:00 a.m. on January 3, 2026.

Memorial contributions are welcome to Desiring God Ministries (<https://www.desiringgod.org/>), Riverbend Bible Church (<https://www.riverbendbiblechurch.org/>), or Christian Veterinary Mission (<https://cvm.org/>).

The Holiday Meal Project

Premier Plumbing and our partners in the trades are proud to launch the Holiday Meal Project, coming together to give back to the community that supports us all year long.

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Through community nominations, we'll select local families, purchase the meals, and personally deliver them the week of Christmas. If you know a family who could benefit from a holiday meal, we invite you to nominate them.

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General season ends with mild weather, mixed hunter harvest rates in southwestern Montana

Hunter harvest rates in southwestern Montana were mixed during the general deer and elk hunting season, according to data gathered by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks biologists. Mild weather during much of the general season made it challenging for hunters to find game at some lower elevations.

The general season was held over five weeks and six weekends from Oct. 25 through Nov. 30. During that time, FWP staff operated game check stations at various times and locations in Region 3, including stations in Alder, Cameron, Canyon Ferry, Divide, Gallatin Canyon, Lakeside and Silver City. Collectively, they met with 7,069 hunters who harvested 49 white-tailed deer, 174 mule deer and 355 elk.

Biologists use check stations to collect data on hunter participation and success, as well as the species, sex and age class of the animals harvested. Check station data captures a portion of hunting activity on weekends in specific areas. Hunter numbers and harvest rates can be influenced by weather, changes in hunting regulations from one season to another, and other factors. Biologists also rely on information collected through hunter harvest phone surveys each year.

The Alder check station was open on the first, third and sixth weekends of the general season. Over those three weekends, wildlife staff met with 719 hunters who collectively harvested six white-tailed deer, 28 mule deer and 47 elk. The hunter harvest rate for the final weekend was 14 percent, below the long-term average of 20 percent but an increase from the 11-percent harvest rate over opening weekend.

The Cameron check station was open each weekend during the general season. Wildlife staff there met with 2,635 hunters who harvested 25 white-tailed deer, 45 mule deer and 159 elk over the six weekends. Hunter harvest rates ranged from 5.7 percent on Nov. 8-9 to 10.8 percent on Nov. 22-23. The number of hunters checked was above average, but the number of elk checked and hunter success rates were below average. Warm and dry conditions for most of the season kept elk dispersed throughout their range and difficult to track. This year, 73 percent of elk checked were harvested on public land. Whitetail and mule deer harvest were average for this area.

Biologists operated a check station at Canyon Ferry on the first and

Merry Christmas

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final weekends of the general season. They met with 602 hunters who harvested one white-tailed deer, 14 mule deer and 15 elk. Hunter harvest was about 7 percent on both weekends.

The Divide check station was also open each weekend during the general season. Wildlife staff there met with 1,464 hunters who harvested four white-tailed deer, 57 mule deer and 64 elk over the six weekends. Hunter harvest rates ranged from 6.3 percent on Nov. 8-9 to 13.4 percent during opening weekend. Hunter numbers were 11 percent greater than in 2024 and 8 percent greater than average. Hunter success was equal to last year and 7 percent below average.

The Gallatin check station operated during the first, third and sixth weekends of the general season. Wildlife staff there met with 457 hunters who harvested four white-tailed deer, three mule deer and 21 elk. Hunter success was highest over opening weekend at 7.5 percent and lowest during the final weekend at 3.2 percent. Overall, this season showed average numbers of elk, mule deer and white-tailed deer harvested, with the number of hunters being below average.

The Lakeside check station was open during the third weekend of the general season, where wildlife staff met with 191 hunters, about 8 percent of whom harvested game.

The Silver City check station operated on opening and closing weekends of the general season, with hunter harvest rates of 6 and 7 percent, respectively. Staff met with 1,001 hunters who harvested four white-tailed deer, five mule deer and 16 elk over the two weekends.

The Toston check station was open on Nov. 9, which brought 73 hunters and a harvest rate of 8.3 percent. Those hunters harvested six mule deer.

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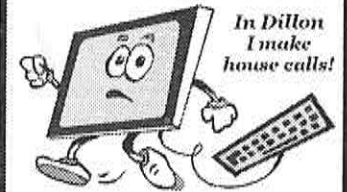
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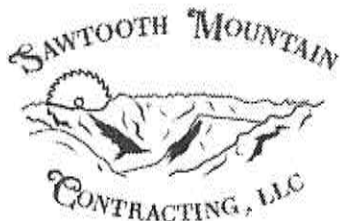
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Please submit a letter of interest by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 2025** to the following address, hand-deliver to the Commissioners Assistant in the Courthouse, or send an email to dbasile@beaverheadcountymt.gov

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Community Rallies to Recover Stolen Snowman in Unexpected Dillon Christmas Adventure

Jeremy Crawford, Southwestern Montana News

What began as a frustrating act of holiday theft turned into a feel-good community moment on Tuesday afternoon when Dillon residents banded together to recover a stolen snowman decoration — proving local Facebook pages can be used for far more than complaints about city government.

Earlier in the day, resident Mike Feldt reported that his snowman Christmas decoration had been taken from his front porch. The post quickly spread across local community pages as residents shared the alert, determined to help bring "Frosty" home. Southwestern Montana News was tagged in the post and helped amplify the search.

Before long, "Operation Save Frosty" was in motion.

While out working, I overheard a scanner report of a Ranger pulled over near Big Sky Cinema. Believing it might be connected to the theft, I drove by to investigate — only to find it was merely a side-by-side, not the suspect vehicle. Moments later, however, luck changed. As I headed back through town, I spotted the very truck believed to be involved in Frosty's disappearance parked at the Little Town Pump.

I parked across the street, began recording the license plate, and prepared to contact the police. At the same moment, another vigilant citizen pulled up, already on the phone with law enforcement.

Thanks to the quick response of community members and Dillon Police, the suspect was contacted and Frosty was safely recovered. The snowman was soon returned to his rightful place on Mike's front stoop — much to the delight of neighbors following the saga online.

In true holiday spirit, what started as an act of Grinch-like mischief ended as a small Christmas miracle, reminding Dillon residents that this community looks out for one another — and that nobody gets away with stealing Frosty in this town.

Sign Ups for Little Skiers

Sign Ups for Little Skiers will be This Thursday Night from 6-8pm down at the JC Building at the Fairgrounds.



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Holiday Parties

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Player Promos- Thurs "Nifty 50"

Progressive drawing @ 6 PM!

8 N. Montana St.

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Wisdom, M.T. Christmas Stroll Itinerary - Don't Get Lost, or You'll Miss the Fun! Saturday December 13

1:00pm-5:00pm: find the perfect gift at the craft fair and check out the raffle inside the Community Building.

1:00pm-6:30pm: Go tree-hunting around town, and don't forget to swing by The Pintler Station for an ornament for the towns tree and vote for your favorite tree at The Messy Bun.

3:00pm-5:00pm: Time for some Santa selfies at the Community Building - don't forget that wish list!

3:30pm: Meet the horse team and wagon at Larry's Automotive for some old-school caroling.

4:00pm-5:30pm: Warm up with some hot cocoa from the stand outside Pintler Station- you're gonna need it!

5:00pm: Get in line for the parade between Larry's Automotive and Southern Montana Telephone Company. Spectators line up on the side walks on the main street through town Hwy-43.

Oh, and The Messy Bun (inside The Silver Mine building) got fresh coffee and sales all day - score! If you're starving, Antlers Saloon and Fetty's have got you covered. Wisdom Market's got your essentials, and Pintler Station's got the gas to get you on your merry way. Stay warm by the fire pits, just don't forget to feed 'em some wood every now and then!

MEETING NOTICE Beaverhead Conservation District

NRCS Office

December 11th, 2025, 6:00 pm

Our phones are down, If you need to reach us, please email

Jess at BeaverheadCD@gmail.com

Dillon Jaycee Little Shooters Sign Ups

Sign-ups for little shooters will be December 16th, and 18th, in the basement of city hall from 630-730pm (look for the sign across from the event center on Idaho St.). For questions call or text William Hampton 406-660-1313

Big Sky Cinema I & II

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Zootopia 2

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Winter Grill Hours

Monday - Wednesday
11 am - 9 pm
Thursday & Friday
11 am - 10 pm
Saturday 8 am - 10 pm
Sunday 8 am - 8 pm

Holiday Grill Hours

Christmas Eve & Day
11 am - 8 pm
New Years Eve & Day
11 am - 9 pm

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Classified Cont.

Cowboy Christmas 12/12 PD

Annual "Cowboy Christmas" Boutique! one of a kind handmade items - ornaments, quilts, diamond art, much more. Friday 12/11 & Saturday 12/12 9 am - 4 pm 552 Tenderfoot Trail

FOR SALE 12/10-23 PD

8 Boxes z-Brick "Country Rustic" Style. Each box covers 6 square feet \$10 per box Call 1-400-8343491

UMW-Catholic Campus Ministry Knights of Columbus & RE 5th Annual

Christmas Tree Fundraiser

5'-12' tall
\$5.00 per foot
cash, check, venmo

NOV 28 - NOV 29

FRIDAY
2PM-5:30PM
SATURDAY
10AM-2PM

DEC 4 - DEC 6

THURSDAY
3:30PM-5:30PM
FRIDAY
3:30PM-5:30PM
SATURDAY
10AM-2PM

DEC 11 - DEC 13

THURSDAY
3:30PM-5:30PM
FRIDAY
3:30PM-5:30PM
SATURDAY
10AM-2PM

St. Rose of Lima Parish Parking Lot
for more information email sean.claffey@tnc.com

11/24, 26, 12/1, 4, 8, 11 PD

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12/6-23 BFDL



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12-10-1/10 BILL

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Dillon Jaycees

Little Shooters Sign Ups

Sign-ups for little shooters will be December
16th, and 18th, in the basement of city hall
from 630-730pm (look for the sign across
from the event center on Idaho St.).

**For questions call or text William
Hampton 406-660-1313**

Open House!

205 N. Pacific, Dillon MT

Sunday, December 14th, 2-4 pm



Your next great investment! Traditional craftsman style home featuring 5 bedrooms (one non-conforming) 2 full bathrooms. The main floor boasts historic hardwood floors, a modern kitchen, dining room, living room, and lots of storage, conveniently located in walking distance to schools, and downtown. The upstairs second story has 3 bedrooms with a full bath and a private outdoor balcony. The home features a new gas forced air furnace, hot water heater, modern vinyl windows, and a newer roof. The town of Dillon is known for its beautiful Pioneer mountains with abundant hiking, skiing, hunting, fishing, and anything else your outdoor heart desires. Do you have a boat? Clark Canyon Reservoir is only 20 minutes away! Enjoy both water recreation and fishing.

Dillon is home to the University of Montana Western which provides additional educational and entertainment opportunities. If you've ever dreamed of small town living and getting away from the hustle and bustle of more urban areas, this is the place to come and see!

**For more information call Realtor Bill Louis at 406-209-6601
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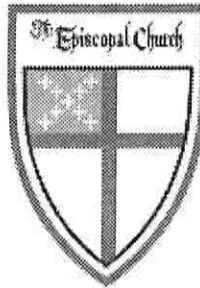
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12/9-1/9 PD



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Dillon, Montana

406.683.2735

stjamesdillon@live.com

Services 10 am

2nd & 4th Sundays, Eucharist

1st & 3rd Sunday, Morning Prayer

12/30- WC BILL TH



Join Us at Patagonia for Holiday Shopping & Community Gathering!

Friday, December 12

3:00PM – 6:00PM

Bring a nonperishable food item and
receive 15% off your purchase.

All food donations will benefit the
Beaverhead Community Food Pantry

Enjoy light refreshments and
connect with your community
while you shop.

We can't wait to
see you there!



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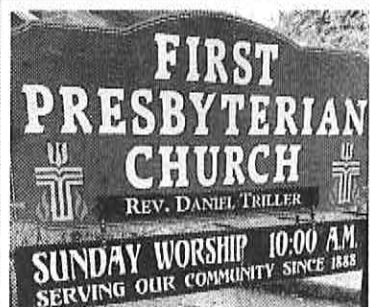
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12/15- WC TH/F

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- Septic Pumping

6/25-WC BILL

8/14-WC BILL

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11/12-2/13 BILL P



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12/8-23 BILL

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NOVEMBER 17TH - DECEMBER 19TH
EDWARD JONES 134 E REEDER ST, DILLON

Pick up an application or a name/tag off the tree at the Edward Jones office across from the Joyce Park and help a neighbor in need!

Questions? Please contact Barbby at 406-680-9511 or Ashly at 406-683-4269

Please return your wrapped gift with tree tag attached, no later than Tuesday, December 16th. Gifts will be delivered or ready for pick up Friday, December 19th.



UNITED WAY
Beaverhead County

10/17-12/19 BILL

Lazy P Garage, LLC

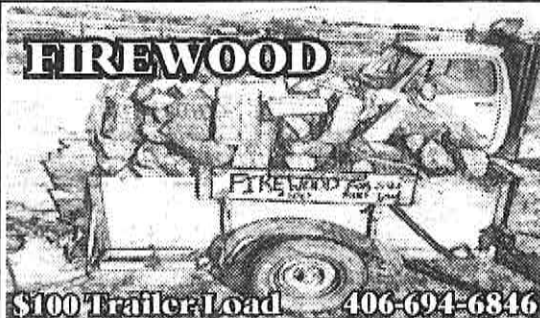


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Call for an appointment
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2/28 PD

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12/5-11

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3/14-WC BILL

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THIS PROJECT HELPS PROVIDE COMPLETE
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THE INGREDIENTS FOR A FULL HOLIDAY
DINNER—TO FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY
WHO DESERVE A LITTLE EXTRA LOVE THIS
SEASON.

THROUGH COMMUNITY NOMINATIONS,
WE'LL SELECT LOCAL FAMILIES, PURCHASE
THE MEALS, AND PERSONALLY DELIVER
THEM THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS.

IF YOU KNOW A FAMILY WHO COULD
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YOU TO NOMINATE THEM.

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE:
BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 15TH.

DINNER SUPPLIES WILL BE DELIVERED BY
DECEMBER 22ND.

**PLEASE NOMINATE A
FAMILY WHO YOU FEEL IS
DESERVING OF
A CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Submit nominations by:
Email: service@ppincmontana.com
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A People's Choice Award will be Presented
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Proceeds from the sale benefit Tendency Fine Art
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11/17 - WC BILL

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Happy Holidays
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with appointments available.

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11/17 - WC BILL

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11/17 - WC BILL

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Call for Rates 406-660-2276
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LMJ 12/28 PD

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HELP WANTED WC

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2 Rentals Available For Rent 11/20 - WC BILL

Country Living! Great Views!
Clean 2 bedroom furnished home. OR ANOTHER 2 bedroom unfurnished. All utilities except internet included. No smoking. No pets except on approval. References. Call 406-498.4847

FOR SALE 12/8-19 PD

Insulated 7x9 Ice fishing house. 3 holes - never used - metal roof & siding. Has skids & walk-in door.
\$2700 Call 406-498-8315

HELP WANTED 11/20 - WC BILL

L&S Meats in Dell is looking for a meat wrapper, no experience needed 3-4 days per week. No weekends. Call 406-276-3640

Attn Hunters 10/15-12/14

My dog Jake has been diagnosed with allergies to everything except VENISON, BEEF LIVER and RICE. Beef liver can cause copper poisoning in dogs. Rice is ok as a supplement but it can contribute to inflammation for dogs with allergies. With this very unusual diagnosis I am struggling to keep my dog alive. If you have any venison, elk or moose in your freezer that you don't want I sure could use it. I will pick it up. Call me - Catherine Cain 406-498-6198 Jake thanks you!

FOR RENT 11/19 - WC BILL

1. 3 bedroom one bath, newer model, very clean mobile home available now. No smoking, no pets. Deposit required. \$750/month. Call 406-596-1246 or Text 406-660-0852
2. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Very clean recently remodeled, raised living room, large kitchen/dining room. \$750/month deposit required. No smoking, no pets. Call 406-596-1246 or Text 406-660-0852

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Commercial Property in Town - 12 E Cornell on Blacktail Creek 2500 SQ Feet. Excellent Light, Heated w/ Office & Bathroom \$1,200 Per Month
Call or Text 406.660.0650

SUITE FOR RENT 12/8-1/8 BILL

5 Minutes from Hospital and College
Furnished Bedroom Suite with Bathroom Shower/Tub Large Living Room with Bar & Kitchenette. Ideal for a Professional working at the Hospital or University. Well behaved Pet allowed \$600 per month
Call or Text 406.660.0650

HOME FOR RENT 12/8-1/8 BILL

High End 5Bed 5Bath 5 Minutes from Hospital and College Multiple Living Rooms, Game Room, Theatre. Large Fenced Yard and Small Field, Well Behaved Pets Allowed. Horses Open for Discussion \$3,000 per Month
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HANDYMAN 12/3-1/5 PD

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FOR SALE 12/9-22 PD

Adjustable twin bed used for 6 months. Some bed included make reasonable offer. Call late afternoon or evening 406-683-3519

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406-596-0864 Most Repairs
Call today! Open M-F 8am - 4 pm
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MEA is seeking a full time Propane Delivery Driver
Job Duties:

1. Deliver propane to customers
2. Performs simple maintenance on trucks
3. Load and unload product
4. Maintain daily truck reports
5. Assist with taking physical inventories
6. Attends schools and meetings as required
7. 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

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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.

Skunk Removal 11/17-12/16 PD

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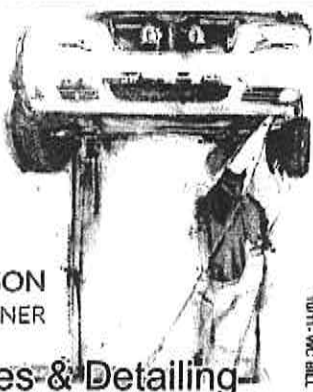
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