



P 4: THE MANY TRIALS OF BOULDER'S WINDSOR HOTEL



P 5: PANTHER HOOPS SEASON ENDS AT BILLINGS DIVISIONAL



P 10: AT YOUTH TOURNEY, IT'S ALL BALLIN', ALL WEEKEND

THE MONITOR

\$2.00

SERVING THE FUTURE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY

VOLUME CXIX - No. 28

(USPS 061-680)
104 West Centennial • P. O. Box 66 • Boulder, Montana 59632

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026

Commissioner, Sheriff challenges lead local elections

By PIPER HEATH
Reporter

With the passage of the March 4 candidacy filing deadline, Jefferson County residents can now look ahead to several political competitions, led by a three-way battle for sheriff and a challenge to a longstanding county commissioner.

Vying for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office are incumbent Tom Grimsrud of Jefferson City, David Kosola of Clancy and Tom Voigt of Boulder. Grimsrud grew up on a ranch in northeastern Montana and served in the Montana Army National Guard before beginning his law enforcement career, according to his campaign Facebook page.

He served as a police officer in northeastern Montana from 1992 to 1999, four of those years as chief of police, before

joining the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office as a deputy in April of that year. Elected sheriff in 2022, in seeking reelection he views staffing as his central focus.

"The retention and continued development of quality employees is a top priority," Grimsrud said in an email. "Jefferson County residents deserve deeply competent and professional staff when they look to us for help."

He said the Sheriff's office has expanded crisis intervention training for deputies and recruited from law enforcement and emergency services backgrounds, adding bilingual staff, paramedics and advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement investigators to its ranks.

On the budget, Grimsrud said the sheriff's office budget is set by the county commissioners, and that working within those constraints requires close coordina-

tion with other elected officials. He said he plans to continue pursuing grants – the office has secured funding for body cameras, office security and radio improvements – and improving facilities and equipment incrementally.

"Just like the citizens of the county, we must improve what we can, when we can, within the constraints of our current budget," he said.

He pointed to partnerships as a way to stretch limited resources. "An example of this is the relationships we've fostered with federal law enforcement agencies to strengthen our presence in places like Delmoe Lake in southern Jefferson County," he said.

On transparency, Grimsrud said open communication with the public is a priority he has worked to maintain through news outlets, social media, emergency

broadcasts and in-person meetings.

"I will never pander with my message to the public," he said. "I firmly believe in being honest about what I can provide for the residents of Jefferson County – and taking responsibility for what I cannot. The buck stops with the Sheriff, and I take full ownership of what this office represents to our community."

Kosola, a Montana native who has spent his entire career in Jefferson County, is entering the race after more than three decades in law enforcement, according to his campaign Facebook page. He began at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office as a detention and communications officer in April, 1994, moved to the Boulder Police Department that August, and eventually rose through

Continued on Page 6



Goodbye, old grill

The Windsor's grill in its current location, where it has sat since the late 1970s, with bartender and cook Stacey Hoffman. (Piper Heath/The Monitor)

After half a century, Windsor shifts bar, cooktop

By PIPER HEATH
Reporter

At the Windsor Bar in Boulder, you can order a steak, take a seat at the counter, and enjoy your beer while watching it cook right in front of you. The bar's cooking spot, which has been in the same spot since the late 1970s, is now set to move.

Rusty Guilio, who bought the Windsor in August 2007, said the fire marshal recently flagged the grill's location as a hazard – grease accumulates on a beam above it, requiring regular cleaning.

"The grease and the heat is the fire hazard," Guilio said of Boulder's oldest bar

and hotel, which has a history of major fires (see related article, Page 4). "Something had to be done with it or it would burn the place down."



The move will cost Guilio roughly \$100,000, mainly due to the new grill. The final result will be a 50% wider cooking surface, new refrigerator units below the

grill and more food prep space.

Guilio plans to personally finance the project, and construction is already underway. Steel beams have been placed along the grill's future wall space. The next step is running electrical wiring for the hood system, which Helena-based specialist 406 Electric is handling, after which the hood and grill, both of which have arrived, can be installed.

The move will also reshape the bar's floor plan. Right now, the bar counter sits like an island, with a walkway on either side – one near the entrance, one toward the back. The new grill

Continued on Page 5

Power generator for data center eyes county

By ELIZA DUBOSE and DAVID LEPEKA

The AI data center wave may be coming to your town soon.

During a brief allowance period for presidential exceptions last March, Thunderhead Energy Solutions, a little-known energy generation firm, filed for Clean Air Act exemptions for a power plant to support a potential Jefferson County data center.

The filing, shared with The Monitor by the Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC), included no mention of a specific location or the energy firm's client. But it did lay out a 500-megawatt facility of solar and natural gas turbines that operates "behind-the-meter," or unconnected to the local electricity grid, to power federal government-related AI data processing.

"The facility will support enterprise cloud and AI computing infrastructure essential to U.S. national security interests, including classified government workloads and critical AI development," Thunderhead CEO Brennan Zaunbrecher wrote in the request.

"Current grid constraints in Jefferson County, MT, prevent timely utility-scale power deployment, while our behind-the-meter natural gas solution can deliver 500MW in 18-24 months, significantly accelerating national security-related computing capacity."

If it were to gain EPA exemptions approval, Thunderhead's power facility would be exempt from a permitting review of its power generation sources, as well as air and turbine pollution regulations for two years. These exemptions could affect the amount of environmentally hazardous emissions, such as nitric oxide and sulfuric acid, released by the plant.

With multiple data centers planned for Butte and elsewhere across the state, Montanans have begun to express concern about the centers' exaggerated power and water use and potential impact on their electricity rates and resources. More than 80 people turned out for a March 4 data center event in Helena hosted by MEIC and advocacy group Upper Missouri Waterkeeper.

"We in Montana deserve to know what the consequences of these choices will be, and not to simply have to live with them after the choices are already made," UMW Founder Guy Alsentzer told the crowd.

Attendee Mary Eder, a Boulder resident, expressed concern about water usage after MEIC's presentation asserted that data centers use up to five million gallons per day. "It appears Montana is wildly underprepared for the impact these

Continued on Page 5

Election 2026

Reilly Neill would like to talk to you

By ELIZA DUBOSE
Reporter

Early campaign support seems strong for Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Reilly Neill, with attendees at her March 6 event in Helena expressing enthusiasm for her people-first approach.

Neill's platform focuses on funding public schools, supporting ranchers and farmers, protecting public lands, and creating universal healthcare, according to her website. Yet what appears to stand out is her commitment to listening to and serving all Montanans, as shown by her pledge to refuse funds from political action committees and run a truly grassroots campaign.

When Ashley Fischer, co-founder of the Helena volunteer support group Walking Giant, learned of that commitment, "I was like, 'Oh hell yeah,'" she said at last Friday's event.



Reilly Neill

Cari Olson, an organizer with the nonprofit One Montana, felt much the same. "I've got a girl crush," she said. "I think she's going to win."

The 52-year-old Neill's origins are modest and locally-focused. Raised in a working-class home, she ran a community newspaper in Park County for more than a decade.

"My career has been in public service and community service," said Neill, who has lived near Livingston with her husband and son since the early 2000s. "I hear a lot of Democrats say... 'You have to play the dirty game if the other people are playing dirty.'"

And I don't agree with that, and I think most Montanans don't either."

Her political record suggests she has a point. She represented Montana's House District 62 from

Continued on Page 6

OUR MISSION: The Monitor serves the people of Jefferson County, Montana, reflecting their reality, informing their ambitions, and helping them navigate their shared future. It endeavors to provide authoritative, fact-based reporting that surfaces and explains issues at the heart of our community — exploring both urgent challenges and the responses to those challenges. It will hold power to account by demanding transparency, investigating wrongdoing, and revealing how what's broken could be fixed. The Monitor fairly represents a diverse range of perspective, not beholden to one path or another or to any politicians, political parties, or special interests.

Public Meetings

COUNTY COMMISSION
 Mar. 17, 2026 • Clerk & Recorder meeting room
zoom.com/join, Meeting ID 671-828-8589

9:30 Meeting with County Planner
 Claims approval
10:00 Meeting with Dept. of Emergency Services
10:30 Meeting with County Treasurer
11:00 Meeting with Road Supervisor
12:00 Recess for lunch. **Re-convene at 1:30 p.m.**
 Pledge of Allegiance; Minutes; Reports; Correspondence; Calendar review; Commission reports; Opportunity for public comment
Items for Commissioners action or review:
Non-time-specific:
 • Approve by-laws for Consolidated Land Use Board
 • Amend Resolution 19-2025 Fix Tax Levies

JEFFERSON COUNTY DUI TASK FORCE
MARCH 17, 2026 ~ 5 P.M.
 Clerk & Recorder's Office

To join remotely, phone 646-558-8656 or online at zoom.com/join. Meeting ID 671-828-8589

Agenda: Sign-in and roll call; Pledge of Allegiance; Approval of minutes; Possible Guest Speaker; Treasurer's Report; Coordinator's Report; Correspondence; Junior Member Report; Law Enforcement Report
Old Business: Your Community Matters class; Compliance checks; Over service/Impaired driving
New Business: Upcoming events/recap of recent events; Create an award for local law enforcement; Ideas for guest speakers; Membership — need treasurer.
Action items/Other/Public comment

Jefferson High School District 1: Trustees Meeting
 March 17, 5:30 pm ~ Jefferson High School (former) Library

Announcements & public comment; Consent agenda (Approval of minutes and claims & accounts); Student report; Staff report; Committee reports: Facility report
Administration reports: Clerk/Business manager — Transportation report, Causey Financial; Principal/A.D. — Winter sports wrap-up; Superintendent
Unfinished business
New business:
 1. Personnel - Closed sessions are always possible for personnel issues: Substitutes; Resignations; New hires; Volunteers
 2. Attendance Agreements
 3. Heard Scholarship update
 4. MOU with Boulder Association of Teacher
Communication & Comments: Letter to the Board
Commendations and Recognition
Next meeting: April 21, 5:30 pm

JEFFERSON COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
 Thursday, March 19, 2026 6:30 pm
 Boulder Community Library
 Zoom: 818 1084 6273, Passcode 407851

- Call to order/attendance; Agenda; Public comment
- Approval of minutes; Correspondence
- Library reports: Housekeeping; Upcoming Events/Seminars/Programs; Friends of the Library. Calendar reminders: Budget prep.
- Calendar: Holidays, vacations
- Financials/budgeting: Authorization to pay bills; Unexpected expenditures, possible transfer of funds
- Public comment & unscheduled matters
- Next meeting agenda items
- Board/librarian certification training

Next regular meeting: April 16, Whitehall

BOULDER CITY COUNCIL

CLOSED SESSION
Monday, March 16, 6 p.m. - City Hall

New Business: Discussion regarding Throwing Dice LLC Naming the City of Boulder as a Defendant in an Original Complaint to Quiet Title, Referencing Real Property within the City Limits of the City of Boulder, captioned "Montana Throwing Dice, LLC v. City of Boulder, et. al. Cause No. DV-22-2026-000012-QT"

JEFFERSON COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
 Thursday, Mar. 19, 9 am • Montana City Fire Station 1
 Join online [Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) or by phone at +1 669-900-9128; Meeting ID: 767-430-7310

Agenda review; Minutes; Communications
National Weather Service update
HAZMAT summary
Incidents summary
Preparedness summary: Emergency Operations Plan – Primary Plan Review; Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update; Regional Wildfire Pre-Plan annual TTX; Integrated Preparedness Plan: Upcoming Training & Exercise Opportunities
Projects Summary: Reverse Notification System; EMS Project
LEPC Schedule: June 18: Boulder; Sept. 10: Whitehall; Dec. 17: Boulder Roundtable

Two or more county commissioners or town or city council members may attend this meeting.

BOULDER CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
Monday, March 16, 6:30 p.m. - City Hall
 By Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3147501763>

Call to order; Pledge of Allegiance; Roll Call
Approval of Minutes & Agenda; Requests of city officials for absences exceeding 10 days or participation by telecommunications; Communication for Public Record; Constituent issues - reports from the Mayor and Council members.
Consent Agenda to include: Reports from Mayor; Ambulance; Fire; Public Works; City Court/Sheriff; City Attorney; City Clerk
Correspondence
Committee Reports: Planning Board; Chamber of Commerce; Montana Main Street Program
Old Business
New Business
 1. Discussion and Possible Determination on Adopting Resolution 2026-03 Declaring the Intention of the City of Boulder to Increase Rates and Charges for the Users of the City's Drinking Water System and Wastewater System
 2. Discussion and Possible Determination on Approval of Pay App #10 for Phase 1, Schedule A Improvements, Water System Updates from Karnath Contracting
 3. Discussion and Possible Determination on Approval of Pay App #2 for Phase 2, Water System Updates from Bullock Contracting
 4. Public Hearing: Wastewater PER Morrison-Maierle
 5. Discussion and Possible Determination on Forming a Committee to Organize a City Sponsored 4th of July Event in Veteran's Park
 6. Discussion and Possible Determination on Accepting Grant Funding in the Amount of \$5,000 from Town Pump for the Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration
 7. Discussion and Possible Determination on Accepting a \$5,000 Grant from the Montana 250 Program for the Fourth of July Celebration
 8. Discussion and Possible Determination on Accepting a \$500 Grant from the Montana Community Foundation to Fund the Reimagine Rural Meetings Held in February at City Hall
 9. Discussion and Possible Determination on Cemetery Advisory Committee Recommendations to City Council
 10. Discussion and Possible Determination on Approving a New Form and Process for a Court Record Search
 11. Discussion and Possible Determination on Entering into an Agreement with Nittany Grantworks to Apply for MCEP and RRG funding for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades
 12. Discussion and Possible Determination on Approving Improvements to the Boulder Childcare Building
 13. Discussion and Possible Determination on a Response to Throwing Dice LLC Naming the City of Boulder as a Defendant in an Original Complaint to Quiet Title Referencing Real Property within the City Limits of the City of Boulder, captioned "Montana Throwing Dice, LLC v. City of Boulder, et. al. Cause No. DV-22-2026-000012-QT
Unscheduled Matters; Open Public Comment; Authorization to pay bills
Council Agenda suggestions for next meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Boulder-Basin Senior Citizens: Dinner Club Menu
 Information: 437-2701. Suggested donation for 60+: \$5. Under 60: \$10 required fee.

THURSDAY: Mar. 12 Baked pork chop; oven potatoes; brussels sprouts; roll; applesauce		TUESDAY: Mar. 17 Salisbury steak; mashed potatoes; mixed veggies; four-bean medley; pears	WEDNESDAY: Mar. 18 Polish dog on bun; sauerkraut; sweet corn; carrot raisin salad; mixed fruit
--	--	---	--

WHO TO CONTACT IN GOVERNMENT

All listings are accurate as of time of publication

FEDERAL

U.S. Senator
 Steve Daines
 (202) 224-2651; (406) 443-3189
 Tim Sheehy
 (202) 224-2644; (406) 441-1069

U.S. Representative
 Troy Downing
 (202) 225-3211; (406) 502-1435

Helena-Lewis & Clark National Forest
 Supervisor's Office: (406) 449-5201

Beaverhead-Deer Lodge National Forest
 Supervisor's Office: (406) 683-3900

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
 Western Montana District Office
 (406) 533-7600

STATE

State Senator
 Becky Beard, SD-38
 becky.beard@legmt.gov
 (406) 479-3048

State Representative
 Mark Reinschmidt, HD-75
 mark.reinschmidt@legmt.gov

JEFFERSON COUNTY

County Commission
 Dan Hagerty
 dhagerty@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov
 (406) 225-4025. Cell: (406) 565-3162

Cory Kirsch
 ckirsch@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov
 (406) 225-4028. Cell: 949-3346

JEFFERSON COUNTY (cont.)

County Commission
 Craig Doolittle
 cdoolittle@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov
 (406) 225-4026; Cell: (406) 949-8187

Clerk & Recorder
 Ginger Kunz
 gkunz@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov
 (406) 225-4020

Treasurer
 Terri Kunz
 tkunz@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov
 (406) 225-4100

Sheriff
 Tom Grimsrud
 tgrimsrud@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov
 (406) 225-4075

CITY OF BOULDER

Mayor: Rusty Giulio
 rsgulio@hotmail.com

City Council
 Drew Dawson, president
 ddawson@cityofbouldermt.com
 Tim Graff
 tgraff@bresnan.net
 Patricia Lewis
 radon.gal@gmail.com
 Bear Taylor
 mtnomad2015@gmail.com

City administrator
 Brian Bullock
 cityadministrator@cityofbouldermt.com
 (406) 225-3381

JEFFERSON COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST

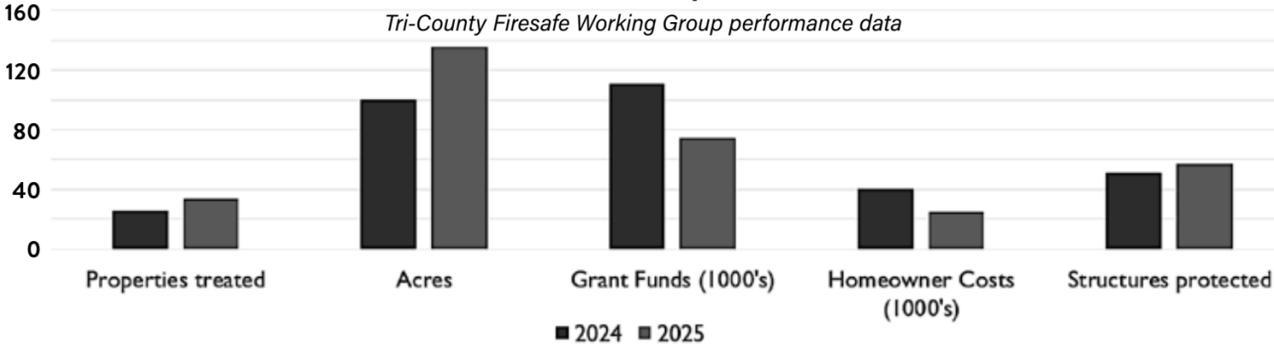
	WEDNESDAY Mar. 11	THURSDAY 12	FRIDAY 13	SATURDAY 14	SUNDAY 15	MONDAY 16
BOULDER	PARTLY SUNNY HIGH 42° LOW 37°	RAIN SHOWERS 42° 33°	SNOW SHOWERS 46° 36°	SNOW SHOWERS 41° 15°	MOSTLY CLOUDY 38° 29°	PARTLY SUNNY 53° 41°
CLANCY/MT CITY	PARTLY SUNNY HIGH 43° LOW 39°	RAIN SHOWERS 42° 31°	SNOW SHOWERS 42° 33°	SNOW SHOWERS 38° 12°	MOSTLY CLOUDY 36° 26°	PARTLY SUNNY 51° 40°
WHITEHALL	PARTLY SUNNY HIGH 47° LOW 41°	RAIN SHOWERS 48° 38°	PARTLY SUNNY 52° 41°	SOME STORMS 47° 22°	MOSTLY CLOUDY 43° 33°	PARTLY SUNNY 58° 43°

GET THE LATEST FORECAST ONLINE AT BOULDER-MONITOR.COM/WEATHER

COUNTY

Plans and progress for Tri-County Fire

More fire treatment, fewer funds



By DAVID LEPESKA
Editor

The Tri-County Firesafe Working Group sharply increased its efficiency last year, protecting more area homeowners for less, despite reduced funding.

Tri-County, which works to improve wildfire safety in Jefferson, Broadwater, and Lewis & Clark counties, increased the number of properties treated by nearly 30% (26 to 34) and the

acreage treated by more than a third (100 acres to 136), while receiving a third less in grant funds (\$111,000 to just under \$75,000) and reducing costs to homeowners (\$40,000 per homeowner to \$25,000).

“We have become more efficient since 2024,” said Tri-County President Lois Olsen, adding that the organization had built up a stable of reliable contractors to help with field work. “We have built our list up over time and the bids have

been competitive.”

Tri-County also protected more structures (51 to 57) and completed more fuel treatment plans (4 to 10) despite making fewer property assessments (22 to 16). This year, Tri-County is working with Montana City’s Saddle Mountain Park to finalize a fuels reduction and mitigation plan.

County agencies are expected to oversee the work. “There would be no cost to the county as they would use it for a training exercise,” said Olsen. “They are

still working out an agreement.”

Generate funding remains a key concern for the organization. In addition to smaller grants from state foundations, Tri-County plans to apply for a five-year Bureau of Land Management grant this spring and is waiting for the agency to release funding details.

“The grant situation nationally is very opaque right now,” said Olsen. “We will apply for any and all grants that we qualify for.”

AROUND THE COUNTY

Forest Service hearing on timber yield unit

The U.S. Forest Service is holding a public event April 1 to gauge local views on its proposal to create a single timber yield unit with portions of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Custer Gallatin and Helena-Lewis & Clark national forests, including sizable chunks in Jefferson County.

The unit is meant to provide long-term stability for the timber industry, ensure better management and create healthier forests, reducing the risk of wildfire, according to the FS.

The Montana Tri-Forest Federal Sustained-Yield Unit aims to produce 350 million board feet of timber over its initial 10-year period.

The public hearing will be held at the Delta Hotels Helena Colonial on April 1 from 5-7 p.m. and those wishing to provide oral testimony at the hearing must pre-register by Mar. 31. More information, including a map of the proposed unit, is available on the proposal website.

Vote for Montana's best place

The Montana Historical Society has launched a March Madness-style competition to encourage residents to select the state’s best place, with Jefferson County’s Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park among the 16 choices.

The sites, which also include Glacier Park’s Going-to-the-Sun Road and Fort Peck Dam, span all six of Montana’s main regions, from the Southeast to the Southwest, and from Glacier Country to Yellowstone Country and beyond. The bracket will be narrowed each week and the winning location will receive copies of MTS’ A History of Montana in 101 Places book, a featured display in the Montana Heritage Center and a customized trophy.

Voting is open at mths.mt.gov/education/Montana-Madness-2026, and participants can cast one vote per device per day.

MONITOR MEETS



The Monitor has made a lot of changes in the last year, and we want to hear what you think. Come meet Publisher Keith Hammonds, and tell him what’s on your mind:

- What stories should The Monitor be covering?
- What can we do better?
- How can we best serve the future of Jefferson County?

Keith’s also happy to talk about our recent stories and explain our approach to local journalism. Ask him anything!

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 18, 6 PM
MONTANA CITY LIBRARY
THE MONITOR

New YBGR group home

Boulder’s Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch (YBGR) has broken ground on a new \$1.8 million building, aiming to complete the new group home by late 2026.

After building its first new group home two years ago, the organization’s new eight-bed facility will replace beds lost during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We expect construction to be completed toward the end of the year, with the home becoming operational shortly afterward,” said YBGR CEO Michael Chavers, adding that the organization is still deciding whether the new space will house boys or girls.

In preparation for its opening, YBGR is looking to hire several positions, including home manager, therapist, and mental health workers. Construction is being funded by a \$525,000 Community Development Block grant, a \$750,000 Behavioral Health Services for Future Generations grant, and \$570,000 from donors, including \$75,000 from the Wall

Family-Power Townsend Foundation, says Chavers.

YBGR seeks to provide behavioral health services for youth and families struggling with trauma, abuse, and neglect.

— David Lepeska

In the arts

Boulder poet, writer and artist Kerri Lyn Kumasaka will read from her newly reissued collection, *This Poem of a Life*, on Sunday, Mar. 15, 3 to 5 p.m. at ArtMine Basin, 1 Cataract Creek. Her book will be available on Amazon in May.

And on Mar. 17 at 6 p.m., the Jefferson High jazz band will present its annual concert, featuring John Roberts and his band. Roberts, based in both Montana and Los Angeles, will spend part of that day working with students on techniques and performance. The event is sponsored by the Boulder Arts Council.

Welcome to the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We are located...

in **Clancy** at 6 N. Main St with Sunday services at 10 am

in **Boulder** at 211 W Centennial Ave with Sunday services at 11:30 am

We would love to greet you!!!

Pastor Val Colenso, (406) 696-0886

Welcome to Worship! FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY
9:30 Bible Study • 10:45 Worship service

WEDNESDAY
6:00 pm Services

Friendly People & Bible Preaching
5 Friendship Lane, Montana City
(406) 442-8080

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Gideon Pullmann
(402) 243-3185
Sunday Service 10:30 am
Wednesday Class 6:30 pm

LIFE CHURCH

Morning Service: Sundays, 10 am
Wednesday Service: 6:30pm
Young Adult Gathering: Sundays, 2 pm
Youth: Tuesdays, 6:30 pm
60+: 4th Friday of the month, 6 pm
Phone: 406.417.8150
LifeChurchBoulder.org

CROSSWORD: Superheroes

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Abbreviation, abbr.
- Corvine bird’s sound
- Aquarium dweller
- Sandwich shop
- Half human, half cobra in Hinduism
- Blatant
- Don’t go
- *Tony Stark, a.k.a. ____ Man
- High-quality black tea
- *Leader of Guardians of the Galaxy
- Research facil.
- Words to live by
- Leo month
- ____ Tree National Park
- Period between linked activities (2 words)
- Not safe in baseball
- Drunk’s speech?
- Sitar music
- Doughy snack of Jewish origin
- Rage
- Seize a throne
- Common hosiery shade
- Nom de guerre
- “Wow!”
- What emergency workers do

- Choice word
- Young newt
- Passport stamps
- Vomit
- *Doctor Doom’s frequent ally (2 words)
- Deserved consequence
- One of Great Lakes
- Iranian money
- Like Vitruvian Man, e.g.
- Prima donnas’ problems
- Author Murdoch
- Like Regina George
- “____ My People Go”
- *Sandman can transform his body into this

DOWN

- Pop-ups, e.g.
- Risky business, pl.
- Cry plaintively
- Capital of Saudi Arabia
- Billiards bounce
- Ancient Greek marketplace
- Diagon Alley purchase
- *Captain America’s team
- Albanian monetary units
- Small cave
- What Pac-Man did to strawberry
- Largest Asian antelope
- Poppy seed derivative
- Just outside a fairway
- Inflation matter

- *Batman’s arch-nemesis
- 1/16th of a pound
- Not shakes, as in bartender
- * ____ Titans, cyborgs’ team
- L in LOL
- Acquiesce
- Rubbernecker
- Tough spot
- *Leonardo to Michelangelo
- *One from Krypton
- Inuit skin boat
- *Size-changing ____-Man
- Yeses, alt. sp.
- Butcher’s refuse
- Trouble, in Yiddish
- Threshold
- “Complete ____’s Guides”
- Bid, past tense
- Particular region
- Comes on a rod
- Turkish currency
- Been in bed
- * ____ Possible
- Lysergic acid derivative, acr.

SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service!
USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR **888-804-0913**

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

For crossword puzzle solution, see page 8

HISTORY

The many trials of Boulder's Windsor

Excerpted from Boulder: Its Friends and Neighbors, written by Boulder's only female mayor, Olive Hagadone, and originally published serially in The Monitor in 1985-86.

Hiram Cook was born May 7, 1817, in Norwich, New York, and educated in New York and Ohio, later moving to Michigan, where he engaged in farming. On Oct. 30, 1838, he married Mary E. Vining, the daughter of Rev. R. W. And Lydia Vining of Genesee County, Michigan.

The Civil War was in its second year when Hiram became Captain of Company H 25th Regiment of Michigan Infantry. He later resigned from the military because of ill health and the family moved to Montgomery County, Missouri. Probably influenced by their son, Vining, who was operating a ranch at Horse Prairie near Bannack, Captain and Mrs. Cook, with their family, headed west, landing in Helena, then on to Little Boulder, as postmaster.

When he was unable to obtain land for the post office, he acquired land one half mile west of the old town and built a building, the Boulder Hotel, which also housed the post office. The hotel later became the Windsor. The oldest continuous business in Boulder, The Windsor was built in 1876, the first building in the new town.

In about 1883, the building was acquired by A. C. Quaintance, and John Barta became manager. Barta had been born in Bohemia about 1830 and settled in Helena in 1869 working in a hotel there and later at the old camp of Vesta and at the Legal Tender mine at Clancy. He married Benettie Nagues of Butte in 1881 and became manager of the Windsor in 1883, in partnership with James J. Bonner, but this partnership was dissolved in 1890.

Barta continued the operation of the bar and the hotel was run by John Nagues. The Barts left Boulder in 1893 to run a hotel in Duluth, Minnesota. Boulder was becoming the distribution center for the mining industry with several freighting companies headquartering here. The Windsor became the stopping place for mining developers from all over the East.

The traveling public was pushing the facilities far beyond capacity. Between December 1, 1886 and March 7, 1887, a period of a little over three months, 1368 guests registered at the Windsor.

Quaintance completely remodeled the building and extended the verandah to 10 feet to cover the plank sidewalk. He also built a huge barn, 36x60, 18 feet high with a 20x60 shed, with room for 75 horses, buggies, tack and hay to feed them.

The McGowan brothers built the bar addition from stone. The first fire struck in 1889, only two years after the stable was built, destroying the stable, 6 horses, 4 sets of double harnesses, 2 sets



The Windsor Hotel in an undated postcard published by C.E. Wheelock & Co.

The 'help,' in hotel parlance, fared badly at the 1904 Windsor fire, Mrs. Peltier, Miss Annie Johnson and Miss Annie Peterson were compelled to leave clothes, jewelry, etc., in their rooms behind them. They retreated from the burning building without clothes enough to dust a \$3 fiddle. They had to rush out in the cold with their lower extremities as bare as a duck's bill — no stockings, nor scarcely anything else.

of single harnesses, 5 buggies, and a bus, several tons of hay and several thousand pounds of grain. A good description of the traveling conditions of the day is related by Sam Robertson in the April 17, 1890, Sentinel:

"Last Saturday morning the guests at the Windsor were awakened by the cries of fire, and there was for a time serious doubt as to whether the building could be saved from the forked flames or not. It appears that the house was very crowded with strangers, as the traveling public seems to prefer the Windsor to any other place in the city. And on this occasion, Friday night, Pat Scullion took quarters with Johnny Quinn in a double bed. There was a single bed also in the room occupied by 'Snyder,' the Elkhorn Knight. They all retired at about the same time - 12 o'clock - but Snyder was a little slower than the rest. Pat said to him to get into bed and he would blow the light out. Snyder remarked that he would attend to that matter himself, and Pat and Johnny jumped into bed, and were soon in the embrace of Morpheus.

"At about 3:30 in the morning Pat was awakened by the smoke, and jumping out of bed, pulled John with him. The whole room was in flames. Snyder was also ruthlessly dragged to the door, looking as though he had just tackled a wild cat - bareheaded, barefooted, barebacked - well, he did not have clothes enough on him to wad a single barreled shotgun. Others were running hither and thither in their night clothes, while John, giving a regular Cheyenne yell, broke for high ground, entirely bewildered.

"Pat went to work, got two buckets of water, dashed them on the flaming walls, then taking up

a quilt, commenced to do battle in earnest, dressed in a pair of drawers and shirt collar.

"At this juncture, the prince among Boulder firemen, Pat McGowan, appeared upon the scene, and just in time, too, as things were getting pretty warm. The two Pats went at it like beavers. The room was completely emptied in a moment, notwithstanding the fact that it was all ablaze. The paper on the four walls was burning, but the men were equal to the emergency, and soon the masters of the situation. The damage will be about \$200 to Mr. Barta.

"There were other losers besides the landlord: John Quinn lost his coat, vest and hat. Pat Scullion was badly burned about the face. His nose has entirely peeled off, and looks like a Missouri carrot. Snyder had his hair burned nearly off, his back blistered, and really scorched all over. The boys say Pat McGowan is deserving of lots of credit in saving the building."

The Windsor continued to be the favorite stop-over throughout the boom years of Boulder. In 1890, a special attraction was installed, an Edison phonograph, which customers could enjoy at 10 cents a tune. In 1904, Jan. 2, fire broke out in the oil room of the Windsor shortly before 1 a.m., and in a few minutes the alarm was given which called the department and citizens from



their beds to fight the biggest and most threatening fire that ever visited Boulder.

The fire consumed the hotel, which was a two-story frame building; the saloon, which was a stone addition to the south; and the Weber building adjoining on the north, and several outbuildings. The Maxfield block was saved by pouring water down the side from the roof which kept the second story cool, and the second story being of thick brick was proof against fire.

Across the street on the east were the post office, Knowles's meat market and Pfaff's store, which were one story frame buildings, and these were badly scorched but kept from igniting by the copious use of water. The old Grand Central Hotel and Graves Mercantile Company were brick and the bank, of stone, were opposite of the fire, but not damaged, excepting the windows which were shattered by the heat all along the block.

Ed Ryan of the Valley grabbed his clothes, got out through the window and slid down a post to the street. Editor Cornish made his exit through a window also, with his trunk. Ben Hindes escaped with only a few of his outside clothes. Ferd Wolpert saved enough of his barber's outfit to continue business.

The 'help,' in hotel parlance, fared badly at the Windsor fire, Mrs. Peltier, Miss Annie Johnson and Miss Annie Peterson were compelled to leave clothes, jewelry, etc., in their rooms behind them. They retreated from the burning building without clothes enough to dust a \$3 fiddle. They had to rush out in the cold with their lower extremities as bare as a duck's bill — no stockings, nor scarcely anything else.

The hotel and saloon build-

ing, belonging to A. C. Quaintance, were insured for \$6,500. Tim Hayes, the lessee, carried \$1,500 on the saloon, but failed to renew insurance on hotel furnishings for that year. He said his losses amounted to about \$7,000.

In February, 1904, Quaintance let the contract to Fiske Brothers of Helena for the construction of a new hotel on the site of the Windsor. The building was to be of stone and brick, two stories, with 38 rooms upstairs and the general arrangement on the first floor about the same as before.

The contract price was \$8,210, and adding material made the cost about \$12,000. The verandah, which was such a pleasant place for the hotel patrons to sit on a summer evening and provided protection for the plank sidewalk below, was also replaced.

The outside appearance of the hotel remains very much the same as it did eighty years ago, with the exception of the balcony, which was removed in 1935.

The Windsor dining room was the scene of many business meetings and banquets, with entertainments often furnished by students from the Deaf, Dumb and Blind school who provided musical numbers and skits. Always there was a midnight supper available during intermission at the dances. A favorite political speaker was Jeanette Rankin, both as a campaigner for Women's Suffrage and later in her own candidacy for State Representative.

With the coming of trains, automobiles, and better roads, the habits of the traveling public changed considerably. No longer were the small town hotels bustling stage stations where bone weary travelers could rest for a while from the beating they had taken over the rough mountain roads, have a meal, a hot cup of coffee, or something stronger.

In 1914, Alex V. Gibson, former sheriff, sold the hotel to H.K. (Kirk) Hundley, of Cascade. These next years must have been rather lean ones. Prohibition had closed the bar, making the operation dependent on the success of the dining room and resident guests. He sold the hotel to George W. Hanchild in 1921.

Jim and Margaret McGowan operated the hotel from 1928 to 1930, followed by ex-sheriff John Mountjoy, who leased it to Louis Schiavon and Leslie Harris for a short time. When the bill to legalize the sale of liquor, sponsored by Rep. Jaffrey of Jefferson County was passed by the legislature, effective April 4, 1937, the Windsor received its liquor license on April 10, 1937.

At this time, Ella (Quinn) Mosher, whose daughter Bette married A. M. "Bugs" Buckles, owned the hotel and the dining room was kept busy providing the good dinners that many local people still talk about. This was the last time the dining room was operated very successfully.

THE MONITOR

SERVING THE FUTURE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY

Phone: (406) 225-3821
Mail: P. O. Box 66, Boulder, MT 59632
Office: 104 W. Centennial, Boulder, MT
www.boulder-monitor.com

STAFF

Keith Hammonds
Publisher
keith@boulder-monitor.com

Jackie Dyer
CFO
jackie@boulder-monitor.com

Alisa Smith
Office manager & Ad sales
alisa@boulder-monitor.com

David Lepeska
Editor-in-chief
david@boulder-monitor.com

Eliza DuBose
Lead Reporter
eliza@boulder-monitor.com

Piper Heath
Lead Reporter
piper@boulder-monitor.com

Owner: Response Media, LLC

The Monitor is published every Wednesday.
NEWS DEADLINE: NOON MONDAYS
ADVERTISING DEADLINE: 5 PM FRIDAYS
except as noted for holidays and special editions
Normal office hours: Mon & Fri - 9-5, Weds 8-11

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Monitor (USPS 061-680), P. O. Box 66, Boulder, MT 59632. The Monitor office is located at 104 W. Centennial, Boulder, MT 59632. The Monitor (USPS 061-680) is published weekly. Entered as periodicals, and periodical postage is paid at Boulder, MT.

12-month subscription rates:
Mailed print edition.....\$75
Digital edition.....\$60

Member
Montana
NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Letters policy: The Monitor welcomes views from our readers. Letters to the editor should be timely, respectful and factual. Letters accepted for publication may be edited for clarity and length. Submissions must include the writer's full name and community for publication, as well as an email address and phone number. Letters can be emailed to david@boulder-monitor.com, mailed to P.O. Box 66, Boulder, MT 59632, or dropped off at 104 W. Centennial in Boulder.

COUNTY

Goodbye, old grill: Windsor to install new cooktop



Soja Giulio whips up steaks, burgers and more on The Windsor's existing grill. (Joshua Murdock/The Monitor)

Continued from Page 1

will close off the front walkway, turning the bar into a U-shape open only toward the back. The counter will also be extended toward the wall.

The stretch of counter directly in front of the current grill has long been reserved for food prep and off-limits to patrons, but once the grill moves, that space will open back up for seating.

Where the old grill stood, Giulio plans to put shelving for alcohol.

The move comes with an upgrade: a new 60-inch gas grill, replacing the current 40-inch model. Giulio said demand had outgrown the old one; the Windsor's steaks and burgers drew a crowd, and it was showing.

"It used to be good for a couple steaks but it's too much for it now," he said. The old grill will go into storage.

Giulio said he asked his employees for input on where to put the new grill before settling on the location. Bartender and cook Stacey Hoffman, who has worked at the Windsor for more than six years, said she and her coworkers have learned to work in tight quarters – right now the grill can fit 11 ribeyes if everything is arranged just right – but more space will make a real difference.

"The cooks have learned to

cook in such a small place, so even a bit more room will be great," she said.

Hoffman also pushed back on the idea that the change signals anything about the bar's character.

"If you look back at the history of this bar, there are tons of updates that have been made, so there's always nostalgia, but it doesn't change the dive bar nature," she said. "That's the

nostalgia of the Windsor, that everyone is welcome all the time."

Giulio said patrons will still be able to see and sit near the grill after the move; the experience won't be lost entirely, just relocated.

"You'll still be able to see it cooking, it'll just be way more professional and safe," he said.

Not everyone is entirely at ease with the change. Brad, a Boulder resident who was at the bar and declined to give his last name, said he understood the reasoning but acknowledged some attachment to the way things have been.

"I think I'm going to like it better the way it is now, but I understand the need for moving it," he said.

John Willoughby, who has lived in Boulder since 1973 and calls himself a regular at the Windsor, was more enthusiastic.

"Everything gets upgraded, I think that is a good thing," Willoughby said before sharing his view of the Windsor's most popular menu item. "I think it's the best steak in Montana for the price."

The bar will remain open during installation, though Giulio said there may be a few days without food service while the grill is being put in. The new grill will need two to four weeks to season.

"We are just trying to be safe and efficient," Giulio said.

Power generator for data center eyes county

Continued from Page 1

data centers can have on local communities and the larger ecosystems," she said.

When it comes to water, two key questions are paramount: how much will the center need, and can the surrounding area supply it. With much higher power density, AI data centers run much hotter than conventional data centers, and thus require significantly more water for cooling.

Yet since few disclosure rules have been put in place, companies tend to create their own water use reports, resulting in considerable uncertainty about data center water use. Analysts disagree on the extent to which AI data centers' water-driven cooling systems could become more efficient in the coming years, but most estimates suggest that mid-sized facilities, like the one envisioned by Thunderhead, will continue to require millions of gallons each day.

As for the source, the Upper Missouri basin, which includes Jefferson County, is a closed basin, which means all area water rights have been allocated. The region has been in a drought for years, and this dry winter is not helping. Planned housing developments have been struggling to secure adequate water and local fears about water scarcity seem to be gaining ground.

"The water is needed for the people, wildlife, livestock and farmers over all else," Boulder resident Dustin Gosman wrote on Facebook in response to *The Monitor's* initial story on the possible data center. "It seems we are already experiencing more frequent droughts across the state, and I don't see how this is going to help us."

Eder made clear her stance on data centers. "There are zero benefits to local communities," she said.

Yet one potential benefit is jobs. A mid-sized data center

such as Thunderhead's planned facility would likely have 50 to 100 workers once fully operational, in addition to the several hundred involved in construction.

"It is a full gamut of skills required to keep this place running," said East Helena-based data center specialist Michael Callanan, sharing his personal view. This, says MEIC leader Anne Hedges, explains why labor unions tend to support the construction of data centers.

Data center jobs are "variable and often overstated," according to the Brookings Institution, a nonpartisan, Washington-based think tank. Hedges concurred, explaining that data center jobs are often handed to high-skilled out-of-staters, rather than locals.

"The jobs are always less than promised and rarely locals are hired," Jeffrey Benson, a Boulder rancher with corporate management experience who ran for a state senate seat in 2024, wrote on Facebook, highlighting a "mounting revolt" against U.S. data centers.

Another concern is that data centers drive up energy bills, though new government policies may be shifting that math. Last week at the White House, the world's top tech firms – including Amazon, Google, Meta, Microsoft and OpenAI – pledged to cover the cost of all data center power requirements.

"Big Tech companies are committing to fully cover the cost of increased electricity production required for AI data centers," said President Trump. "That would mean prices for American communities will not go up, but in many cases, will actually come down."

The construction of most new data centers now involves energy generation companies like Thunderhead. If the Jefferson County exemption request is approved, the firm would build a battery of turbines that convert natural gas into electricity to power the center's servers.



Digital rendering of a natural gas turbine-powered AI data center, from the website of Thunderhead Energy Solutions.

With AI companies seeking 85 gigawatts of power for new data centers by 2030 – a fifth more than the grid can currently supply, according to market research firm S&P Global – rural America has emerged as a primary target.

A 2025 CNBC analysis ranked Montana as the third best positioned state to host data centers due to its grid reliability and electricity prices. Montana also offers data centers the state's second-lowest property tax rate at 0.9%, according to MEIC.

The state's cooler climate is another draw. "From September to April, you can open up your dampers and pull in cold air," said Callanan. "Your water consumption goes down because you're pulling in outside air for a lot more of the year."

Given the massive demand for AI computing, companies like Thunderhead, along with financiers, are working to build more quickly. Last year, Thunderhead partnered with Alabama-based investment firm Harbert Management Corp. to collaborate on the development of up to

1,500 megawatts of new power generation for data centers.

In line with President Trump's AI Action Plan, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin last year launched "Powering the Great American Comeback," which included the EPA's creation of an email inbox in March 2025, to receive Clean Air Act exemption requests for review by the president.

The idea was to circumvent environmental protections for places that lacked local technological capacity or if it were in U.S. national security interests. Amid hundreds of requests from coal plant operators, oil refineries, and steel manufacturers were 11 filings from Thunderhead, looking to produce 23 gigawatts of energy at data centers in Montana, Texas, and Illinois, as detailed by the news outlet *Grist*, which made the initial Freedom of Information Act request.

In September, Thunderhead confirmed plans for a 250-megawatt natural gas facility to power a West Texas data center – its only apparent exemption

approval thus far. In January, the EPA set new rules for data center power generators, but it remained unclear whether the new regulations would impact Thunderhead's planned turbines or potential exemptions.

Thunderhead, which offers no location details on its website, may have already received an EPA exemption approval for its Jefferson County power plant or been rejected. As of March 10, Thunderhead and the EPA had yet to respond to *The Monitor's* requests for comment.

Opposing forces seem to be gaining strength. In March to June 2025 alone, opposition groups halted or delayed 20 U.S. data center projects worth \$98 billion, according to the tracking platform Data Center Watch.

Learning about a data center possibly coming to the county, Eder and her husband, Josh, have begun making plans to raise awareness and organize an opposition group. "We can have a lot of influence if we come together," Eder said. "I don't believe it's too late to have an impact."

SUBSCRIBE TO THE MONITOR

[HTTPS://WWW.BOULDER-MONITOR.COM/SITE/FORMS/SUBSCRIPTION_SERVICES](https://www.boulder-monitor.com/site/forms/subscription_services)

ELECTION 2026

Commissioner, Sheriff challenges lead local elections

Continued from Page 1

the ranks to chief of police. He has served as an EMT since 1994, as deputy coroner since 2005, and provides Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) in local schools. He is also a longtime hunter safety instructor and has served on the Lewis & Clark County Critical Stress Incident Management Team since 2015, volunteering support across five counties.

“Guided by a steadfast belief in integrity, compassion, and the value of every community member,” he wrote on Facebook, “I continue to strive for excellence and ethical conduct in every aspect of service to our county.”

Kosola, who did not respond to *The Monitor’s* request for comment, has outlined eight campaign goals: community engagement; school safety partnerships; deputy training in mental health response and de-escalation; transparency through published departmental reports and public forums; substance abuse prevention; staff wellness; and improved emergency response times.

The Monitor was unable to find any information about Tom Voigt, who included no contact details in his candidacy filing, mentioning only that he lives on High Ore Road, west of Boulder. Searches on Google and Facebook turned up no meaningful results. (If you know or are Tom Voigt, please reach out to *The Monitor*.)

Over at the County Commission, Cory Kirsch is being challenged by Richard Rhodes of Basin for the District 2 seat. Finishing his second six-year term, Kirsch has just begun his 12th year as County Commis-

sioner. He cited encouragement from colleagues and constituents as the reason he decided to seek another term.

“Most of the people who reached out to me, when they learned that I was on the fence about running again, were concerned about the void I would leave,” Kirsch said. “The value of knowledge and experience can’t be overstated at this level of government.”

In a *Monitor* column last June, Kirsch described the state funding cap as the county’s single biggest challenge, writing that state law limiting budget growth to half the rate of inflation left the county progressively with less funding each year and that he had not yet found a solution. He said the situation has since changed.

“With great effort from Montana Association of Counties, the funding cap was actually changed during the last legislative session,” Kirsch said in an email. “Going forward, we can now keep up with inflation instead of being hindered with half the rate of inflation.”

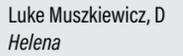
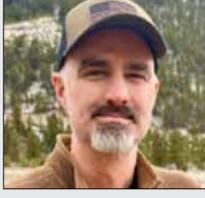
Looking ahead, he said he wants to reduce the property tax burden on residents as revenue from natural resource extraction declines. “We need to work on finding ways to offset property taxes with funding from the ever-growing tourism industry,” he said.

He also named the Clancy Water and Sewer District well project and the county health department office expansion as priorities he hopes to see through.

Rhodes is making his first run for elected office. Now retired, he said he has the time to serve and a longstanding desire to help his community. He supports term limits as a way to bring

Ready to run

Candidates who have filed for the 2026 election

STATE LEGISLATURE			
HOUSE DISTRICT 75			
			
Greg DeVries, L <i>Jefferson City</i>	Patrick Sullivan, D <i>Clancy</i>	Mark Reinschmidt, R* <i>Whitehall</i>	
HOUSE DISTRICT 69		HOUSE DISTRICT 79	
			
Ken Walsh, R* <i>Twin Bridges</i>	Trevor Walter, R <i>Sheridan</i>	Luke Muszkiewicz, D <i>Helena</i>	Chiko Olson, R <i>Helena</i>
COUNTY			
COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 2			
			
Cory Kirsch* <i>Basin</i>	Richard Rhodes <i>Basin</i>		
SHERIFF/CORONER			
			
Tom Grimsrud* <i>Jeff City (left)</i>	David Kosola <i>Clancy (right)</i>	Tom Voigt <i>Boulder</i>	
FEDERAL & STATEWIDE			
U.S. SENATE			
Kurt Alme, R, <i>Billings</i> Kyle Austin, L, <i>Billings</i> Alani Bankhead, D, <i>Helena</i> Michael Black Wolf, D, <i>Hays</i> Seth Bodnar, I, <i>Missoula</i> Lee Calhoun, R, <i>Whitefish</i> Michael Hummert, D, <i>Helena</i> Tom Jandron, L, <i>Clancy</i> Christopher Kehoe, D, <i>Missoula</i> Reilly Neill, D, <i>Livingston</i> Charles Walking Child, R, <i>Helena</i>			
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE			
2nd DISTRICT			
Troy Downing, R, <i>Helena</i> Michael D. Eisenhauer, I, <i>Great Falls</i> Sam Lux, D, <i>Great Falls</i> Patrick McCracken, L, <i>Columbia Falls</i> Brian J. Miller, D, <i>Helena</i> Jonathan Windy Boy, D, <i>Box Elder</i>			
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE			
(Non-partisan) District 4 Dan Wilson, <i>Kalispell</i> District 5 Amy Eddy, <i>Kalispell</i>			



fresh perspectives to county government.

“I would like to show that people have the ability to step up and bring new fresh ideas to the county,” he said in an email.

His priorities include working with the Jefferson Local Development Corporation to support small business growth, pursuing road funding without raising taxes, and building cadet

programs through local fire departments and EMT services to encourage youth volunteerism.

Meanwhile, Jefferson County is also home to a U.S. Senate candidate. Clancy resident Tom Jandron, a longtime Montana National Guard aircraft mechanic who previously ran for Clancy’s school board, filed to run as a Libertarian. The field includes three Republicans, five

Democrats, a fellow Libertarian and an independent, all seeking to replace retiring Senator Steve Daines.

Finally, later this year, Dori Stulc is expected to become Jefferson County’s new schools superintendent, running unopposed. She will replace Sarah Eyer, who has served as superintendent since 2020 and chose not to seek another term.

Senate candidate Reilly Neill wants to talk to you

Continued from Page 1

2013-2015, losing her reelection bid to Republican Debra Lamm. In 2019, Neill briefly ran for the governor’s office before dropping out in the lead-up to the 2020 primary.

“Having this history shows us where she’ll go,” said Montana State University student and College Democrats of Montana member Blake Lindermann, who believes Neill’s legislative experience could help her navigate Washington politics.

The Gold Bar & Western on Helena’s Last Chance Gulch is often packed on a Friday night, but the crowd at Neill’s event felt different. Groups of activists and political organizers milled about in suits and ties, eagerly waiting to speak to the candidate – who delivered no address, but simply engaged in conversation. Regular patron traffic made an exact count difficult, but well over 50 people turned out explicitly for Neill.

“We need someone honest like Reilly to send to D.C.,” said Qasim Abdul-Baki. A public defender running to represent House District 80, he’s been following Neill’s career since she ran a write-in campaign for House District 62 in 2024.

Standing by the door, Jay Long, the College Dems’ vice chair, called Neill the “most vocal, most determined candidate”. He recalled the Montana of his youth, a fiercely independent purple-tinged state. “Our hope this year is to get back to the Montana we all grew up with,” he said.

Neill hopes to be the candidate who does just that. “The whole crux of my campaign is getting people engaged in politics, getting people engaged with their representatives,” Neill said. “They’re elected by Montanans to serve our needs.”

Before and since launching her campaign, Neill has focused on traveling the state, attending town halls, chatting up locals, and hosting round tables in more than 40 counties. One thing she learned is that, regardless of party, Montanans can easily find common ground.

Support for public lands, opposition to data centers (Neill seeks greater transparency in data center construction), and the desire for better healthcare options tend to cut across party lines. “They’re incredibly progressive,” Neill said of Montana



Reilly Neill talk to Montana College Democrats at the Gold Bar & Western in Helena on Mar. 6. (Eliza DuBose/The Monitor)

voters, “but they’re conservative.”

On Tuesday, after the Trump Administration renewed its call to eliminate most mail-in voting, Neill released a statement denouncing the move, explaining that mail-in voting is essential for many Montanans.

“Many voters live far from a courthouse or polling location,” she said. “Ranchers, small business owners, and working families rely on absentee ballots because they allow people to vote when the day finally slows down.”

Speaking of rural voters, Neill hopes to pass a farm bill that delivers crop insurance reform for smaller Montana agricultural producers. Under the current system, she said, large operations take advantage of massive taxpayer-funded subsidies while small ranches and farms are left to struggle. “They can’t afford to take out that kind of crop insurance,” Neill said. “It’s a disparity.”

Seeking support from the state’s old guard, Neill received an endorsement from former two-term Democratic Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer earlier this year.

“We can’t predict what’s going to happen,” Paige Frunkes of the College

Democrats said at the Gold Bar event. “But I’m really excited about her campaign.”

Neill faces tough competition in the June 2 primary. The Democratic field for the Senate seat is crowded: Helena resident Alani Bankhead, Hays resident Micheal Black Wolf, former Navy SEAL Micheal Hummert, and Missoula’s Christopher Kehoe, along with Neill.

The election cycle has already seen some surprises, with Sen. Steve Daines announcing his retirement minutes before the deadline and backing former U.S. Attorney Kurt Alme, who was quickly endorsed by President Trump. The last-minute shift has shaken up the race.

In another twist, former U.S. Sen. Jon Tester decided to back former University of Montana President Seth Bodnar, running as an independent. The longtime Democrat reportedly sent a text message in January in which he called the Democratic label campaign “poison” and predicted Neill would lose badly in the primary, according to the *Montana Free Press*.

“How dare they put up Seth?” Olson said at Neill’s Helena event.

Her outrage over Bodnar stems from a 2021 sex discrimination lawsuit filed by

17 University of Montana women staffers who accuse him of perpetuating a culture of wage, promotion, and opportunity gaps for women, according to Montana Kaiman.

The suit was settled out of court in 2024. And Bodnar’s campaign has gotten off to a fast start, raising more money in a few days than all the Democratic candidates combined, according to a press release from his campaign.

A bipartisan poll, taken by American Pulse in mid-February, before Daines dropped out, showed Neill with 25% of prospective voter support, Bodnar with 16%, and Daines at a hefty 52%.

Several attendees at the March 6 event saw Tester’s and Daines’ behavior as part of a broader pattern of disrespect that they hope Neill’s embrace of all views and voices can end. “It’s important for people to know that I plan on being a representative,” she said, “and that job requires communicating with the people of Montana.”

When a group of students approached later in the evening, Neill quickly pivoted to face them. After a round of introductions, she gave them her full attention: “Tell me your concerns.”

SAVVY SENIOR

The top senior scams — and how to avoid them

Dear Savvy Senior,

My adult kids keep warning me about scams, but it's hard to know which calls and messages are dangerous. What scams are most commonly aimed at seniors right now?

—Almost 80



Jim Miller

Dear Almost,

Your kids' concerns are well founded. Financial fraud is a massive — and rapidly growing — problem for older Americans. In 2024 alone, scams cost older adults an

estimated \$81.5 billion, according to the Federal Trade Commission. That staggering figure includes both reported losses and the many crimes that likely go unreported.

While many scams today target people of all ages, older adults are often singled out or suffer the greatest financial harm. From urgent phone calls and alarming emails to online romance schemes and bogus investment opportunities, scammers use high-pressure tactics, fear and emotional manipulation to convince seniors to hand over money or sensitive personal information.

Knowing the most common scams is the first line of defense. Here's a list of scams

seniors should watch for:

Imposter and government scams:

Fraudsters pretend to be from Social Security, Medicare, the IRS, the police, banks, or utility companies. They claim there's a problem requiring immediate payment or personal information and may threaten arrest or loss of benefits.

Tech support scams: Calls, emails, or pop-ups warn your computer has a virus. The scammer offers to "fix" it but instead steals money, personal data, or access to your device.

Grandparent or family emergency

Financial fraud is a massive — and rapidly growing — problem for older Americans. In 2024 alone, scams cost older adults an estimated \$81.5 billion.

scams: Callers pose as a relative — often a grandchild — in distress and urgently request money. Some even use AI to mimic a loved one's voice.

Investment and cryptocurrency scams:

Offers for "too good to be true" investments, including crypto or high-yield retirement schemes, often promise big returns but lead to large financial losses.

Romance scams: Scammers build fake online relationships on social media, dating sites and other interactive platforms, then invent emergencies or investment opportunities to get money. Seniors have

lost millions to these schemes.

Medicare scams: Calls or texts claim to be from Medicare, asking you to verify your number, offering special plans, or warning of fraud. Medicare will not contact you this way.

Sweepstakes and lottery scams: You're told you've won a prize but must pay fees or taxes first. Real lotteries never require payment.

Charity scams: Scammers call or email, asking for donations to fake charities, often after disasters. Always verify before giving.

Phishing and online fraud: Emails,

texts, and pop-ups that look like they're from banks, Amazon, or PayPal try to steal passwords, account numbers, or trick you into clicking harmful links.

Employment scams: Seniors seeking part-time work or ways to supplement their retirement should watch out for fake job offers on LinkedIn, indeed, and other online job sites. Scammers may promise easy income or work-from-home opportunities but ask for upfront fees, personal information, or involve illegal tasks like package reshipping. Always verify employers and never pay to apply.

How to Protect Yourself

Awareness and caution are your best defenses. Slow down when a call, email or text pressures you to act immediately. That sense of urgency is a red flag. Hang up, don't click suspicious links, and verify any request by calling the organization directly using a number you look up yourself, or by checking with a trusted family member.

Never send money using gift cards, wire transfers or cryptocurrency. Legitimate organizations will not ask for payment this way. Stay informed through trusted resources like the AARP Fraud Watch Network (aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork), the National Cybersecurity Center (nationalcybersecuritycenter.org) and the Federal Trade Commission (consumer.ftc.gov).

Protect your accounts by setting up bank alerts, regularly checking your credit reports, and using strong, unique passwords. Some seniors also find it helpful to have a trusted family member or financial ally review unusual account activity. Report suspicious calls, messages or offers at reportfraud.ftc.gov.

Being informed, cautious, and deliberate can greatly reduce your risk of fraud — giving you and your family peace of mind.

Send your questions or comments to questions@savvysenior.org, or to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.

CLASSIFIEDS

Find a job. Rent an apartment. Sell your car. Classified advertising gets it done.

Ads in this section cost \$10 for the first 15 words, then 10 cents per word. Advertising must be received by 5 p.m. Friday to appear in the following week's paper. All must be prepaid unless otherwise arranged prior to advertising. Accounts which require billing will be charged an additional \$2 per billing. The **Monitor** reserves the right to edit or reject any ads. **To place ads:** Go to <https://www.boulder-monitor.com/place-an-ad/> Or email ads@boulder-monitor.com; call (406) 225-3821; or deliver to the **Monitor's** office at 104 W. Centennial.

HELP WANTED



NOW HIRING
Hostess • Line cooks
Dishwashers

Apply in person at
#1 Jackson Creek Rd.
Montana City, MT 59634
www.montanacitygrill.com
5 min. south of Helena on I-15 at the Montana City exit

ADMIN ASSISTANT

Jefferson Local Development Corporation is now hiring an Admin Assistant.

Essential Functions (Major Duties or Responsibilities): These duties are the essential functions and are not all-inclusive of all duties that the incumbent performs.

- Responsible for the financial operations using QuickBooks
- Maintain and develop routine financial reports
- Assists with Community and Economic Development functions as needed
- Prepare invoices for payment and keep ledgers showing budget expenditures and account balances
- Process JLDC payroll, tax forms, & claims
- Reconcile all JLDC bank statements and participate in external audits. Maintain backup financial documentation as needed
- Write checks and pay bills as authorized by agents; keep ledgers of all office account transactions
- Routinely attends formal and informal meetings and takes minutes as required
- Routinely interfaces with JLDC board members, JLDC tenants, contractors and other personnel
- Assists with property management duties

\$16/hour - temp to permanent - 20 hours or less a week.

Contact Sam at (406) 202-4022 or email resume to samantha.yeary@jldcmt.com

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER (9-1-1, LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE, AND MEDICAL DISPATCHER)

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is currently accepting applications for a fulltime Communications Officer (Dispatch/9-1-1) position. The position will be located at the Law and Justice Center in Boulder Montana. Communications Officers play a critical role in public safety and Law Enforcement.

Communications Officers strive to make a positive impact on our small community. As a Communications Officer for Jefferson County, you will receive excellent training, benefits, and have potential for advancement.

Communications Officers operate communications equipment 24/7/365, answer emergency & non-emergency calls from the general public, and dispatches the appropriate Law, Fire and EMS units using Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 18 Years of age
- High School Diploma

- Must have or be able to obtain a Montana Driver's License
- This position requires the ability to speak English clearly
- Must be of good moral character with no criminal record. A background investigation, criminal history and pre-employment testing will be conducted

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Prior Law Enforcement and computer experience preferred but not required
- Must successfully complete 14-week in-house training (to begin on first day of work).
- Must successfully complete POST Public Safety Telecommunications course within one year of hire.
- Ability to type accurately at a minimum 25 wpm.

- Be able to read and interpret maps and have an adequate knowledge of the geography of Jefferson County.
- Must be willing and able to do shift work to include nights, weekends, holidays, on-call and occasional overtime.

- Must be willing to work well with others in a confined area for long periods of time without leaving the facility. Beginning wage: \$23.42 / HR Position open until filled

Applications may be obtained at the Jefferson County Dispatch Center or the Jefferson County Website at <https://www.jeffersoncountysheriffmt.gov/employment> (Sheriff's Office Application Form) or at the Sheriff's Office located at 110 S Washington St Boulder, MT.

For a full job description or if you have questions, please contact Human Resources, or Kellie Doherty at 406-225-4010 or the Sheriff Tom Grimsrud at 406-225-4075. Incomplete application materials will not be processed.

JEFFERSON COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT COLLECTION SITE ATTENDANTS

The Jefferson County Solid Waste Department is seeking seasonal/on-call site attendants to cover shifts at the various collection sites for the summer seasons. These positions will assist the public with solid waste, screen for hazardous waste, writes invoices for charges and record data. Must be able to perform manual labor and lift a maximum of 75 pounds routinely. Must be able to work in adverse weather and available for call-outs. Starting salary is \$19.98/perhour. County applications are available from Solid Waste District at 406-225-4159 or Kellie Doherty, HR, PO Box H, Boulder, MT 59632 or call (406) 225-4010, or visit our web-site for on-line application at www.jeffersoncountymt.gov. Incomplete applications materials will not be processed. Jefferson County may use the following factors to determine whether an applicant meets the qualifications for this position: review of application materials, past work performance, reference checks and structured oral interview. Jefferson County is an equal opportunity employer.

FOR RENT

ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENT

Small one bedroom apartment for rent \$400.00 month plus \$400.00 deposit. No Pets Please!!! Call (406)933-8371.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 1 & 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS,

all utilities paid. Subsidies available. Applicants must qualify for Section 8. Managed by RMDC Property Management Services. Big Boulder Housing, 438-5611.

TDD/TTY number: 800-223-3131

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES' SALE

To be sold for cash at Trustee's Sale, on the 30th day of April, 2026, at 11:00 o'clock a.m., Mountain Standard Time or Mountain Daylight Time, whichever is in effect, at the steps of the Jefferson County Courthouse, 201 W. Centennial; Boulder, Montana 59632, the following described Real property, in the County of Jefferson, State of Montana, to wit:

Tract No. 43 of Jardine Forest Park No. 3, Certificate of Survey No. 149566, Folio 340C, located in County of Jefferson, State of Montana.

Tyson Thompson, as Grantor, conveyed said Real property to American Land & Title Company, with its principal office at 1800 W Koch Street, Ste. 1; Bozeman, MT 59715, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Grasslands Federal Credit Union, a credit union, 320 Main Street, P.O. Box 79; Circle, MT 59215-0079, as Beneficiary, as evidenced by a Deed of Trust, dated the 9th day of August, 2021, recorded under Document No. 279800, records of Jefferson County, Montana.

Ronald D. Allie, an attorney at law; PO Box 20417; Billings, Montana 59104, was named as Successor Trustee to American Land & Title Company, by an instrument entitled Appointment of Successor Trustee, dated the 31st day of July, 2025 and signed by the Beneficiary.

Tyson Thompson has defaulted in the performance of said Deed of Trust, between the Grantor and Grasslands Federal Credit Union, 320 Main Street, P.O. Box 79; Circle, MT 59215-0079, by his failure to pay monthly installments due on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust. There is now due and owing on said Deed of Trust, as of the 17th day of December, 2025, the principal sum of \$53,018.04; interest in the sum of \$1,760.49, with interest accruing at the annual percentage rate of 4.00%, according to the terms of the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust and late charges due of \$194.56, for overdue payments, with late charges accruing according to the terms of the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust. Other costs and expenses to be charged against the cost of sale are all unpaid balances, including

LEGAL NOTICES

taxes and insurance, together with all necessary expenses, which may be incurred in collection, including reasonable attorney fees and all costs, fees and expenses, including costs of a foreclosure report, advertising and recording expense and any other costs of conducting the sale.

THE SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE, AT THE DIRECTION OF THE BENEFICIARY, HEREBY ELECTS TO SELL THE PROPERTY TO SATISFY THE AFOREMENTIONED OBLIGATIONS.

This sale is a public sale and any person, including beneficiary, excepting only the Successor Trustee may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid in cash. The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale.

The Grantor, Successor in Interest to the Grantor or any other person having interest in the aforesaid property, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, may pay to the Beneficiary or the Successor in interest to the Beneficiary the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and thereby cure the default theretofore existing.

Others who have an interest in the property are:

Terri Kunz, Treasurer
Jefferson County Treasurer's Office
P.O. Box H
Boulder, MT 59632

Vigilante Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 1049
Dillon, MT 59725-1049

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT SAID DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM YOU WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2025.

Allie Law Firm
PO Box 20417
Billings, MT 59104
/s/ Ronald D. Allie, Successor Trustee

State of Montana, County of Yellowstone

On this 23rd day of December, 2025, before me, a Notary Public of said State, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Ronald D. Allie, Successor Trustee, known to me to be the person, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me, that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal on the date first above written in this acknowledgment.

/s/ Heather Lyn Shult
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My commission expires 01-12-2029

Legal 26-018 Published in The Monitor
March 11, 18 & 25m 2026 MNAXLP

STATEWIDE ADVERTISING

EXTENSION AGENT — Agriculture, Natural Resources and Horticulture in Richland County, Sidney, MT. Full time. Exciting job with lots of autonomy! Will develop, implement and evaluate Extension programming in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Horticulture. Complete information and to apply: www.montana.edu/extension/careers. Equal Opportunity Employer, Veterans/Disabled

K-8 TEACHER, 2026-2027 school year. Mountain View Elementary. Starting bonus, competitive salary. Call 406-336-2638 or email jerryhofer73@gmail.com.

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-762-1508

GET A BREAK ON YOUR TAXES! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-901-2620 today!

SAFE STEP. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-601-2865

CONNECT TO THE BEST wireless home internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 855-419-7978

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES' SALE

To be sold for cash at Trustee's Sale, on the 30th day of April, 2026, at 11:30 o'clock a.m., Mountain Standard Time or Mountain Daylight Time, whichever is in effect, at the steps of the Jefferson County Courthouse, 201 W. Centennial; Boulder, Montana 59632, the following described Real property, in the County of Jefferson, State of Montana, to wit:

Tract No. 43 of Jardine Forest Park No. 3, Certificate of Survey Number 149566, Folio 340C, Jefferson County, Montana.

Tyson Thompson, as Grantor, conveyed said Real property to American Land & Title Company, with its principal office at 1800 W Koch Street, Ste. 1; Bozeman, MT 59715, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Grasslands Federal Credit Union, a credit union, 320 Main Street, P.O. Box 79; Circle, MT 59215-0079, as Beneficiary, as evidenced by a Deed of Trust, dated the 13th day of December, 2024, recorded under Document No. 289985, records of Jefferson County, Montana.

Ronald D. Allie, an attorney at law; PO Box 20417; Billings, Montana 59104, was named as Successor Trustee to American Land & Title Company, by an instrument entitled Appointment of Successor Trustee, dated the 31st day of July, 2025 and

signed by the Beneficiary.

Tyson Thompson has defaulted in the performance of said Deed of Trust, between the Grantor and Grasslands Federal Credit Union, 320 Main Street, P.O. Box 79; Circle, MT 59215-0079, by his failure to pay monthly installments due on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust. There is now due and owing on said Deed of Trust, as of the 17th day of December, 2025, the principal sum of \$29,650.72; interest in the sum of \$1,786.67, with interest accruing at the annual percentage rate of 10.50%, according to the terms of the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust and late charges due of \$170.00, for overdue payments, with late charges accruing according to the terms of the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust. Other costs and expenses to be charged against the cost of sale are all unpaid balances, including taxes and insurance, together with all necessary expenses, which may be incurred in collection, including reasonable attorney fees and all costs, fees and expenses, including costs of a foreclosure report, advertising and recording expense and any other costs of conducting the sale.

THE SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE, AT THE DIRECTION OF THE BENEFICIARY, HEREBY ELECTS TO SELL THE PROPERTY TO SATISFY THE AFOREMENTIONED OBLIGATIONS.

This sale is a public sale and any person, including beneficiary, excepting only the Successor Trustee may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid in cash. The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale.

The Grantor, Successor in Interest to the Grantor or any other person having interest in the aforesaid property, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, may pay to the Beneficiary or the Successor in interest to the Beneficiary the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and thereby

cure the default theretofore existing.

Others who have an interest in the property are:

Terri Kunz, Treasurer
Jefferson County Treasurer's Office
P.O. Box H
Boulder, MT 59632

Vigilante Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 1049
Dillon, MT 59725-1049

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT SAID DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM YOU WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2025.

Allie Law Firm
PO Box 20417
Billings, MT 59104
/s/ Ronald D. Allie, Successor Trustee

State of Montana, County of Yellowstone

On this 23rd day of December, 2025, before me, a Notary Public of said State, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Ronald D. Allie, Successor Trustee, known to me to be the person, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me, that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal on the date first above written in this acknowledgment.

/s/ Heather Lyn Shult
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My commission expires 01-12-2029

Legal 26-019 Published in The Monitor March 11, 18 & 25, 2026 MNAXLP

PUBLIC MEETING FOR WASTEWATER SYSTEM PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT

The City of Boulder will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 16, 2026, at City Hall, at 6:30 PM as part of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to present information regarding the Wastewater System Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and gather public comment. At the meeting, the City's engineering representatives will present on the current condition of the wastewater infrastructure, establish where improvements are needed, and present alternatives for addressing those needs to be included in the PER. The public is encouraged to attend. Written comments following the public hearing will be accepted during business hours at the City Administrator's office until March 23, 2026. Persons seeking additional information may contact the City at (406) 225-3381 during regular business hours.

Legal 26-017 Published in The Monitor March 4 & 11, 2026 MNAXLP

Scott M. Sves
Jackson, Murdo & Grant, P.C.
203 N. Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601
Tel. (406) 513-1119
Fax: (406) 443-7033
Email: ssvs@jmgattorneys.com
support@jmgattorneys.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff
MONTANA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT, JEFFERSON COUNTY
Mary Theresa Clarke n/k/a Mary Theresa Clarke Sands, Plaintiff, vs.

Mountain West Minerals, Inc.; John Does 1-10; Corporations 1-10, and all other persons, known or unknown, claiming or who might claim any right, title, estate, or interest in or lien or encumbrance upon the real property described in the Complaint below which is adverse to the Plaintiff's ownership or a cloud upon Plaintiff's title thereto, whether such claim or possible claim be present or contingent. Defendants.

Cause No. DV-22-2026-006-QT
SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
TO: Mountain West Minerals, Inc.; John Does 1-10; Corporations 1-10 and all unknown defendants.

A lawsuit has been filed against you. Within 21 days after service of this summons on you or (42 days if you are the State of Montana, a state agency, or a state officer or employee), you must serve on the Plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Montana Rules of Civil Procedure. Do not include the day you were served in your calculation of time. The answer or motion must be served on the Plaintiff or Plaintiff's attorney, if Plaintiff is represented by an attorney, whose name and address are listed above.

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for

the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

This action is brought for the purpose of quieting title to land situated in Jefferson County, Montana, and more particularly described as follows:

- C&D Millsite, M.S. No. 1620, located in Section 22, Township 6 North, Range 3 West, Jefferson County, Montana, and
- C&D Placer, M.S., No. 2487, located in Section 22, Township 7 North, Range 3 West, Jefferson County, Montana.

Witness my hand and seal of said court, this 23rd day of February, 2026.

Deanna Brulla
Clerk of District Court
/s/ Kathy Stein, deputy clerk

Legal 26-016 Published in The Monitor March 4, 11 & 18 2026 MNAXLP

Basin County Water and/or Sewer District BOARD POSITIONS

Basin County Water and/or Sewer District has multiple board seats open. If anyone is interested, please join us at our next monthly meeting on March 12, 2026, at 6:30pm at the Basin Elementary School. To be eligible you must be a landowner in the district and have proof of ownership. We hope to see you at the next meeting.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS See puzzle on page 3

A	B	B	R		C	A	W		A	L	G	A					
D	E	L	I		N	A	G		O	V	E	R					
S	T	A	Y		I	R	O	N	P	E	K	O	E				
	S	T	A	R	L	O	R	D		I	N	S	T				
					D	O	G	M	A		A	U	G				
J	O	S	H	U	A				T	I	M	E	L	A	G		
O	U	T			G	I	B	B	E	R		R	A	G	A		
K	N	I	S	H		I	R	E		U	S	U	R	P			
E	C	R	U		A	N	O	N	Y	M		G	E	E			
R	E	S	P	O	N	D			E	I	T	H	E	R			
					E	F	T		V	I	S	A	S				
					B	A	R	F		R	E	D	S	K	U	L	L
K	A	R	M	A		E	R	I	E		R	I	A	L			
I	D	E	A	L		E	G	O	S		I	R	I	S			
M	E	A	N			L	E	T			S	A	N	D			

EarthLink

Speeds up to 100 Mbps with EarthLink Wireless Home Internet

SIGN UP TODAY & GET A \$100 GIFT CARD!

Reliable Internet *NOW!* **855-419-7978**



MONTANA FARMERS UNION

GRANT & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

NOW OPEN FOR 2026

SCAN ME

APPLY ONLINE TODAY




BUSINESS DIRECTORY

<p>Montana City Dental</p> <p>443-5130</p> <p>2 Market St., Montana City</p>	<p>GIULIO DISPOSAL SERVICE, INC.</p> <p>225-3607</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Container & Rolloff Service • Commercial & Residential <p>Office & payment drop: 108 N Main, Boulder</p>	<p>ARCTIC HEAT</p> <p>25 years experience</p> <p>406-202-3460</p> <p>Based in Boulder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Furnace & AC - - Boilers - <p>Commercial & Residential</p> <p>Reasonable Rates</p>	<p>BOULDER TRANSPORT</p> <p>Serving Boulder, Basin, Clancy, Jeff City & Montana City</p> <p>In-town rides for shopping/errands • Service to medical appts in Butte/Helena • ADA accessible Available M-F 8:30-4:30</p> <p>Call at least 24 hours ahead to schedule: (877) 287-3156</p> <p>Operated by Whitehall Public Transportation</p>	<p>THE HAIR DEPOT</p> <p>Cheryl Martinson</p> <p>Men - Women - Children</p> <p>Perms - Color - Highlights</p> <p>201 South Main, Boulder</p> <p>406-225-3864</p>
<p>INTERMOUNTAIN HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.</p> <p>Helena</p> <p>Heating & Air Conditioning</p> <p>449-4567</p>	<p>BOULDER HARDWARE</p> <p>NOW OFFERING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lumber • Propane • U-Haul & UPS drop-off location <p>Do it Best</p>	<p>MT State Liquor Store</p> <p>BOULDER CASH 56</p> <p>Tues-Fri: 11-7 Sat: 10-6. Closed Sun & Mon</p> <p>209 N. Main St., Boulder</p>	<p>Steven J. Shapiro, P. C.</p> <p>Attorney at Law</p> <p>449-1200</p> <p>9 Friendship Lane in Montana City</p>	<p>CENTRAL BOILER</p> <p>Alternative Heat of Montana</p> <p>406-439-WOOD/406-438-0027 bsarchet@gmail.com</p> <p>Your local source for wood boiler sales, parts, installation & service.</p>
<p>GRIT & GRACE COLLECTIVE</p> <p>NEW! WE BUY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOLD • SILVER • ESTATE JEWELRY <p>203 Legion Ave W • Whitehall 508.517.600</p>	<p>ALPINE HOUSE SERVICES</p> <p>406-431-3493</p> <p>JOE FALINE</p> <p>ROOFING</p> <p>Exterior painting • Decks</p> <p>30+ years experience, insured</p>	<p>Boulder</p> <p>109 West Second</p> <p>LOBBY</p> <p>8-4 M-F</p> <p>DRIVE UP</p> <p>7:30-5:30 M-F 9-12 Sat.</p> <p>406-225-3351</p> <p>Madison Valley BANK</p> <p>24 HOUR ATM at both locations</p> <p>Since 1965 - madisonvalleybank.com</p>	<p>Montana City</p> <p>9 Bankers Lane</p> <p>LOBBY</p> <p>8:30-4 M-F</p> <p>DRIVE UP</p> <p>8-5 M-F</p> <p>406-443-0497</p>	<p>SUPPORT THE MONITOR LOCAL JOURNALISM FUND</p> <p>https://bit.ly/MonitorFund</p>

THE MONITOR KNOWS ADVERTISING
ADS@BOULDER-MONITOR.COM

When residents need a local plumber, a realtor, or any service, how will they find YOUR business? Email ads@boulder-monitor.com today for a directory spot. As low as \$30 per month.

SUPPORT THE MONITOR LOCAL JOURNALISM FUND
https://bit.ly/MonitorFund

SPORTS

No trip to State: Panther hoops season ends in Billings

The Jefferson High basketball squads saw their postseason run come to an end last weekend at the Class B Southern Division tournament in Billings, both falling short of advancing to this week's state tournament.

SPORTS PLUS



Dan Sturdevant

The Panther girls opened Thursday against Shepherd, bolstered by high hopes and an enthusiastic pack of fans who made the trip to MetraPark Arena. KK Morris got the Panthers on the board with a free throw, and Kodee Cummings

quickly followed with a free throw and two baskets to spark a 6-0 start. Brianna Layng added a three-pointer and Cummings knocked down another as Jefferson built an 18-13 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Panthers extended their advantage in the second. Hannah Stevens drilled a three-pointer to make it 21-16, Brooklyn Miller followed a steal with a three of her own, and Layng added another basket as Jefferson carried a 32-23 lead into halftime.

Stevens and Parker Layng each connected from beyond the arc in the third quarter as the Panthers pushed the margin to 49-29 heading into the final period. With reserves seeing most of the fourth-quarter action, Jefferson closed out the 63-38 win. Cummings led the way with 20 points, followed by Stevens with 17 and Josie Oxarart with 8.

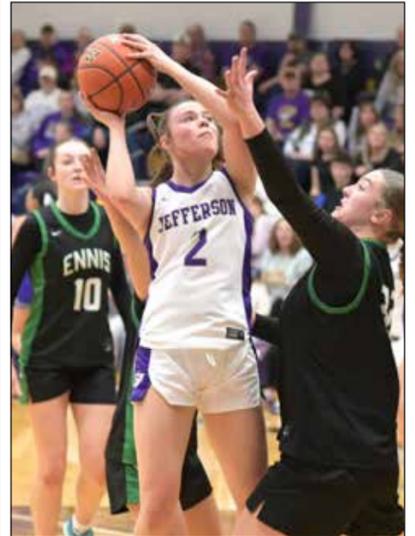
The victory set the Panthers up for a second-round date with undefeated and top-ranked Baker. The Spartans, last year's Class B runner-up, sure looked like a team that's going all the way this year. They jumped out to a 14-3 lead and built a 42-22 lead by halftime. Baker's hot shooting never let up, and the Spartans cruised to an 83-42 win. Oxarart led the Panthers in this one with 14 points, and Cummings added 8.

That put Jefferson in the consolation bracket needing a win to clinch a spot at State. Their opponent was Sweet Grass County, an old and good rival — and for a while, it looked like the Panthers might be making the trip to Bozeman this week. In a low-scoring affair, the girls started slowly and the Herders took advantage, going up 5-0. But Oxarart hit a pair of two pointers, Brianna Layng swished a long three and Jefferson 10-7 after one period.

The Panthers still clung to a slim 18-



LEFT: Kodee Cummings, pictured in action earlier this season, led the Lady Panthers with 20 points in their 63-38 first-round win over Shepherd in the Southern Divisional tournament. TOP RIGHT: Senior Tyler Frydenlund scored 13 in the boys' opening loss to Shepherd. BOTTOM RIGHT: Josie Oxarart led with 14 points against top-ranked Baker. (John Smith/The Monitor)



16 at the half. But then, the tide shifted. Maybe it was tired legs from the Baker game — but after Oxarart began the third quarter with a pair of baskets, the Herders made a run to take a 26-22 lead with eight minutes to play. A five-second call on Jefferson trying to inbound the ball gave Sweet Grass an opening, and with a 10-point margin, the Herders were happy going to a slow game. The Panthers still had a chance to close the gap, but five missed free throws out of six sealed their fate. The final: 40-27, Sweet Grass.

Brianna Layng and Stevens each had 8 points, and Oxarart 6. The Herders ultimately knocked off Huntley Project, last year's Class B champs, for third place. Baker annihilated Ennis, 79-38, for the division crown.

The Jefferson boys opened divisional play against Shepherd. Logan Frydenlund hit a pair of free throws early to make it

5-4, and baskets by Tyzer Zody and Tyler Frydenlund briefly gave the Panthers a 10-9 lead.

But Shepherd responded with a big run, outsourcing Jefferson 22-7 in the second quarter en route to a 38-19 halftime lead. The Mustangs extended their advantage to 43-25 after three quarters and went on to win 65-39. Tyler Frydenlund led Jefferson with 13 points, followed by Logan Frydenlund with 10 and Cobe Burnett with 8.

Jefferson then took on St. Labre, a team known for its fast-paced style. The Panthers trailed 11-7 after the first quarter and 34-21 at halftime but battled back to stay within striking distance. Tyler Frydenlund opened the third quarter with a basket and Xavier Wetzell followed with another to keep Jefferson close. A three-pointer by Cam Redfield cut the margin to 42-35, and two free throws from Logan Fryden-

lund made it 46-39. Jefferson trailed 53-43 heading into the fourth and pulled within 55-47. But St. Labre pulled away late for an 81-68 win, snuffing the Panthers' State hopes.

Although the season ended short of state tournament berths, the Panthers' youth suggests bright days ahead. The boys will lose only Tyler Frydenlund to graduation, leaving four juniors, four sophomores and five freshmen for next year's squad, while the girls also expect a strong core of experienced players back next season.

Attention now turns to spring sports at Jefferson High School, including track and field, golf and tennis. The track season will be especially exciting as athletes compete on the newly improved Jefferson track, which now features a rubberized surface and new timing system. I can't wait to see how they do.

GO PANTHERS.

DATE: MARCH 21
TIME: 1 PM-3 PM

Seed Starting 101

*Take home planted seed tray

Jefferson County Fairgrounds Volunteer Hall

\$10 Families welcome (21" Century Families are free)
20 Spots Available
Please RSVP
Rochelle Hesford
406.225.3164

Jefferson Valley Conservation District

NATURAL STREAMBED AND LAND PRESERVATION ACT

The Jefferson Valley Conservation District (District) would like to advise you of the Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act (310 Law) regarding the use of the emergency provisions of the law. The law defines an emergency as an unforeseen event, normal high water or normal low water due to drought do not count as unforeseen if they happen every year. If work is being completed in this fashion every year, it is a predictable event and it does not constitute an unforeseen event. If emergency action is taken to safeguard life or property during an emergency event, and that action is near a perennial stream, the conservation district must be notified of the emergency within 15 days of the action being initiated. Failure to notify the conservation district of an emergency action constitutes a violation of the 310 law.

If a project does meet the definition of an emergency, and action is taken under those provisions and the board approves the action as an emergency, they can still require modifications to the work that was done through the emergency provisions of the law. Modifications generally include cleanup work such as sandbag removal after high water, or removal of diversion items after drought, remediating the site to previous resource conditions.

Regular permitting can take 30-60 days to obtain and, in some cases, can take longer if additional information is required by the District or the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Additionally, other permits may be required.

If you are planning on doing work on, in or near a stream this field season, please submit the paperwork to the district in an appropriate amount of time so that the process can be completed as intended by the law. To obtain the permit application please call Kris at 406-287-7875, contact the office at jvmh57@outlook.com or go to the DNRC website and look up conservation districts.

Tom Carey, Chair, Jefferson Valley Conservation District

Boulder/Bull Mountain Fire Departments

CORNER BEEF & CABBAGE

Join us for a fundraiser
SAT., MAR. 14, 5-6:30
Fire Hall, 207 W. Second Ave.
Senior Center, 201 S. Main St.

Montana

DON'T get LEFT IN THE dark

READ PUBLIC NOTICES
www.MontanaPublicNotices.com

Billings Livestock Commission
Billings, MT
Horse Sales 406.855.1947

March 27, 28, 29

Loose Sell Sunday 9 a.m.

Loose Horses Accepted 24/7 all week
www.billingslivestock.com

REVERSE MORTGAGE

A Better Way to Retire!

Local representative, free information

Kelly DeWolf NMLS #54324
Branch Manager
p 406.431.4651
kdewolf@mutualmortgage.com
Serving ID, MT, and WY

Mutual of Omaha Mortgage, Inc. dba Mutual of Omaha Reverse Mortgage. NMLS ID 1025894. 3131 Camino Del Rio N 1100, San Diego, CA 92108. ID Mortgage Broker/Lender License MBL-2081025894. MT Mortgage Broker and Lender License 1025894. WY Mortgage Lender/Broker License 3488. These materials are not from, or approved by HUD or FHA. Subject to credit approval. For licensing information, go to: www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org #B44230819 Equal Housing Lender

SPORTS

For youth teams, this weekend was all hoops, all the time

The Helena Swish Tournament is quite the production: 92 teams with boys and girls from 3rd through 8th grades playing in 11 school gyms. Hosted by the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce, it's a big, fun stop on the youth club basketball circuit.

The Monitor caught several Jefferson County teams in action March 7 and 8: The Elkhorn Fever, Boulder's Basket Belles, the Jeffco Firecrackers, and MEB, a squad of 3rd and 4th-grade boys. "It was a great weekend," said MEB Coach Brad Schmit, who's also assistant coach at Carroll College. "It's just cool getting to know these kids."

Photos by John Smith



LEFT: The Jeffco Firecrackers huddle up with coaches Matt Dolezal (left), Adam Jesperson and Jamie Jesperson. RIGHT: MEB's Sawyer Reiter goes for two.



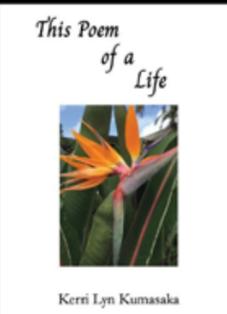
ABOVE LEFT: The Elkhorn Fever's Lindy Hammond grabs a ball in 6th-grade action against Anaconda Elite. ABOVE RIGHT: MEB's Turner Thompson charges down the court against the Hoop Legends.

LEFT: Kellen Simon of the Basket Belles tries to avoid a defender. ABOVE: Quincy McCauley looks for a pass.



FROM LEFT: Firecracker Quinn Richards drives to the hoop against the Helena Shooting Stars; and teammate Delaney Jesperson eyes a shot. The Clancy-based 6th graders went 2-2 for the tournament; MEB's Fletcher Nelson charges hard after the ball. MEB went 3-1 in 3rd and 4th-grade boys action. And the Boulder Basket Belles' Charley Parsons and Roxy Lewis go for a steal.

Book launch and author reading *This Poem of a Life*



Kerri Lyn Kumasaka is the author of *A Poet's Story*, originally published in 2007 and now reissued as *This Poem of a Life*. Kumasaka, a poet, writer and artist, lives in Boulder.

Sunday, March 15, 3-5 pm
ArtMine Basin
1 Cataract Creek ♦ Basin, Montana

With readings by:



Carla Rachel Sameth, former Altadena Co-Poet Laureate and Poet Laureate Fellow with the Academy of American Poets, has published three books: *Secondary Inspections*, *What is Left*, and the memoir *One Day on the Gold Line*. **Manuela Gomez Rhine** is the author of the novels *The Palm Tree Chronicles* and *The Wild Chihuahuas of Mexico*. She lives in Oaxaca, Mexico.



More information at artminebasin.com

DEVON

17
MARCH
2026



NAOMI MOON
SIEGEL & FRIENDS
OWEN ROSS
CHRISTOPHER ICASIANO

GATES

The Art Mine
Basin, MT
6:30pm

artminebasin.com
naomimoonsiegel.com

DOORS OPEN 6 PM • SUGGESTED DONATION \$20