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Wednesday, January 14, 2026

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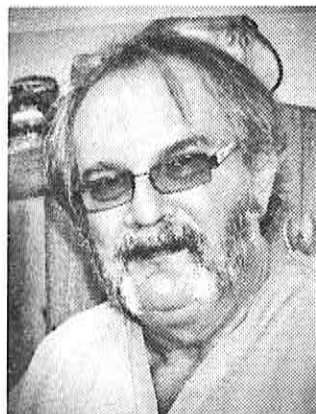
Dillon Resident Mitchell Gene Friesz, born on November 10, 1959, in Houston, Texas, passed away on December 26, 2025, in Missoula, Montana. He was 66 years old.

Mitchell's life journey began in the heart of Texas and led him through many places and experiences that shaped the man he became. Throughout his life, he remained deeply connected to his daughters.

He is lovingly remembered by his daughter Brianna Friesz of Madison, South Dakota; his adopted daughter Corey Smith of Madison, South Dakota and will be deeply missed. Survived by his brother Vince Friesz of Butte, Montana; and his sister Julienna Friesz of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Nieces and nephews—Stephanie, Janet, Aaron, Ethan, and Seth

Mitchell was preceded in death by his father Gene Friesz; mother Barbara Willis Friesz; stepmother Debbie Friesz; paternal grandparents Reinhardt and Elizabeth Friesz; and maternal grandparents Archie and Aveal Willis.

May Mitchell's memory bring comfort to those who knew him and loved him. There will be no services held.



Stan Shafer Ice Fishing Derby Cancelled

The 2025 Beaverhead Search and Rescue Stan Shafer Memorial Ice Fishing Derby scheduled for Jan 18th 2026 will be cancelled due to poor ice conditions. For those that already purchased tickets, members will be calling to coordinate if people want a refund.

The Gun Raffle is still happening however. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at 406 Armory or from any Search & Rescue member. Gun is a Spikes Tactical AR15 with red dot laser and drawing will take place in late June.

Sincerely,
Kolby Malesich
Commander
Beaverhead Search & Rescue

9th Annual Beaverhead Marathon & Half Marathon

Montana Events Foundation is excited to be hosting the 9th Annual Beaverhead Marathon and Half Marathon on May 23, 2026 in Dillon, Montana.

The marathon is a loop course, the half marathon is an out and back course, both races start and finish at Beaverhead Brewing Company. For more information and to register go to montanarunningcompany.com

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Ice Melt Fund Raiser - Cancelled

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The Rotary Club of Dillon would like to announce the
cancellation of the 2026 Ice Melt Fund Raiser, due to the
continued unseasonably warm weather.

The Club is considering other means of fund raising, if
you are interested in helping the Rotary Club, please reach
out to any Rotarian.

Our meetings will continue as planned.

Thank you.

Dillon Rifle & Pistol Club

Annual meeting will be Wednesday, January 14th at
7:30 PM at the 4H building at the Fairgrounds. Bring keys
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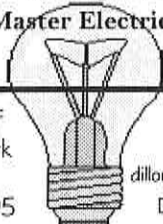
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MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY JANUARY 13, 2026
COURT REPORT

NAME	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Jason Kenworthy Pre-Trial Conference	Assault Intimidation	Plea None Bond Posted Motion Regarding Speedy Trial

Beaverhead Ambulance Services Special District

AGENDA

Friday, January 16, 2026

10:00 AM

Beaverhead County Courthouse - Commissioners' Room

- A. Call to Order
- B. a. Review and approve minutes of October 17, 2025, meeting
b. Review and approve Treasurer's Report
- C. Announcements
- D. Old Business
 - a. Report on Beaverhead EMS proposed resolution for the ambulance district and the process to be followed
- E. New Business
 - a. Information for 2026 Special Purpose District Election and calendar/due dates
 - b. Next meeting will be April 17, 2026, at 10:00 in the Beaverhead County courthouse.
- F. Public comment - Public comment on items of significant public interest not on the Agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Beaverhead Ambulance Services Special District Board.

Right to Life Month

Annual Fundraiser Breakfast for New Hope Pregnancy Center
Sunday January 18th, 10:00am - 12:00 pm, St Rose of Lima
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Programs/Group Exercise

Stop by the "Y" TODAY and check out our group exercise programs and aquatic activities.

Body Blitz (T,TH - 5:45am), Biker Blast (M,F - 5:45am), Yoga Strength (T,TH - 7:00am),
Yoga (M,W,F - 12:10pm), Senior Fit (M,W,F - 9:00am), Rapid Burn (M,W - 8:30am), Interval
Strength (T,TH - 8:30am), Strength & Conditioning (M,W-5:30pm), Ride to Rhythm (T,TH - 5:30pm),
Chair Yoga (M,W - 10:00am),
Restorative Yoga (T,TH-9:30am), Pilates (M,W-5:45am)

Adventures in After School Program

This program starts September 3rd and gives participants a more in depth programming while
giving parents flexibility to fit work schedules. Children will ride the bus to the Y, have a snack, and
then be involved in the camp offered for that week. You may sign up for a week or the month, it's
up to you. Children in K-5th grade are eligible to join. Camp will end at 5:30pm each day.

Camps will be offered all school year long with the exception of school holidays.

Full and half day programs will be offered on school's out days for an additional charge.

A separate registration is required.

AFTER SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

First in the After School Series (Jan. 20th-Jan. 23rd) is "Dream Week."

This week we will learn about the stars and galaxy.

Winter Swim Lessons

Winter swim lesson #2 starts February 9th. Spots are limited, sign up now!

YMCA Swim Team

Join our team from 4:30-5:30pm every Tuesday and Thursday starting in February 2026.

Mens Basketball League

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 6:00am-7:00am. Members free and all others \$8.00/day.

Women on Weights

New year. New routine. New you! Starts January 12th with classes on Mondays and
Wednesdays at 6:30pm with class at 5:30pm on and Fridays.

SWMTE-YMCA 20TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY/MEMBER APPRECIATION

Thanks to everyone who attended our celebration and a special thanks to Keith Handlos/Marv
Furnandiz and our staff. Most of all thanks to our members and donors for the last 20 years!

YMCA Online Registration

Online registration for programs available now. Please visit www.swmtf-ymca.org
YMCA's have long been at the forefront of serving their communities and making a
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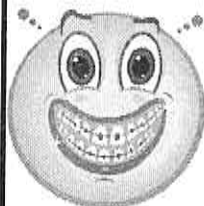
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Beaverhead County/City Board Of Health

Barrett Hospital Board Room
Dillon, MT (Breakfast AT 8:30 A.M.)
9:00 a.m., Friday January 16, 2026

Call meeting to order ~ Establish Quorum

- 1) Reorganization of Board
- 2) Beaverhead County Tobacco Prevention & Be
The Change 406 Coalition Update
- 3) Public Health Update
- 4) Barrett Hospital Update
- 5) DES Update
- 6) Sanitarian Report

DISCUSSION and/or ACTION ITEMS

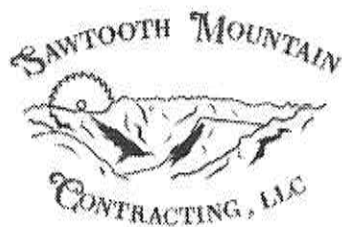
- A. Old Business~ Approval of October Minutes
- B. Discussion- Revision of By-Laws Update
- C. Discussion- Review of Vaccine Schedules
- D. Public Discussion/Comments on Subjects Under
BOH Jurisdiction Not on Agenda
- E. New Business
- F. Meeting Schedule~ Next meeting tentatively
April 17, 2026 in Lima
- G. Adjourn the Meeting

Beaverhead Conservation District Meeting

NRCS Office | January 15th, 2026, 6:00 pm

If you need to reach us, please email Jess at
BeaverheadCD@gmail.com, call (406) 683-3802

The meeting will be in-person, but we can open
a conference call line if anyone is interested, please
let us know by noon the day of the meeting. Submit
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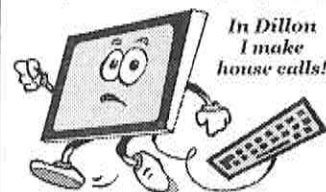
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Bulldog MBB Defeats Providence 83-74

The (RV) UMW men's basketball program (14-3, 9-2 FC) held off a late surge from Providence (2-15, 2-9 FC) to earn the 83-74 win and go 2-0 on the weekend.

The Argos cut the lead to as few as two points late in the second half, but the Bulldogs managed to get themselves out of danger for the nine-point win.

"Really proud of our guys for going 2-0 on the weekend," head coach Patrick Jensen said. "It was a really good effort to take away the three-point line. We've got a big road trip coming up next weekend."

STAT BREAKDOWN - Western shot 43.3 percent (26-60) from the floor, 32.1 percent (9-28) from beyond the arc, and 84.6 percent (22-26) from the foul line.

The Bulldogs registered 40 rebounds, 15 assists, six blocks, and four steals. They posted 24 points in the paint, eight points off turnovers, four second-chance points, and 18 bench points.

LEADERBOARD - Kyle Gruhler led all players with 27 points, followed by Emanuel Steward (22), David Young (15), and River Hurley (13).

Young led the team in both rebounds (eight) and steals (two) while Steward dished out a game-best five assists.

Gruhler posted a game-high two blocks.

NOTABLES - Hurley drained a career-high 13 points on 71.4 percent (5-7) shooting, including going 3-3 from beyond the arc.

Young matched his career-high in rebounds. Gruhler and Steward scored at least 20 points for the 12th and seventh times, respectively. The Bulldogs held UP to 15.4 percent from three, the second lowest opponent three-point percentage of the season. Third-most made free throws on the campaign.

FREE PICKLEBALL LESSONS

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And Beaverhead Pickleball Association

A free public pickleball lesson is set for Thursday, January 22, 2026 5:30 to 7:00PM at the Southwestern YMCA, 75 Swenson Way, Dillon, MT. All you need is a clean pair of tennis shoes, and the hosts will supply the paddles and balls for the free lesson. You need not be a member of the YMCA to participate.

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Prairie Bible Church pg 7

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Western Women's Basketball Smothers Providence

The Montana Western women's basketball program (7-8, 5-6 FC) defeated (RV) Providence (10-7, 6-5 FC) 60-46 Saturday evening.

In a game that was tightly contested through three quarters, the Bulldogs outscored the Argos 18-6 in the final period to take the win.

"I'm really proud of this group for how they competed tonight in a huge conference game against Providence," head coach Ryan Sullivan said. "Ava Bellach stepped up in big moments and knocked down some time threes while also giving us seven tough rebounds. Maile Wilcox was extremely efficient and made the right plays all night, and Keke Davis was a force around the basket on both ends. This was a total team win."

STAT BREAKDOWN – UMW shot 40.3 percent (25-62) from the field, 29.2 percent (7-24) from deep, and 75.0 percent (3-4) from the charity stripe. Western recorded 45 boards, 13 assists, 10 steals, and five blocks. The Bulldogs put up 28 points in the paint, seven points off turnovers, nine second-chance points, and 27 bench points.

LEADERBOARD – Keke Davis posted a team best 11 points to go with a game-high nine boards. She also led the team with three steals.

Ava Bellach (nine) drained three fourth-quarter threes to help seal the win. Isabella Lund and Brooke Deyak shared the game-lead with four assists apiece. Kyle Pancost swatted a game-best four blocks.

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Bulldog WBB Falls to (RV) MSU-Northern 63-40

The Montana Western women's basketball program 6-8, 4-6 FC) were clipped by (RV) MSU-Northern 63-40.

STAT BREAKDOWN – UMW shot 26.7 percent (16-60) from the floor, 20.0 percent (3-15) from distance, and 62.5 percent (5-8) from the foul line. Western recorded 34 boards, seven assists, 11 steals, and two blocks.

LEADERBOARD – Bailee Sayler paced the team with 10 points while Keke Davis pulled down a team-best six rebounds.

Brooke Deyak and Sammi Love each tallied two assists. Isabella Lund tied for the game-high with three steals. Both Davis and Sayler earned a block in the contest.

NOTABLES – The Bulldogs registered double figures in steals for the fourth time this season. Sayler reached double digits in points for the ninth time on the campaign. Lund posted her fifth game with at least three takeaways.

Western Men's Basketball Outlasts MSU-Northern

The (RV) UMW men's basketball program (13-3, 8-2 FC) persevered for a close 77-70 victory over a pesky MSU-Northern (10-6, 5-5 FC) squad.

The game featured 10 ties and 13 lead changes as the Bulldogs pulled away late to secure the seven-point victory.

LEADERBOARD - Kyle Gruhler led the team with 19 points, with Emanuel - Steward (18) and Joshua Whiteside (11) also reaching double figures. Joshua Whiteside led all players with eight rebounds while Steward topped the team in assists (six). Billy Carlson and Kolter Merritt each snagged a steal for UMW. Steward, Jacob Ankeny, and Whiteside swatted one block apiece.

NOTABLES - Western posted 10 or more steals for the 10th consecutive game.

The Bulldogs shot a season-best 92.3 percent from the foul line. Every player who saw the court scored and tallied a rebound. Gruhler drained five threes for the fifth time on the campaign. Steward reached six steals for the fourth time in the last five games. Whiteside scored in double figures for the sixth time.

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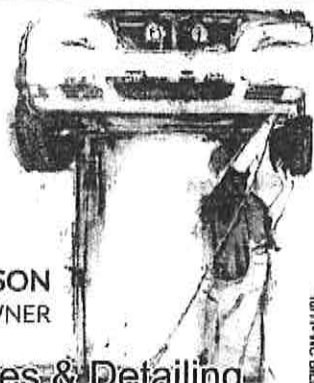
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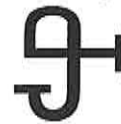
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA WESTERN

BOC 25

the best in student performing arts series

SPRING PRODUCTIONS

Missoula Children's Theatres

THE SECRET GARDEN

JANUARY 31, 2025

THE COUNTRY WIFE

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

APRIL 18 - MAY 2, 2025

ROALD DAHL'S WILLY WONKA

JUNE 12 - 14, 2025

TINYURL.COM/3DSHNEB7



DILLON DU PRESENTS:

**LOVERS
BINGO**

Sat., February 14th

**10
BINGO
GAMES**

ELKS LODGE

27 E CENTER ST

DILLON, MT 59725



SCAN CODE FOR
MORE
INFORMATION!

BEAVERHEADVALLEYDU.ORG

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM

BINGO STARTS AT 6:00PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TAYLOR AT 406-925-2120

1/13-16 PD



PERSONALIZED CONSULTATION APPOINTMENT
THE FIRST AND THIRD WEDNESDAY

January 7 & 21

Our schedule is filling up fast!

Call to schedule an appointment today
to save your spot! 406.865.3260

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ON THE ROCKS SPEAKER SERIES

CAM CARSTARPHEN
Hydrogeologist, Associate Professor,
Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

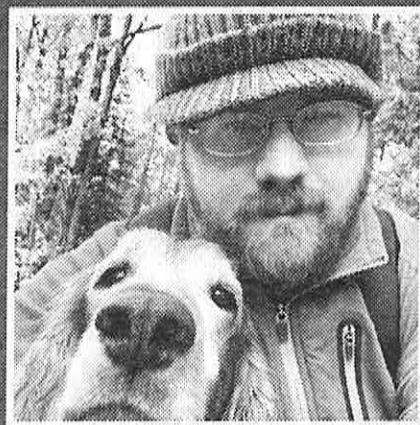
MATTHEW SMITH
Hydrogeologist, Master's in Environmental Geology,
Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

USING GEOCHEMISTRY TO ANSWER NATURAL RESOURCE QUESTIONS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026
UMW Lucy Carson Library | 4:00 - 5:00 PM
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



I'm Cam Carstarphen, and I have been in Montana and with the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology for 30+ years. Although I enjoy all geology subdisciplines, I was drawn academically to sedimentology. I adore being outside. My work at MBMG has allowed me to integrate my love of landscape, geology, puzzles, study design, analysis, and outreach together into one position. Using that to understand and map Montana's aquifers has been a joy.



I'm Matthew Smith, and I'm in my last year of graduate school, fulfilling the requirements for a Master's in Environmental Geology with a focus on Hydrogeology at the University of Kansas. Furthermore, I work for the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology as a hydrogeologist based out of the Billings field office. Previously, I served in the Marines and retired after 10 years. I live in central Montana near Roundup, where I maintain a small ranch and my slice of paradise. I have a love and passion for all fields of Geology, but have grown to appreciate the forensics of aqueous isotopes and ion chemistry to unravel system processes and sources.

THE UNIVERSITY *of* MONTANA WESTERN

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare

Financial Assistance

Notification

If your household earns 200% or less of the published federal poverty level you are eligible to apply for assistance with your Barrett Hospital & HealthCare bills. For details see below and contact Barrett Hospital & HealthCare.

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare (BHH) offers financial assistance to those who apply, qualify, and submit all required documentation timely for the program. The financial assistance program is a payer of last resort and applicants should check with Insurance Market Place the local Office of Public Assistance (OPA) to determine if they qualify for programs or coverage prior to applying.

BHH's financial assistance program is administered in conjunction with the Federal Poverty Guidelines that are used nationwide and that pertain to medical services provided at Barrett Hospital and Healthcare only. These guidelines incorporate rationale for age, number and ages of dependents and provide definitions of family and net income. The United States Department of Health and Human Services sets the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines and applies annual revisions to account for increases in the Consumer Price Index. BHH increases the federal poverty income levels from 100% to 200% for eligibility purposes.

To apply for assistance and/or to obtain free copies of the policy and application interested parties should contact a personal finance advocate by:

Phone: 406-683-3034

Email: fc@barretthospital.org

**Write: Barrett Hospital & HealthCare
Attn: Personal Finance Advocate
600 MT Hwy 91 South
Dillon, MT 59725**

**In Person: Barrett Hospital & HealthCare
600 MT Hwy 91 South
Dillon MT 59725
Monday – Friday 8a-5p
(Excluding holidays)**

Payments

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare offers zero interest payment plans and also contracts with long term billing companies to offer you additional budgeting options (NO credit reporting). Contact a personal finance advocate for details.

Extraordinary Collection Actions (ECA):

Patients that do not contact the personal finance advocate or respond to statements will ultimately be transitioned to an outside agency that may or may not affect credit.

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare will not take any ECA actions without making a reasonable effort to determine at patient's financial assistance eligibility in accordance with limitations outlined in the Credit, Collection and Uncompensated Care Policies and the Financial Assistance Policy (FAP). It will be the responsibility of the Financial Assistance Committee to determine if reasonable efforts were made to access the eligibility of a patient/guarantor for financial assistance.

Dillonite Advertiser

Published by Womack's Printing Place, dillonads@womacksprinting.com 126 N. Montana, Dillon, MT 406-683-4903
Available on the web from: www.dillonite.com **Ad & Insert deadline 3 pm Monday - Friday**



Our Vision: A healthy and safe Beaverhead County.

Our Mission: To increase healthy opportunities and decrease substance misuse among youth through collaboration, education, and advocacy.

From: Be the Change 406 Coalition

Vacancy Announcement: Project Coordinator

Special Requirements: An exciting opportunity currently exists for a dynamic individual to impact the reduction of underage drinking and other substance use and misuse and promotion of healthy community and youth in Beaverhead County!

The Project Coordinator will develop and nurture community partnerships, provide leadership and support of multiple community sectors and age groups, and maintain grant-required measures and reports with integrity. This position will be working directly with county youth to facilitate the youth coalitions' goals and operations.

The successful Project Coordinator must be a self-motivated, organized person who is able to communicate effectively with diverse populations. Strong writing and computer skills are required including creating visual aids, Web content management, and advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office applications. The employee will be expected to apply for and administer grant projects. This requires reporting, fiscal management, and documentation of volunteer hours, meetings, and activities.

A bachelor's degree in a social services, public health, or related field (other degrees will be considered) and/or significant experience as program administrator or project manager preferred, along with relevant experience relating to our mission. This full-time position requires occasional weekend and evening hours, as well as travel within and outside Beaverhead County. Field, office, and remote work abilities will be necessary, thus allowing the employee to maintain a flexible schedule within the 40-hour work week obligation. Background check required. Full job description is attached to online job application.

Email snichols@dillonelem.k12.mt.us for application information.

Completed application, cover letter, resume, and references should be submitted to:

Simone Nichols, Federal Programs Director Dillon Elementary Schools

Email: snichols@dillonelem.k12.mt.us

Phone: (406)683-4311, option three (ask for Simone Nichols)

Review of applications will begin upon receipt until filled.

1/14-20

THE DEN IS HIRING!

Positions available:

- Dishwashers
- Line cooks
- Prep cooks

Come by and grab an application.

11/17 - WC BILL

Dillon Local Government Study Commission

Final Scheduled Public Forum

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026 6-8pm

Dillon Elks Club, 27 East Center St.

Voice What You want in Your City Government!

Results of Commission Surveys and Interviews

Gift Card Drawing and Refreshments for Attendees

1/12, 14, 16 & 19

PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA WESTERN CONTINUED ACCREDITATION

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) invites public comment about the University of Montana Western during its Year Seven Evaluation accreditation review. UMW is currently accredited by the NWCCU. The accreditation of UMW was reaffirmed by NWCCU in the comprehensive evaluation in 2018. A NWCCU evaluation committee will visit UMW from April 22-24, 2026, as part of the next comprehensive evaluation process.

Written and signed comments regarding the university's qualification for continued accreditation must be received by April 12, 2026. Please mail comments to NWCCU, 8060 165th Avenue NE, Suite 100, Redmond, WA, 98052, or call the Commission at 425-558-4224. All comments will be forwarded, as received, to the university, evaluation committee, and the commission.

Comments may be submitted directly to the NWCCU electronically via its Upcoming Evaluations web page.

To obtain a copy of Accreditation Standards and Policies – Public Notification and Third Party Comments Regarding Year Seven Evaluations visit www.nwccu.org, or contact the Commission office at 425-558-4224.

— Montana Western —