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Tuesday, April 7, 2026

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Clarene AuLani "Lani" Burch, 76

Clarene AuLani "Lani" Burch, 76, of Dillon, passed away Friday, April 3, 2026 at Barrett Hospital & Healthcare. She was born on January 21, 1950, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Obituary to follow.

Arrangements are under the direction of Brundage Funeral Home. Condolences for the family may be posted online at www.brundagefuneralhome.com

Bring Back A Bannack Days Tradition: Volunteers Needed

The Bannack Association and Bannack State Park want to bring back a Bannack Days tradition, demonstrating skills of the frontier home. You might remember Doris Richard sitting in the Jackson House churning butter and reminiscing about days long ago. Well, we are looking for people to fill this void and volunteer their time and share their skill with visitors. We are looking for people to demonstrate crocheting, knitting, tatting, and any other skill from the time period. You can be there for a few hours or all day. Bannack Days is scheduled for July 18 and 19 celebrating both the 50th anniversary of Bannack Days and 250th anniversary of the USA. For more information, please contact Bannack State Park at 406-834-3413 or Cathy Speich-Ferguson at 406-925-2209.

The Beaverhead Chamber of Commerce and Visit Dillon our annual Treasure Hunt

The Beaverhead Chamber of Commerce and Visit Dillon are excited to announce the return of our annual Treasure Hunt, kicking off this Memorial Day weekend!

In partnership with the University of Montana Western Glass Studio, Ruth King and her talented students have created truly unique, one-of-a-kind glass art pieces. Each piece reflects Montana's rich history and proud ranching heritage.

This year, more than 200 handcrafted glass hats will be hidden throughout Dillon and Beaverhead County—at local businesses, along trails, and in other fun, unexpected places. If you find one, it's yours to keep!

Be sure to take a photo with your hat at the business or location where you found it and send it to info@beaverheadchamber.org to be entered into a drawing for a \$100 Chamber Bucks certificate.

The Treasure Hunt runs from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, so there's plenty of time to explore and discover.

So get out, visit your favorite local spots, and embark on your own Indiana Jones-style adventure right here in our community.

Happy hunting!

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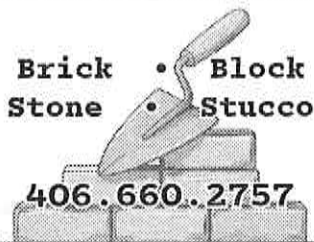
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Dillon Jaycees Host Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Vigilante Park

Jeremy Crawford, Southwestern Montana News

The Dillon Jaycees welcomed families to Vigilante Park on Saturday, April 4, for their annual Easter egg hunt, drawing a large crowd of eager children ready to gather treats.

Kids lined up in anticipation as an old-time fire engine prepared to signal the start. Thousands of Easter eggs, along with candy bars and other goodies, were scattered across the park, waiting to be collected.

At exactly 10 a.m., the fire engine's horn sounded and children rushed into the park, quickly filling their baskets. Within just a few minutes—by 10:03 a.m.—most of the eggs had been gathered, with participants continuing to search for any hidden treasures that may have been missed.

The annual event once again provided a fun and festive way for local families to celebrate the Easter season.



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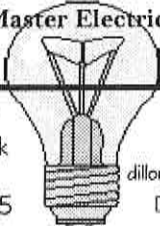
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btp59725@gmail.com • (406) 683-9844**LAW AND MOTION CALENDAR****MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, BEAVERHEAD COUNTY**

Time	Cause	Proceeding	Attorney for Plaintiff	Attorney for Defendant
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MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026**Judge Berger is in Virginia City****TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026**

9:00	#25-4337, State vs Smith	Sentencing	Margot Newman	Walter Hennessey
9:10	#26-4366, State vs Freeman	Initial appearance	Margot Newman	Walter Hennessey
9:20	#26-4364, State vs Johnston	Initial appearance	Sky Jones	Addam Pincock
9:30	#25-4326, State vs Tresham	Status hearing	Margot Newman	Walter Hennessey
9:40	#26-4361, State vs Wolf	Initial appearance	Margot Newman	Jason Holden
9:50	#25-4334, State vs Hamilton	Change of plea	Margot Newman	Walter Hennessey
1:00	#25-14107, Ethridge vs Campbell	Petition for dissolution	pro se	
1:30	#26-14136, Burrows vs Pauley	Hearing on interim parenting plan	pro se	pro se

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026**Judge Berger is in Boulder****THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026**

1:00	#25-891, In re youth	Status & permanency hearing (CLOSED)	Jim Reintsma	Teal Mittelstadt Craig Buehler Katie Green
1:30	#26-900, In re youth	Approval of placement (CLOSED)	Jim Reintsma	Helen McCarthy

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026



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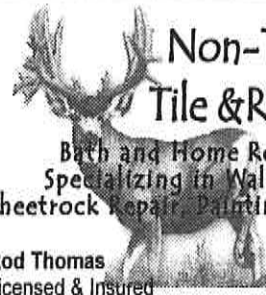
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Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the East Bench Irrigation District Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, April 7th, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. The board will meet at the district office.

- Call to Order
- New Business
- Old Business
- Pay Bills
- Adjourn

Notice of Public Meeting East Bench Irrigation District Annual Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the East Bench Irrigation District Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 7th, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Search and Rescue Building.

- Call to order
- Reading of minutes
- Water report
- Managers report
- New Business
- Election of new officers
- Adjourn

Shooting Facilities Task Force to meet April 10

The Montana State Shooting Facilities and Improvements Development and Oversight Task Force will meet Friday, April 10, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The meeting will be held on Zoom.

The task force will hear from Colorado Parks & Wildlife and South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks on how they addressed shooting facilities in their states.

The task force is responsible for identifying shooting facility needs in Montana and is tasked with developing a set of recommendations for the development, location and administrative structure of state shooting facilities and improvements. The deadline for the recommendations is June 30, 2027.

Public Vendor meeting for the Dillon Farmers Market

Dillon Farmers Market Vendor Meeting April 9, 6-7pm at 225 E Reeder St, Dillon (Village Place Space). New Market Rules include a required 14 day application lead time, so get yours at the meeting!"



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VIOLIN AND PIANO CONCERT HIGHLIGHTING MONTANA IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

On Sunday, April 12th at 2:00 at First Presbyterian Church in Dillon, Bozeman violinist Carrie Krause and pianist Julie Gossweiler will present a recital celebrating Montana immigrants from pre-statehood until today through musical compositions. Admission is by donation (suggested donation \$20/ticket.) The program features works reflecting diverse traditions: Tan Dun's Sorrow in the Desert (Chinese), Halvorsen's Norwegisch, Op. 22 in the style of a hardanger fiddle (Scandinavian), D'Rivera's jazzy La Fleur de Cayenne (Latin), and Bloch's communal prayer Nigun (Jewish). The center of the recital is Georges Enescu's esteemed Sonata No. 3 "dans le caractère populaire roumain," blending Romanian folk music, Parisian sonority and musical color with Enescu's remarkable virtuosity. Performers are violinist Carrie Krause, Bozeman Symphony concertmaster, founder of Baroque Music Montana, and graduate of The Juilliard school, and Julie Gossweiler, a professor of piano at MSU, recipient of the President's Excellence in Teaching Award, and an in-demand collaborator, including at the Aspen Music Festival. This tour includes six concert performances in Bozeman, Dillon, Big Sky, Idaho Falls and Livingston.

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. April 8, Turkey Chef salad, vegetable, fruit or juice & dessert.

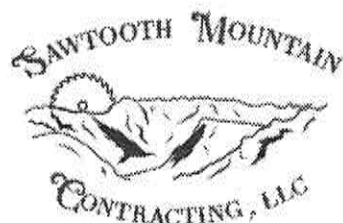
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TUESDAY APRIL 7:

[No events on Tuesday]

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/ BCHS Basketball Banquet

THURSDAY - Strong People

exercise 10am (nominal fee)

/ Bingo 7pm / Bar & Lounge

open 5pm-close / Community

Dinner 5:30-6:45pm

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Montana Commissioner of Insurance James Brown Urges Montanans to Prepare for Flood Season With Awareness, Coverage, and Supplies

With the arrival of spring and the melting of snowpack, Insurance Commissioner James Brown urges Montanans to prepare themselves for the possibility of flooding and to protect their property ahead of time. Property owners can take several steps to brace for the worst, such as knowing the risk of flooding in their area, securing flood insurance coverage if appropriate, and maintaining emergency supplies.

"I want my Montana neighbors to be informed and prepared before disaster strikes," Commissioner Brown said. "Properties located near rivers, creeks, low-lying underpasses, and land with drainage issues are at greater risk of flooding. Further, Treasure State residents should have multiple ways to receive flooding alerts, including by text, radio, or email. They should have an evacuation plan ready as well."

Before flooding even begins – and it can happen rapidly – property owners should consider flood insurance coverage, which is not covered by most homeowners' policies. In many parts of Montana, flood insurance coverage is available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program, although private coverage may be available and more affordable depending on your circumstances. For more information on flood insurance, visit <https://csimt.gov/your-insurance/flood/>.

You likely won't have time to purchase emergency supplies when flooding strikes, so folks are encouraged to stock up on food, water, fuel, and medications in advance. Additionally, make sure that valuables and important documents are secured in locations or containers safe from flood waters. Consider purchasing sandbags or other barriers to help mitigate damage from flooding.

Montanans are also encouraged to:

- Check that sump pumps and drainage systems are functioning properly before peak rainfall begins
- Waterproof their basements and clear debris from gutters and down spouts
- Photograph and inventory possessions in case filing an insurance claim becomes necessary

As Montana's Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, my office is here to help any Montanan at risk of or impacted by flooding. Do not hesitate to reach out for information about flood insurance or help recovering from a flooding incident.

For more information on insurance before and after a flood contact your local insurance agent or reach out to the State Auditor's office by visiting csimt.gov or by calling 406-444-2040.

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Prairie Bible Church pg 7

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Determination

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Perseverance

Endurance

Perseverance

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You Learn

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You endure

You PERSEVERE

As in: When you feel the pressure

To

Stay alive

For your family

NeedlesNeedlesNeedles

SharpSharpSharp

Stab

Thump Thump Thump

Heart still pounding

I persevered

I endured

The Pain

As in: Being too young to understand

It's too hard

Will I come back?

Broken ribs

Can't breath

NeedlesNeedlesNeedles

StabStabStab

But I still have LOVE

From my family

Unlike

Them

As in:

Oliver Stone Vietnam Soldier

Writer and Director of

Platoon

Vietnam soldiers

No love when they came home

No help

But he

Endured, Persevered

Forrest Gump

"Mama always said life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're
 gonna get"

You never know what you're gonna get

Oliver Stone didn't know he wasn't going to get love when he came

Home

Home Home Home

Am I going home?

Is this another box of chocolates

Where

You don't know what you're gonna get?

Will I go home?

Home Home Home

Heart

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I can't I can't I can't

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I will
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But I do
They will get a survivor
They will get someone that will
PERSEVERE
-Kayfan

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Hunters interested in purchasing leftover nonresident hound licenses can do so starting Wednesday, April 8, at 5 a.m.

These licenses were left over after the regular drawing process and will be sold first-come, first-served online or in person at any FWP office or license Ambassador. The licenses are limited so if hunters are interested, they should get online early.

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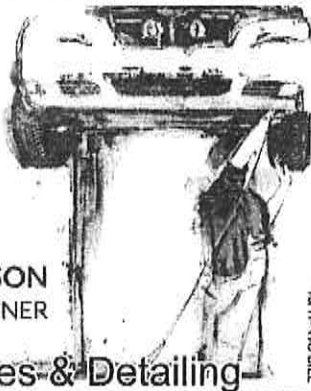
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3/25-4/24

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HELP WANTED

10/22- WC BILL

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- Requirements:
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 - Valid Class B CDL including Tanker, Air Break and Hazmat endorsements.
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 - Must be able to work with and communicate well with others.
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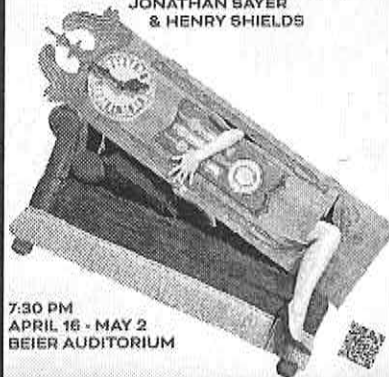
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7:30 PM
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- Stock water system installation and Maintenance
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*This is a seasonal position running May 1st through October 1st,
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Pay: Depends on experience (D.O.E.)

Applicants should be dependable, willing to work outdoors in varying conditions, and able to perform physical labor. Equipment experience is a plus but not required.

If interested, please call (406) 565-6870



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CITY OF DILLON

Parks & Animal Control Coordinator

The City of Dillon is seeking a full-time Parks & Animal Control Coordinator. This position is responsible for maintaining City parks and facilities, including mowing, irrigation, and general upkeep, while also enforcing animal control ordinances, responding to complaints, and caring for impounded animals.

Applicants must have a valid Montana driver's license, high school diploma or GED, and the ability to work independently in outdoor conditions. Experience in parks maintenance, animal control, or related fields is preferred.

This position requires physical labor, including lifting up to 50 lbs regularly.

Applications and full job description available at <https://www.dillonmt.org/job-opportunities>

Position open until filled.

The City of Dillon is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Are you a member of a service club or nonprofit organization in Beaverhead County?

If so, we would like your input!

You're invited to participate in a focus group conducted for Beaverhead County Public Health and Barrett Hospital & Healthcare to evaluate community perception of local healthcare services and to identify important health issues. Your comments will help determine the awareness of local programs and services, as well as satisfaction or dissatisfaction with local services, providers, and facilities.

Whether you have used local providers or not, this is your opportunity to give us your ideas to help guide us in planning responsive and high-quality local healthcare services in the future, and to understand where the gaps are in health services. Your identity will not be in the focus group report, and your individual responses will be kept confidential. The questions and discussion at the focus group will be led by staff of the Montana Office of Rural Health, which is assisting in this project.

We invite you to participate in the following focus group:

DATE: Wednesday, April 8

TIME: 10:30-11:30 a.m.

LOCATION: St. James Episcopal Church Guild Hall



**Beaverhead County
Public Health**



BARRETT
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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.

Why Isolation Affects Mental Health

Human connection plays a vital role in emotional health at every age. When social interaction decreases, changes in mood, sleep, and motivation often follow. Loneliness has been linked to higher rates of depression and anxiety, as well as physical health concerns.

Isolation can also shape how people view themselves. Without regular interaction, it is easy to feel less visible or less needed. These feelings can slowly erode confidence and make it harder to stay engaged with others.

Without support, this pattern often continues.

The Role of Group Support

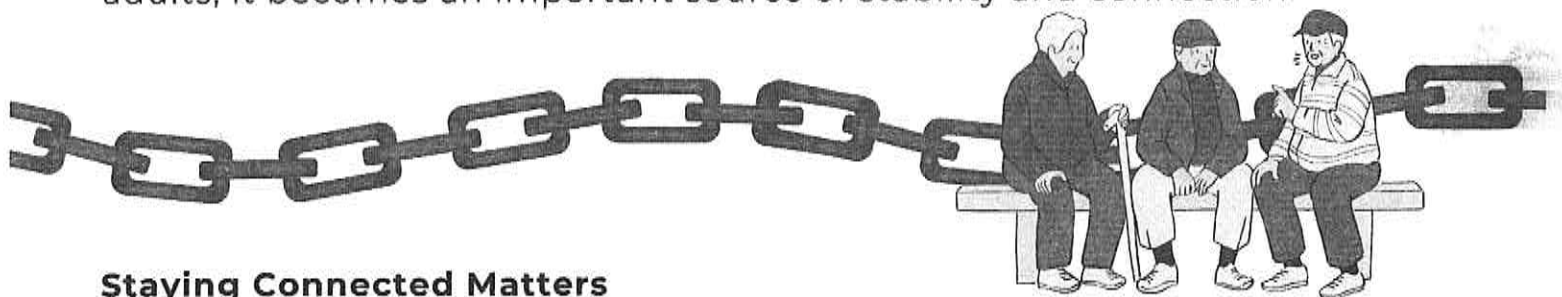
Group support creates space for shared experience and understanding. Hearing others talk openly about similar challenges can bring relief and reassurance. Many people discover that concerns they have been carrying quietly are common and understandable.

Group settings also help reintroduce structure and routine. Regular participation, conversation, and mutual encouragement can rebuild a sense of purpose and belonging. Over time, this support can ease symptoms of depression and anxiety and strengthen overall emotional resilience.

Support at Any Stage

Many people hesitate to seek group support because they believe it is only meant for moments of crisis. In practice, people often benefit simply because they want to feel more connected, supported, and engaged in their lives.

Group support offers a place to talk openly, learn coping strategies, and build confidence in a respectful, welcoming environment. For many older adults, it becomes an important source of stability and connection.



Staying Connected Matters

Emotional needs do not diminish with age. Connection, understanding, and support remain essential throughout life.

With the right support, older adults can strengthen relationships, rediscover purpose, and feel less alone as they navigate life's changes. Group support provides one meaningful way to stay connected and supported.

WE CAN HELP.

Our hospital-based outpatient program is designed to meet the unique needs of older adults experiencing depression and/or anxiety related to life changes that are often associated with aging or a chronic diagnosis. Anyone can make a referral to our program, including self-referrals, provider referrals, or community consultations.

Call us today at (406) 683-3145.



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WHY GROUP SUPPORT MATTERS MORE THAN EVER AS WE AGE



As we get older, our worlds can grow quieter.

Daily routines change after retirement. Social circles become smaller. Friends and loved ones may move away or pass on. Health challenges can affect independence and mobility. Even with family nearby, many older adults find themselves spending more time alone than they expected.

These changes can have a meaningful impact on emotional well-being.

How Connection Shifts Over Time

Earlier in life, connection often happens naturally through work, parenting, and community involvement. In later years, those built-in opportunities may fade, and staying connected requires more intention.

For some older adults, reaching out can feel uncomfortable. Many were raised to keep personal struggles private or to manage challenges independently. Over time, this can lead to fewer meaningful conversations and less emotional connection, even for people who once felt well supported.

See the next page for more.



6th ANNUAL BEAVERHEAD CHAPTER
MULE DEER FOUNDATION BANQUET

Saturday, April 11th, 2026

Keltz Arena – UMW • Dillon, MT 59725

Doors Open: 5:00 PM | Dinner: 7:00 PM

Join us for a night of fun!

Lots of Gun Raffles, Bucket Raffles, and Games!

Ladies Raffle Table • Kids Raffle Table

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No Host Bar by Macs Last Cast

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Tickets may be purchased
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Ticket sales will close at 9pm on April 10th

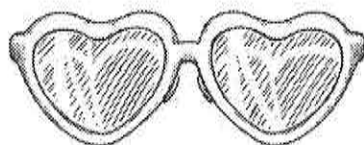
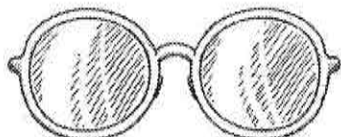
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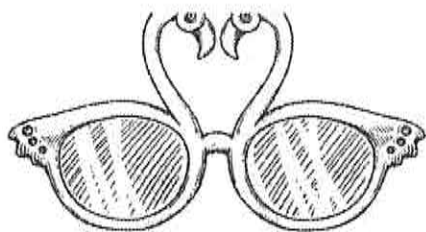
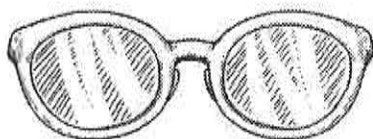
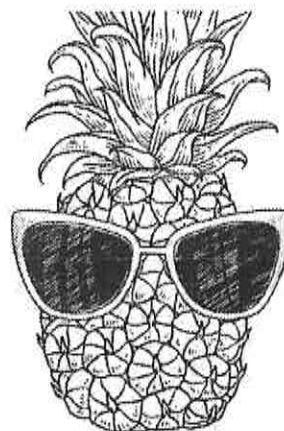
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