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Today's Date Should Be: **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**

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Eli Nourse Named Erck Hotels / Frontier Conference Football Offensive Player of the Week

Montana Western football's Eli Nourse earned Erck Hotels / Frontier Conference Football Offensive Player of the Week, the league office announced Monday. This is the second player of the week award of Nourse's career.

"I'm really proud of the offensive unit for the preparation and how they showed up to execute from the get go on the road in the first game, that's tough to do," head coach Ryan Nourse said. "That combined with Eli's readiness to make plays that came his way each time and only playing in the first half was very impressive."

Nourse had a record-setting performance in #18 Montana Western's 49-35 road victory over MSU-Northern. He hauled in nine receptions for 170 yards and a program-record five touchdown catches.

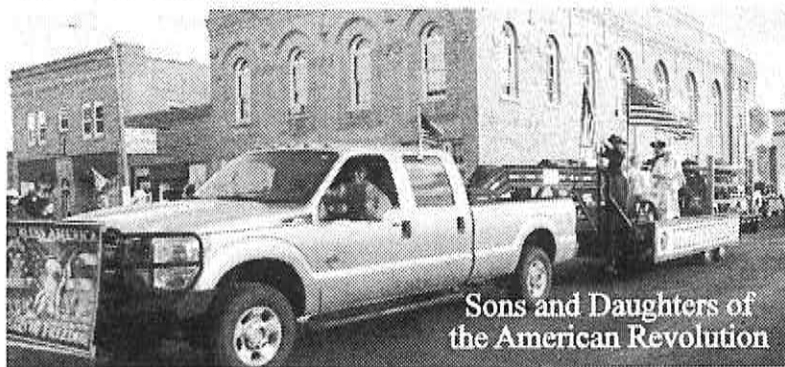
All five touchdowns came during the first half as Montana Western built a 44-7 advantage over the first two quarters. Four of Nourse's five touchdown receptions came in the second quarter, accounting for all 28 of the Bulldogs' points in the period.

The Dillon, Mont., native averaged 18.9 yards per reception, including a game-long 63-yard catch. Nourse totaled 204 all-purpose yards, adding a 34-yard kickoff return, and accounted for 30 points in the victory.



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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 in September 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.

Annual Maintenance and Cleaning Week

Thanks to our wonderful employees and volunteers who helped make this year a success!

Welcome Week

The Y is having a Welcome Week September 14th-19th. Stop by and bring your friends and family to receive 75% off the joining fee. Celebrating 175 years of bringing people together and creating stronger communities.

YMCA Swim Lessons

Fall swim lesson #1 starts September 14th. Spots are limited, sign up soon!

YMCA Swim Team

Join our team starting September 15th from 4:45-5:45pm every Tuesday and Thursday.

Rookie Sports Camp

Introduce your child to sports and enhance their skills. Starts October 7th for ages 3-5.

Mens Basketball League

 Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 6:00am-7:00am.
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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 positive difference in the lives of everyone who participates.

Please consider a gift today.

Strong Family Campaign
Exercise your heart in more ways than one, give and join!

The purpose of this campaign is to generate funds to support programs, activities, scholarships and services for all members of our community regardless of age or ability to pay. Please help us reach our 2026 campaign goal. Thanks for your continued support of the YMCA!


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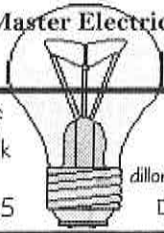
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Dillon Community Story Stroll Named 2026 Library of Congress Literacy Awards Program Honoree

The University of Montana Western is proud to announce that the Dillon Community Story Stroll, a partnership between Montana Western, School District #10, and the Dillon Public Library that supports community youth literacy and reading experiences, has been selected as a 2026 Library of Congress Literacy Awards Program Emerging Strategies Honoree.

The Library of Congress Literacy Awards Program recognizes organizations in the United States and abroad that provide exemplary, innovative, sustainable, and replicable strategies to promote literacy and reading. Established by the Library of Congress in 2013, the program is generously supported by philanthropist David M. Rubenstein and, since 2023, by the Kislak Family Foundation.

With support from Rubenstein and the Kislak Family Foundation, the Library of Congress Literacy Awards Program has awarded more than \$4.8 million to more than 250 organizations in 42 countries since 2013.

The Library of Congress announced the 2026 honorees on September 8, 2026, International Literacy Day. Twenty-one organizations were recognized through this year's Literacy Awards Program, including the Dillon Community Story Stroll, which will receive a \$5,000 award to support the program. Katie Miller, Katrina Kennett, and Kim Denny have also been invited to attend the awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. in November.

The Dillon Community Story Stroll began in 2021 when Dillon Middle School teacher Katie Miller, public Library Director Lori Roberts, and University of Montana Western professor Dr. Katrina Kennett teamed up to bring a choose-your-own-adventure project to life as a community Story Stroll.

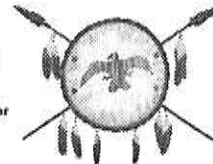
Since then, the project has grown into an annual intergenerational collaboration. First graders research a topic, such as habitats or local animals, and a genre, such as fractured fairy tales. Their eighth-grade reading buddies then transform that learning into an interactive, illustrated story. The finished stories are published as both yard signs and bound books, complete with ISBNs, allowing all of the student authors to take home a published copy of their work.

Pre-service teachers from Montana Western add another layer to the project by recording students reading their stories aloud and linking those recordings to QR codes on every sign and page. The result is a community reading experience that combines writing, illustration, technology, mentorship, and outdoor activity.

The project's goal is to help young writers in the rural community see themselves as real authors writing for a real audience, while giving families a reason to read and walk together outdoors. Along the way, first graders practice research, comprehension, and reading fluency; eighth graders develop narrative writing and mentorship skills; and future teachers practice

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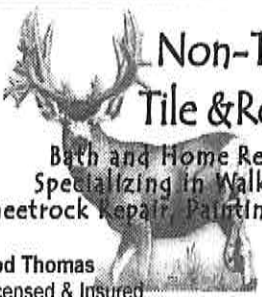
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The Story Stroll has also become a broader community experience. Hands-on activities at the school district's Celebration of Excellence allow children of all ages to craft pillows or design stickers featuring characters from that year's story. Local businesses help print the books and signs, while community grants and organizational support help make the project possible each year.

"Every year this project invites the joy and hard work of everyone involved. On recording days, you can feel the first graders' sense of accomplishment when reading their part aloud and the eighth graders' pride in their story and artwork. I love watching UMW students rethink what technology can do when it's in service of a meaningful, student-centered project. To make it all possible, I'm incredibly grateful for the community support we have received over the years," said Dr. Kennett.

Miller said the project demonstrates that reading can be both a social and active experience.

"Ecstatic. This word definitely captures the energy I have been carrying around as I've shared the news with close family and friends," Miller said. "The Library of Congress recognizes our Story Stroll project as an exemplar of innovative strategies to promote literacy and reading. What I love most about our project is that it reminds us that reading doesn't have to be a solo activity, and it doesn't have to be done sitting down. In our Story Stroll, you enjoy the company of others and walk and interact with a story made by our own youth. It's pretty special."

The project's impact extends beyond the students who create each year's story. Garret Yeager, a former Montana Western education student who participated in the Story Stroll, said the experience helped him build relationships with local schools and the Dillon Public Library that continued into his work with children.

"The middle school students had to learn to work with the wildly imaginative concepts of the first graders and transform them into a story," Yeager said. "The first graders got the opportunity to practice reading in front of older students and the pre-service teachers. For some, this was a challenge met by overwhelming encouragement; for others, it was their moment to shine."

Yeager also witnessed the project's impact on the broader community.

"I got to see the effects it had on the community as members walked through the signs and listened to the voices of local first graders while following the choose-your-own-adventure story constructed by the middle schoolers," Yeager said.

The Dillon Community Story Stroll was named Montana Library Program of the Year in 2023. Over the years, the project has received support from Dillon Friends of the Library, United Way of Beaverhead County, Kappa Delta Pi, Humanities Montana, the National Education Association, and Montana



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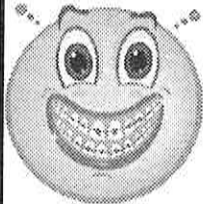
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Western through both Academic Affairs and the UMW Foundation.

Now entering its fifth year, the Dillon Community Story Stroll is expanding toward permanent installation sites and a formal research study examining its impact. The Library of Congress recognition provides additional support for the project as it continues to bring students, educators, families, and the broader Dillon community together through literacy.

Families and community members are invited to visit the University of Montana Western campus and Dillon Public Library this week (September 8-13) to experience the 2026 Story Stroll and celebrate the authors and stories in our community.

**BEAVERHEAD COUNTY STUDY
COMMISSIONER NOTICE OF QUORUM**

Thursday, September 10, 2026
DILLON, MT

The Beaverhead County Study Commission will be in quorum for the purpose of attending the City of Dillon Study Commission Session on September 10th at the Depot Theater from 6:00PM for the duration of the meeting.

CITY FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, September 10th, 2026
9:00 A.M.

1. Discuss Finding more Funding for the City
2. Discuss/Approve Corrective Action Plan
3. Public Comment on Items of Significant Public Interest Not on The Agenda And Within The Jurisdiction of The City
4. Adjournment

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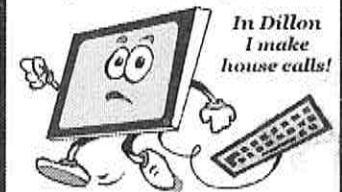
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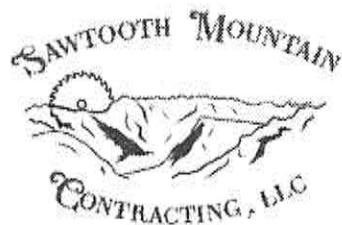
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Nourse's Record Breaking Performance Lifts Montana Western Football Over MSU-Northern 49-35

Montana Western football (1-0) opened the 2026 season on the right foot, defeating MSU-Northern 49-35 on the road Saturday afternoon.

Senior wide receiver Eli Nourse broke his own program record for single-game touchdown receptions with five against the Lights.

"We played a great first half," head coach Ryan Nourse said. "Hit on all cylinders and executed really well in all facets and put up 44 points. In the second half we subbed out some starters and gave some guys we wanted to see a shot to play. It was pretty lackluster with a bunch of mistakes, which was okay, that's how guys learn to play. MSUN has the best team they have had in five years and played really hard the entire game and with a really explosive offense. This is a good first game for us, we all know where we need to improve and grow next week."

STAT BREAKDOWN: Western tallied 618 yards of total offense (389 passing, 229 rushing), scored six touchdowns, two field goals, and two safeties while earning 27 first downs. The Bulldogs scored on all four red zone entries.

Eli Nourse scored five touchdowns on nine total receptions for 170 yards, including a long of 63.

Kaden LaPlaunt also had a standout performance, going 15-for-21 for 272 yards and five touchdowns.

Receiver Seth Shook had an efficient day, posting five receptions for 100 yards and a TD.

Running backs Jakob Humphrey (19 rushes, 108 yards) and Aidan Lammers (six rushes, 91 yards) led the on-the-ground efforts for the Bulldogs.

Quarterbacks Sam Wulff and Michael Martin also got in on the action. Wulff finished 5-for-10 for 72 yards and one touchdown while Martin was 3-for-4 for 45 yards.

On the defensive side of the ball, 19 bulldogs recorded at least one tackle, with 10 tallying two or more.

The Bulldogs were led by Connor Dunlea, Romeo Simpson, and Bryson LeCoure with four total tackles apiece. Dunlea and Simpson tallied four solo tackles with LeCoure close behind at three.

Ace Ferguson and Manuel Variz IV each registered three tackles.

Tyler Schoen led the game with 2.0 tackles for loss (10 yards), with both tackles also registering as sacks. Scotty Dalen tallied 1.0

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TFLs for four yards while Variz and Isaac Tolan both earned 0.5.
Bodie Smith and Tyson Hirrlinger combined for three pass
breakups and Andrew Wagner accounted for one QB hurry.

On special teams, Maclain Burckley went six-for-six on
PATs and averaged 40.3 yards per punt with a long of 60.

Trevin Thorpe went one-for-two on field goals while
averaging 55.7 over seven kickoffs.

On returns, Colton Cornwell led the game with 62 yards
on four attempts (one punt, three kickoffs).

Hudson Waples, Nourse, Carter Petre, and Brody Munson
each tallied one return, combining for 75 yards.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Bulldogs are return to Dillon
for their home opener next week when they host rival
Montana Tech Sept. 12. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. MT.

**Bulldog Volleyball Gets Back on Track with
Five-Set Victories over Valley City State
and Mayville State**

The Montana Western volleyball team (3-6, 2-0 FC)
began conference play with two five-set wins over Valley
City State (3-7, 1-2 FC) and Mayville State (0-7, 0-3 FC)
this weekend.

"It's always great to go 2-0 on opening weekend on
the road in conference play," Lovett said. "We are looking
forward to a big week next week, and our first home game on
Friday."

NOTABLES: The Bulldogs 16 service aces against the
Comets is the most in any game this season.

UMW reached double-digits in blocks for the second
time this season with a season-high 15.0 total blocks against
the Vikings.

Jaiden Perez recorded 11.0 blocks on the weekend.

Savana Warburton earned at least nine kills in both
matches, including a season-high 14 against Valley City State.

Madisyn Frazier registered 46 blocks across the two
matches, including 30 against Mayville State.

Six Bulldogs recorded at least one ace against MSU, with
four having two or more.

LEADERBOARD

UMW vs VCSU

Savana Warburton led the team with 14 kills, followed by
Kennedy Lingenfelter (13) and Antonia Duncan (11).

Jaiden Perez hit a blistering .412 to lead all players and



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Olivia Rosborough earned a .400 clip.

Setters Sophie Worden and Jayda Ward combined for 50 assists. Ward, Madisyn Frazier, and Taylor Ketchum each posted one service ace. Frazier also recorded a game-best 16 digs. Perez tallied a game-high 8.0 blocks.

UMW vs MSU

Averi Look led the game with 17 kills with Lingenfelter also in double figures at 10.

Lingenfelter registered a game-best .381 while Look was also over .300 with a .343.

Ward and Worden posted a combined 49 kills.

Perez landed five service aces, followed by Morgyn Harrison with four. Frazier tallied a game-high 30 digs.

Perez also tied for the game high in blocks with 3.0.

UMW vs VCSU

The Vikings jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead with 25-20 and 25-23 wins in sets one and two. The Bulldogs found their footing again in the third, saving three set-points from the hosts before going on to take the 29-27 extra-point win. In the fourth frame, Western led nearly start to finish. VCSU took a short lead, 7-6, but the Bulldogs quickly recovered and didn't trail again in the set, evening the score 2-2 with a 25-21 win. The momentum was with UMW in the decider, and though Valley City State made a late run to keep it interesting, the Bulldogs sealed the match 15-12 for the reverse sweep.

UMW vs MSU

The Red ad Black started Saturday on the front foot, taking a 1-0 lead with a 25-17 win in the opener. The hosts responded in the second, however, earning the 26-24 set win to level the match 1-1. The Bulldogs came out firing in the third, cruising to a 25-13 set win to regain the lead, but the Comets came back with a 25-13 win of their own to force the fifth set. UMW didn't flinch in the fifth, scoring 11 of the final 15 points to take the match.

The Bulldogs are set for three matches next week, traveling to rival Montana Tech Wednesday (9/9) before returning to Straugh Gymnasium to take on Dickinson State Friday (9/11) and Bismarck State Saturday (9/12)

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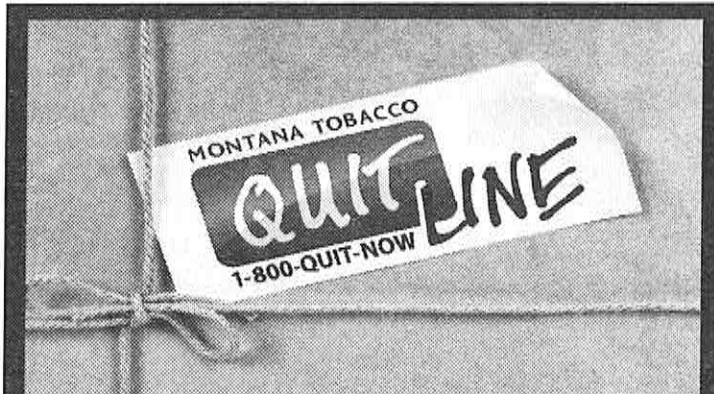
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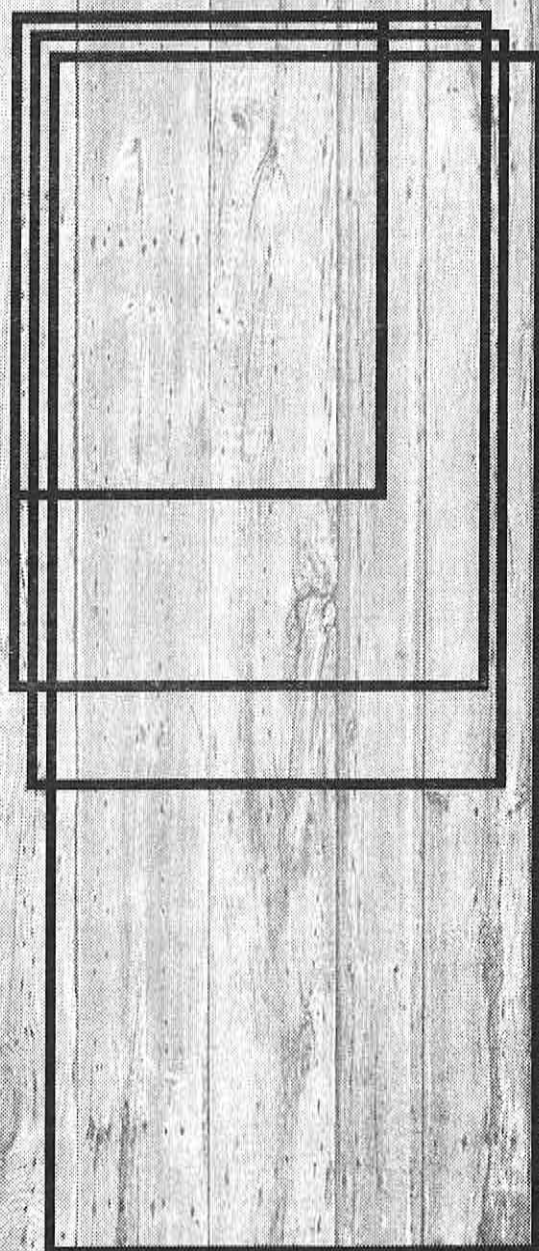
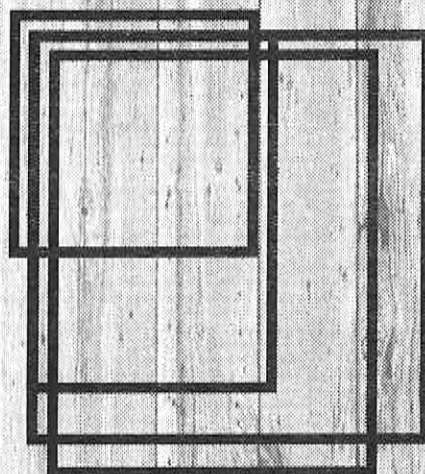
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Kim Tikalsky 406-303-6982

Bruce Mawyer 406-303-6990

3/3- WC BILL

Please join us for the

19th Annual

Weed Whacker Ball

Saturday September 19, 2026



For more information:

406-925-1346 or www.mtweed.org

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8/5-WC BILL A



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9/25-WC BILL A

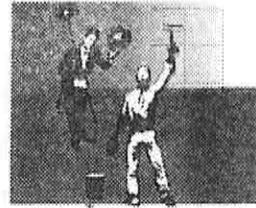


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12/13-WC BILL

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Classes start Sept. 30th
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*Confirmation - ages 11+
*Religious Education Classes - ages
4+
*Youth Group Sunday night - 6th to
12th grades
Adults interested in joining the Catholic Church
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Please contact Leslie at 406-596-1271
for more information
and to sign up for classes

8/13-9/13 BILL

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3/6-WC BILL

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1/8- WC BILL

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- 10 am Worship Service
- 11 am Fellowship with Coffee/Snacks

Wednesday Nights

- Fellowship 5:30 - 6 pm Wed.
- 6 pm Adult Study

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406.988.0096

1/25- WC BILL WF



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406.925.2319

1/8- WC BILL

8/12-9/14 PD

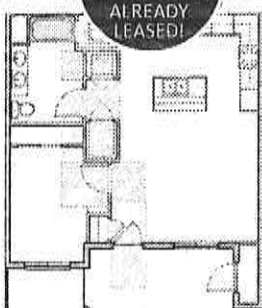
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PUBLIC FORUM

PROPOSED CHANGE TO DILLON CITY GOVERNMENT

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 • 6:00 PM

DEPOT THEATER

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

The **Dillon Government Study Commission** has voted to recommend changing Dillon's government to a **Council-Manager structure**

The proposed change will appear on the **November 3 ballot**.

LEARN MORE • ASK QUESTIONS • BE HEARD

Study Commission members, The City Manager from Belgrade and a representative from the **MSU Local Government Center** will present information about the proposed change and answer questions from the public.

ALL DILLON RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Come learn about the proposed change, ask questions, and hear from local-government professionals about how a Council-Manager form of government works.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 • 6:00 PM • DEPOT THEATER

— ♦ —
YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE
Cloud Seeding Community Open House

— HOSTED BY: —

RAINMAKER

TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION



RAINMAKER



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH



5:00 PM – 7:00 PM



JACKSON HOT SPRINGS RESORT
108 JARDINE AVENUE
JACKSON, MT

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.