

TOBACCO VALLEY NEWS

\$1.50

Northwest Montana's independent newspaper

www.tobaccovalleynews.com

Volume 64 Issue 52

Eureka, Montana

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

County elections office will follow judge's order

By Rebecca Nelson

Of the Tobacco Valley News

A Montana Supreme Court decision on March 27 definitively gives voters the right to register and vote on election day.

Although information about the availability of election day registration is missing from Lincoln County's advertising, which

states late registration closes at noon the day before for both the upcoming primary and school election days, the county's website acknowledges that voters may register and vote up until close of polls on election day.

"I believe what we should do to serve the public is just let them know that if they go to the election center, they can vote up until the close of polls on election day, register and vote," Clerk and Recorder Corrina

Brown said.

Election administrator Melanie Howell emailed a response saying although late registration does close at noon the day before the election, "it does re-open on Tuesday, or election day."

Montana code says county election advertising is directed by the Secretary of State, but the county didn't answer about what direction had been given, and the SOS di-

rector of communications didn't return a request for comment.

The Montana Supreme Court decision also struck down three other laws restricting voting. The others related to ballot collecting, the use of student ID cards as identification, and absentee voting for people turning

See VOTING, Page 2

Rendezvous Days 2024



The axe and knife throwing course at the David Thompson Black Powder Shoot attracts a group of participants to try their luck on Saturday of Rendezvous weekend. For more Rendezvous photos, please see page 10. Patrick Broom photo.

By Traci Street

Of the Tobacco Valley News

A downpour on Saturday afternoon in the middle of Rendezvous may have shortened some of the outdoor activities, said organizer and Chamber of Commerce employee Kathy Ness, but didn't stop the fun entirely. "It wasn't as big as last year, but everybody seemed to enjoy it," Ness said.

Ness found that vendors and attendees seemed happy with the turnout. She spoke to a number of people who said they liked the variety of unique items offered at the vendors village, even though many of the vendors started packing up during the downpour, which happened after the parade, around 2:30.

Ness also said many of the vendors and food trucks were already asking to commit for next year because they enjoy the event.

Bob Myers, who helped organize The Wanderers car show, was expecting about 90 cars, but ended up with closer to 30. He

said the rain affected their event pretty drastically, since a number of people from Libby and Troy chose not to come because of the rain. "We didn't start the show until after the parade, so just as everyone got here and got set up, we had to cut it short," he said. Myers said some of the cars, especially convertibles and cars that didn't have working windshield wipers, had to pack up early. The rain caused less people to be around to vote for Best in Show and People's Choice awards, he said, although he said they still gave out the awards.

Myers said he did hear from attendees that there were a number of new cars at the show they hadn't seen before. He said he is hopeful that seeing new cars enter the show means they are drumming up more interest.

Jerry Ross, who has organized the flea market at the fairgrounds for many years, felt the turnout was good, and the vendors who rented space seemed to do well. "It went really well. We had quite a few people coming through," she said.

Ross said she helps organize the flea mar-

ket for a local church, which in turn will donate any money they make from vendor fees to a non-profit organization each year. This year the money will be donated to the Fortine School music program.

The flea market and quilt show might be the only indoor activity that happens on Saturday, and Ross said she noticed a sudden flood of people coming through doors mid-afternoon. "All of a sudden all these people came in, drenched," she said. Having been inside all day, Ross was unaware it had started pouring rain, although she said the increase in people was good for sales.

See RENDEZVOUS, Page 9

Trego resident is the only candidate who filed for trustee seat

By Rebecca Nelson

Of the Tobacco Valley News

Stephanie Vredenburg is running unopposed for the Trego seat on the Eureka School Board. She'll replace Marcy Butts, who did not refile for the seat.

As a parent of a 6-year-old attending Eureka Elementary, Vredenburg feels invested in the quality of education in the district. "I feel like the role of the trustee, like the school board, is super important," she says. "Because as a parent, I understand the importance of education and feeling confident in the educational system, and especially knowing that my kid is going to have a good one. And I think that our district absolutely does a pretty good job about it. But I want to be a part of that."

Vredenburg says she's been asked by a couple people recently if she'd consider running for school board. With 14 years working in banking in Eureka, she's interfaced with many local families. "I know a lot of the students there, I've seen a lot of them grow into the high school years," she says. "I see where growth and potential could happen."

Vredenburg feels the banking job has brought her closer to the community. "It's allowed me to meet many individuals in this community and businesses," she says. "I really love that connection that I've been able to grow while working in the financial industry." She's also a frequenter of local student sporting events, and sometimes attends school board meetings.

She recognizes that the school bond issue is a top priority for the schools, and she's "a big advocate" for new facilities, even though her role in the Trego seat won't have direct influence, she says. She believes constant repairs are costing the district too much

See CANDIDATE, Page 9

Lake Koocanusa refill now underway

By Traci Street

Of the Tobacco Valley News

Snowpack in the mountains around the Tobacco Valley is close to normal at this point in the season, said Pat Price, biologist with US Forest Service.

Price said the latest snow survey done April 1 showed the Kootenai drainage at 77 percent, which was the highest in the state except for Bighorn. Stahl Peak was at 82 percent, and Graves Peak was at 58 percent due to more rapid snow melt. It was dumping snow at that elevation when they were there last, he said. Price said they will measure again this week for the final survey of the year.

Price said they typically like to see the

snowpack somewhere between 85-100 percent, which puts this area close to what it should be. "We are on the lower end of normal, but we're still the highest in the state," he said, explaining that a lot of areas around the state are lower than the Tobacco Valley. "The snowpack has held on with the cooler temps, we haven't had that much to bring us down much," he said. He said that could change as warmer temperatures continue.

Gregory Hoffman, senior fisheries biologist at the Libby Dam, said he expects the level of water in the reservoir to be close to what it was last year. The Lake Koocanusa reservoir is considered at full pool at around

See RUN OFF, Page 2

A veto override of Senate Bill 442 fell short on April 18, leaving counties without the marijuana tax-funded aid for roads, conservation and trails, and veterans programs the bill would have allocated. Local legislators were among those who chose not to return a ballot, although they had both supported the popular bill through the process.

According to an analysis done by Erin Sullivan, lead researcher for the Economic Affairs interim committee, SB 442 could have brought \$368,924 to Lincoln County, \$310,286 of which would have gone to roads. Commissioner Josh Letcher has spoken repeatedly about the need to find ways to infuse the dwindling county road fund. The commissioners voted to sign a letter from the Montana Association of Counties urging legislators to support the bill.

Governor Gianforte vetoed the bill last

By Rebecca Nelson

Of the Tobacco Valley News

Legislators skip veto override poll

May after it passed the legislature with a super majority - 131 of 150 state lawmakers voting in favor.

Normally, two paths for veto overrides exist for the legislature, either during a regular or a special session. The veto override poll of SB 442 was court ordered by district judge Mike Menahan because the timing of Gianforte's veto at the end of the session left the senators unaware until after adjournment.

In his decision, Menahan addressed ambiguity in Montana's constitution in regard to how procedure relates to timing of the veto. "The ambiguity raised by this case addresses the procedure for the override process when the governor vetoes a bill while the legislature is still in session, but the legislature does not receive the veto message until after adjournment," he wrote.

In March, the Montana Supreme Court

See OVERRIDE, Page 2

FOR THE RECORD

The Tobacco Valley News

Read by: Terry Cullen

CANADIAN EXCHANGE

\$1 USD = \$1.37 CAD

Bank of Canada
Monday, April 29

LIBBY DAM

Date: Tuesday, April 30
Level: 2,419.57 feet
Last year: 2,402.5 feet

Full pool: 2,459 feet

Inflow: 10,300 cfs

Outflow: 6,000 cfs

River Temp: NA°

INSIDE

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Voting

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18 by election day.

House Bill 176, which changed the end of late registration from election day to noon the day before, was passed in 2021 along with other legislation restricting voting, but has been unenforceable since a district court found the legislation unconstitutional in 2022.

Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen appealed in fall 2022, but the Montana Supreme Court affirmed the district court's ruling on March 27, 2024.

Howell noted in an interview that court rulings were "changing constantly." Although information regarding the availability of same day registration and referencing the 2022 district

court decision is on the website, it's not in the advertising because, she said, "We don't try to encourage people. It's a very difficult process. And most people won't do it anyway. But late registration must be completed at the office in order to do it on the day of election."

A neighboring county has

taken a different approach. In its primary election advertising posted a day before the Montana Supreme Court ruling, the Flathead County elections office advertised in the Daily Inter Lake: "After regular registration has closed, late registration is currently available at the county election office up

until 8 p.m. on election day. Note: There is an active lawsuit regarding Montana's late registration deadline and the deadline may be subject to change."

In the decision that put the matter to rest, Justice Mike McGrath wrote, "Montana enacted election day registration in 2005,

which allowed a voter to both register to vote and vote on election day. Election day registration has become wildly popular, with over 70,000 Montanans utilizing it since 2006. In a 2014 referendum, Montana voters rejected eliminating election day registration by a 14-point margin."

AUCTION

at Rexford School

Saturday, May 4 @ 10 am

Doors open at 8 am

Preview May 3rd from 12 noon- 6 pm

This is a combination of three estates.

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Override

Continued FROM page 1

denied the State of Montana's request to pause the district court decision.

Both Senator Mike Cuffe and Representative Neil Duram expressed their belief that the courts overreached and acted improperly.

"This is a legislative matter," Cuffe said. "The Supreme Court cannot tell me how to vote or that I have to vote on something." Cuffe said the constitution is "very clear."

For Cuffe, it was a question of a separation of powers. "It's an unfortunate thing," he said. "I did vote for the bills as they came through the process. The proper way that this should have been handled is if a sponsor of the bill or somebody else that really wanted it should have called for a special session and brought us back into session to reconsider either the identical bill or a very similar bill. That, I believe, is the process."

Cuffe said the poll came by registered mail and he did not sign for it. "I made sure that the Postal Service would be returning that to the Secretary of State," he said.

Duram likewise did not return his poll vote. "It was just another example of our judges, or the Supreme Court in particular, stepping in to set policy, and I don't believe that's their role," he said.

Duram said that he's signed several veto over-

rides in the past. "This one in particular, though, I didn't turn in my vote, primarily as an opposition to the court coming into the House of Representatives and telling us what our rules are," he said.

Duram said he'd probably support a similar bill in the future. "Whatever merits Senate Bill 442 had can be brought in the next session. We're practically almost there anyway," he said.

Run-off

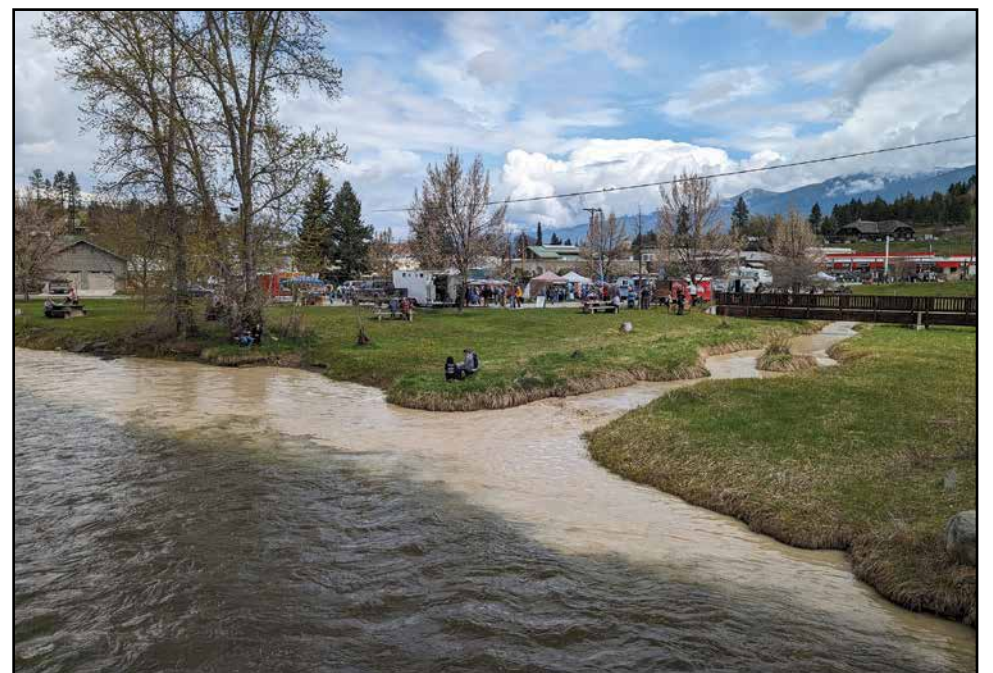
Continued FROM page 1

2,459 feet. The reservoir is currently sitting at 2,420 feet, about 39 feet below the full level.

Hoffman, who has worked at the dam for 22 years, said he's come to know it as one of the most complex hydropower dams in the Northwest to operate. "It's transboundary," Hoffman said, noting the treaty with Canada concerning the reservoir's management. There are biological considerations, such as how much water is needed downstream for sturgeon, as well as water levels to consider for bull trout both upstream and downstream of the dam. Hoffman said for the benefit of sturgeon recovery, they have to pick flows that mimic flows that would occur if there was no dam. Water is also provided by the reservoir at the end of the summer for salmon migration in the lower Columbia River.

Another demand on the dam is creating electricity, and there is flood prevention to take into consideration.

Hoffman has to juggle the opinions of a number of different agencies who vie for their position in regards to the dam, from electric companies, to state, federal, and international agencies, as well as recreation groups – all who might want the reservoir at different levels, or the water down or up-



Muddy meltwater mixes with the Tobacco River at Riverside Park in Eureka. Krista Nemeroff photo.

stream at different levels, dependent on what their goals are.

Hoffman, who manages the sturgeon recovery program downstream from the dam, said there is an off chance they will not have the sturgeon operation this year, which also happened last year. That means they will be able to fill the reservoir sooner.

Hoffman said that in years where more water is predicted, dam managers typically drain the reservoir to a lower level, in the neighborhood of 2,380 feet. He said the low point usually occurs around the first of April, at which point it starts slowly filling back up.

Hoffman said they have to balance the flow of water going out with the predic-

tion of how much water will be filling the reservoir. In the past, Hoffman said, operations in Libby were based on what predictions were being made for the Dalles Dam in Oregon and for the entire system on the Columbia River. Hoffman said more recently, they have fine tuned the levels of the Libby Dam to better match the forecasts in this area, which he said has made a lot more sense. This has helped them to be able to fill the reservoir, even during dry years. "Last year, just dry, dry, dry – yet, we were able to fill the reservoir, having good river conditions, despite all the heat," he said.

Hoffman said when a number of other rivers in Montana were closed to

fishing last summer, people came to Libby to fish. "We had good flows, and we have the ability to manage water temperature in the river with a system at the dam," he said. "We were able to keep the water fairly cool."

Hoffman said the benefits to managing the flow and temperature of the water are meant to be ecological, but said if you provide those, the anglers and recreationists are also happy. He said he spoke to some outfitters who were pleased with the levels of the dam last year, and said he figured both Canadians, as well as folks at Abayance Bay, were probably pleased as well. "I didn't get any nasty phone calls last year," he said with a laugh.

PET OF THE WEEK



MAGNOLIA

Magnolia is a 1- to 2-year-old spayed female who loves snuggling. She came in as a pregnant stray and now that her kittens are weaned she is ready for a new home of her own.

Tobacco Valley Animal Shelter
406-889-5457

tobaccovalleyanimalshelter@gmail.com

NOTICE OF THE 2024 FEDERAL PRIMARY ELECTION AND CLOSE OF LATE REGISTRATION.

Notice is hereby given that there will be elections held for the FEDERAL PRIMARY Election on Tuesday June 4th, 2024

****Registration for the Tuesday June 4, 2024, Federal Primary Election closes at noon, on Monday May 6th, 2024****

To register to vote, or to update your name, address, or other voter information, submit a Montana Voter Registration Application to the county elections office (mailing address 418 Mineral Ave., Libby, MT 59923). You may obtain an application by calling the elections office at 406-283-2302 or 406-283-2304, appearing in person at the Lincoln County Election Center, 418 Mineral Ave., Floor B, Libby, MT, or downloading the application online at <https://lincolncountymt.us/elections-homepage/>. The application must be signed before being submitted to the election office. If mailing, your application must be postmarked by May 6, 2024, and received in the Election Office by 5:00 p.m. on May 9, 2024.

AFTER MAY 6, 2024, You must register to vote as a late registrant at the Election Center, 418 Mineral Ave., Floor B, Libby MT. You can register to vote, up to the day before the election at noon. To check your voter registration status, please go to the My Voter Page on the Montana Secretary of State website: <https://voterportal.mt.gov>.

****NOTE:** Inactive electors may reactivate by completing and submitting a Montana Voter Registration Application, requesting, completing, and submitting an absentee ballot in any election, or by notifying the County Election Administrator in writing of the elector's current address in the county.

SCHOOL & SPORTS

Eureka hosts Top 8 track and field meet

By Traci Street
Of the Tobacco Valley News

The Eureka track teams had several meets over the past week, racking up a number of personal and season best efforts, at a home meet and away in Whitefish.

Coach Andrew Gideon said Haidyn Guckenberger is leading the Lady Lions in personal records and is tied with Cricket Bridges for the highest number of events competed in. Josh Lambertsen is leading the Lions in personal records for the season.

Season to date, Monroe Tornow and Michael Pitman are leading the teams in number of miles run, with 77.7 and 137.5 miles respectively. Khloe Bridges and Benjamin Hughes follow with 71.1 and 130.3, respectively.

At the home track meet on Tuesday April 23, the Lion 4x400 relay team set a meet record with a time of 3:37.53.

The Lady Lions took the gold in their home meet, with Haidyn Guckenberger setting a meet record in the 100 hurdles with a time of

17.08. The Lady Lion relay teams both took first place.

Gideon said the athletes in general have put in a lot of work and effort, and highlighted a number of beginning throwers who have all given personal best performances over the season thus far. Houston Hayes, Jocelyn

Miller, and Jaiden Streck competed in two events in a meet in Whitefish on Saturday, and each came away with personal records in the events they entered in.

Gideon said the Whitefish meet eventually got rained out, and several events were not held or couldn't finish

due to the rain. Gideon said the team performed well, despite the weather. He said Jesse Day had a good showing in the javelin, with a personal record throw of 151 feet 8 inches and a second

See TRACK, Page 5



Hurdler Haidyn Guckenberger competes in the Top 8 track meet. Traci Street photo.

\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP

FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS STUDYING JOURNALISM OR RELATED FIELDS

Eligible applicants must be residents of Montana who are graduating from an accredited high school in the spring of 2024. They must plan to enroll in a journalism (print, broadcast, multimedia) or journalism-related field of study at an accredited college, university or vocational-technical school. Journalism-related fields would include, but are not limited to, graphic design, photography/visual arts, sales/marketing, business administration, English, communications, and public relations. Preference will be given to applicants who plan to attend Montana post-secondary institutions.

SCAN TO APPLY OR GET MORE INFO



www.mtnewspapers.com/montana-newspaper-foundation/mnf-journalism-scholarship/#

Sports Schedule

Tuesday, April 30

Track at County Meet, Eureka, 3 p.m.
Softball at Whitefish, 4 p.m.
Baseball vs. Browning, 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 2

Golf at Anaconda
Softball vs. Mission, 4 p.m.

Friday, May 3

Softball at T. Falls, 4 p.m.
Baseball vs. Bigfork, 4 p.m.

Monday, May 6

Golf at Divisionals

Tuesday, May 7

Golf at Divisionals
4 p.m. Softball vs. Troy
6 p.m. Baseball vs. C. Falls



Lion baseball team secures two more wins

By Will Ebert
Of the Tobacco Valley News

Lion baseball won two more games this week as they beat Whitefish in Whitefish 8-2, and pumeling Troy on the road 16-0.

Rowan Burow started on the mound and he pitched his best game of the year so far. He had ten strikeouts and only gave up one hit.

Coach Ryan Holder said: "Rowan was fantastic against Whitefish. Having 10K and only one hit given up really helped us to stay confident until the bats got going. Freshman Michael VanGilder had hit a double in the game, and he is really doing great after earning the starting spot early in the season."

VanGilder said: "I hit a double into the left cen-

ter gap and I had a couple singles and I had a catch in foul territory which stopped runners from scoring."

Senior A.J. Truman said: "Whitefish couldn't touch anything Rowan threw at them. Later in the game we had some timely hits to drive in runs, and we kept

See BASEBALL, Page 5

Golf team competes in Spring Swing

By Will Ebert
Of the Tobacco Valley News

The golf teams were in Missoula April 22-23 for the Spring Swing Golf invitational. The boys placed seventh with Caden Vaughn placing 14th. The girls placed fourth.

RyAnn Lewis led the team again this week, placing seventh. New player to the team Sophie Vaughn placed 15th.

Athletic Director Brendan Miller said: "Sophie Vaughn just keeps getting better as the season goes on."

The Lions were scheduled to play in Shelby on April 29 after press time, and head to Anaconda on May 2 to finish the regular season.



HAIDYN GUCKENBERG

Haidyn Guckenberger leads the Lady Lions in personal records this season and is tied for the most events entered. "Her track skill set gives her a variety of events to challenge," track coach Andrew Gideon said.



MICHAEL VANGILDER

Michael VanGilder "has been great for us as soon as he became a starter early in the season. He also had a big double in the Whitefish game this week," baseball coach Ryan Holder said.



LILY WILLIAMS

Lily Williams "is a team captain and continues to be a great vocal leader," softball coach Brendan Miller said.



SOPHIE VAUGHN

Sophie Vaughn "played her best golf of the season and placed 15th in Missoula and seems to keep getting better," athletic director Brendan Miller said.

Thanks to Jason Schikora Photography for sharing athlete photos!

Brought to you by:



Lady Lions beat Bonners Ferry, lose to MAC

By Traci Street
Of the Tobacco Valley News

The Eureka Lady Lions softball team took home a 11-7 win against Bonners Ferry on Tuesday, April 23. The win was secured with a triple hit by Maura Miller in the bottom of the sixth inning, driving in three runs.

Coach Brendan Miller said they were only up by one run at that point, but the triple effectively gave the

team some cushion. "Getting those extra runs, so we knew we had some runs to play with in the seventh inning, was a big deal," he said.

Coach Miller also said this was the team's third game in a row with only one error. "We had another game where we only had one error," he said. "I was proud of our girls for playing really good defense."

The Lady Lions then traveled to MAC (the combined Mission-Arlee-Charlo

team) and lost, 0-15. MAC is a team Coach Miller had previously said could be a tough game, although he said they had been playing inconsistently, at times. Miller said he thinks the Lady Lions happened to catch MAC on a good day. "We caught them right in the middle of their hot swing," he said. "They're hit-

See SOFTBALL, Page 5

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MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

How should HUD dollars be used in Montana for housing and community development needs? Let us know what you think via the Montana Housing and Community Needs Survey.

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services invite you to participate in the 2024 Montana Housing and Community Needs Survey. Responses will be used to develop Montana's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

The survey, which should take 8-10 minutes to complete, will help the State identify and address critical needs in communities throughout Montana.

To take the survey, visit commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates or scan this QR Code

The State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing a 5-year plan to guide policy and investment for housing, economic, and other community development projects. This 5-year plan, also known as the "Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development" is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assess Montana's needs and current conditions, as well as to determine priorities and allocate HUD funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

The survey will be open through Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con dominio limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesitan un formato accesible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníquese con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 30 de abril de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

HAIDYN GUCKENBERG

Haidyn Guckenberger leads the Lady Lions in personal records this season and is tied for the most events entered. "Her track skill set gives her a variety of events to challenge," track coach Andrew Gideon said.

MICHAEL VANGILDER

Michael VanGilder "has been great for us as soon as he became a starter early in the season. He also had a big double in the Whitefish game this week," baseball coach Ryan Holder said.

LILY WILLIAMS

Lily Williams "is a team captain and continues to be a great vocal leader," softball coach Brendan Miller said.

SOPHIE VAUGHN

Sophie Vaughn "played her best golf of the season and placed 15th in Missoula and seems to keep getting better," athletic director Brendan Miller said.

Thanks to Jason Schikora Photography for sharing athlete photos!

Brought to you by:

Prom Committee



Johanna Cuffe, Karli Campbell, Lizzie Van Ness, Jesse Day, Anna Sun, Isabella Otto, Houston Hayes. Not pictured: Kara Stanger, Canyen Yargus. **Traci Street photo.**

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LET'S GO LIONS!

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Softball

Continued FROM page 3

ting the ball extremely well.”

Miller said the Lady Lions had trouble closing out innings, most likely due to MAC hitting the ball hard, as well as the team making some mental mistakes. He also said the team made four errors in that game, unlike the last three games with only one error each.

The Lady Lions have a busy week traveling to Whitefish on Tuesday, playing MAC at home on Thursday and traveling again, to Thompson Falls, over the weekend. Miller said they are working on mixing up the positions some, trying

out new things for the upcoming games. “We’re going to make some changes, I think, and move things around a little bit,” he said. “See if we can shake things up and see what happens.”

April 23
Eureka vs. Bonners Ferry Final, Win 11-7
Eureka 1 1 1 0 4 4 X F-11
Bonners Ferry 0 1 2 2 0 1 1 F-7
C. Hurst 0-2, D. Starkey 1-2, M. Miller 1-3, L. Williams 1-3, P. Goheen 0-3, M. Neesvig 0-3, T. Jackson 0-3, L. King 0-1, L. Conard 2-2.

April 24
Eureka @ MAC Final, Loss 15-0
Eureka 0 0 0 X X X X F-0
MAC 7 6 2 X X X F-15
C. Hurst 1-1, D. Starkey 0-2, M. Miller 0-2, L. Williams 0-1, P. Goheen 1-1, M. Neesvig 0-1, T. Jackson 0-1, A. Marsh 0-1, L. Conard 0-1.



Freshman Laina Conard defends her base at a home softball game last week. Traci Street photo.

Track

Continued FROM page 3

place finish.

Lady Lions Avery Kiser and Aubriegh Eslick had personal best times in the 4x400 relay in Whitefish. Lion Emmett Manges earned two season best times, and Cole Sartori set personal bests in the 800 and 4x400 relay.

The ELITE Top 8 NW ABC
Eureka 4/23/24
Boys Team Scores:
1. Libby 118, 2. Browning 102, 3. Eureka 97, 4. Noxon 9, 5. St. Ignatius 7.
Boys individual scores:
100: 2. E. Manges 12.08, 5. S. Sartori 12.5
200: 1. J. Lambertsen 23.68, 2. E. Manges 24.08
400: 1. C. Sartori 53.57, 2. T. Schmidt 55.23
3200: 3. M. Pitman 11:15.68, 5. B. Hughes 12:17.67
4x100: 1. Eureka: S. Sartori, J. Lambertsen, C. Sartori, B. Casazza 46.13
4x400: 1. Eureka: T. Schmidt, C. Sartori, B. Casazza, J. Lambertsen 3:37.53
Shot Put: 3. S. Sartori 40' 8
Discus: 1. B. Casazza 121' 8
Javelin: 1. J. Day 142-00, 6. K. Gideon 103' 4
High Jump: 1. B. Casazza 5' 11
Pole Vault: 1. J. Lambertsen 11' 9, 4. T. Schmidt 9' 9
Triple Jump: 3. R. Traina 31' 7, 5. B. Hagedorn 28' 4, 6. B. Chase 27' 7
Girls Team Scores:



Boys mileage leader Michael Pitman competes in the Top 8 track meet. Traci Street photo.

1. Eureka 130 2. Browning 106 3. Libby 36 4. St. Ignatius 26 5. Noxon 23
100: 1. W. Cohen 13:38, 2. K. Stanger 14:03
200: 1. Cricket Bridges 28:32
400: 2. H. Guckenberg 1:04.64, 5. E. Kueber 1:16.17, 6. Khloe Bridges 1:16.58
800: 3. H. Neesvig 2:47.44
1600: 3. A. Kiser 5:55.75
3200: M. Turnow 14:49.49
100 Hurdles: 1. H. Guckenberg 17.08
4x100: 1. Eureka: H. Guckenberg, K. Stanger, Cricket Bridges, W. Cohen 53:53
4x400: 1. Eureka: Cricket Bridges, H. Guckenberg, W. Cohen, H. Neesvig 4:37.39
Shot Put: 2. Z. Hanson 28' 11, 5. A. Proffitt 24' 5
Discus: 1. Z. Hanson 86' 11, 2. J. Cuffee 75' 10
Javelin: 1. K. Stanger 97' 2, 3. Cricket Bridges 82' 4
High Jump: 1. H. Neesvig 4' 5, 2. K. Campbell 1' 1

Pole Vault: 1. K. Campbell 8' 3, 2. Khloe Bridges 6' 3
Long Jump: 4. K. Campbell 11' 10

Whitefish ARM Invitational 4/27/24

Boys team scores: 1. Whitefish 125, 2. Bigfork 98, 3. Columbia Falls 92, 4. Polson 82 5. Browning 54, 6. Libby 48, 7. Lincoln County 41, 8. St Ignatius 22, 9. Thompson Falls 21, 10. Hot Springs 18, 11. Plains 15
Boys individual scores:
400: 4. J. Lambertsen 52.9
800: 5. T. Schmidt 2:09.46, 6. C. Sartori 2:10.53
4x100 relay: 3. Eureka: E. Manges, J. Lambertsen, C. Sartori, B. Casazza 45.67
4x400 relay: 2. Eureka: B. Casazza, T. Schmidt, C. Sartori, J. Lambertsen 3:39.71
Javelin: 2. J. Day 151' 2
High Jump: 2. B. Casazza 5' 10
Pole Vault: 3. T. Schmidt 9' 6
Girls Team Scores:
1 Whitefish 167.5, 2. Columbia Falls 134, 3. Plains 62, 4. Polson 62, 5. Bigfork 52.5, 6. Lincoln County 47, 7. Browning 37.5, 8. Thompson Falls 30 9. Libby 25.5, 10. Hot Springs 22.
Girls individual scores:
100 M hurdles: 2. H. Guckenberg 16:63
300 M hurdles: 1. H. Guckenberg 50:59
4x100 relay: 4. Eureka: H. Guckenberg, K. Stanger, Cricket Bridges, W. Cohen
4x400 relay: 5. Eureka: Cricket Bridges, W. Cohen, H. Neesvig, H. Guckenberg
Shot put: 6. Z. Hanson 28' 11.5
Discus: 4. Z. Hanson 101' 8
High Jump: 5. H. Neesvig 4' 4

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Baseball

Continued FROM page 3

our errors to a minimum. Beating them sets us up for a great conference seeding as long as we take care of business this week and next Tuesday against Columbia Falls.” The Lions scored four

runs in the sixth inning to pull away from the Bulldogs.

Saturday the Lions headed to Troy and were able to finish the game in three innings. Eureka scored 13 runs just in the second inning. Coach Holder said: “We started out sluggish but

got it going in the second inning. Troy is just really young and it’s hard to get motivated for, and it showed to start the game.”

Rogan Lytle said: “Everyone was able to steal a base in this game.”



Senior AJ Truman pitches April 29 in a home game against 2023 state champs Polson. Will Ebert photo.

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OPINION

Letters

Vote in support of an independent library district

Libraries are important. They connect people to people and people to information. More than a collection of books, libraries promote functional and digital literacy, provide a safe-space for kids, and offer adult learning, computer classes, and community outreach. Libraries provide equal access for everyone, they are a door to the world around us and the heart of many communities.

The future of your county library system is at risk. For the past three years county commissioners have encouraged library trustees to look for other funding sources. Currently, the library has a dedicated mill levy of 3.49 mills, approved by voters in 1996, with the remainder of the budget coming from the county's general fund at the discre-

tion of the commissioners. Commissioners have told trustees the general fund can no longer support the libraries.

Trustees have few choices. One option is to ask voters to increase the dedicated mill levy amount. Dedicated mills are static and do not adjust for inflation. It requires repeat ballot votes to adjust the amount; or otherwise ask for more than is currently needed in anticipation of inflation. With a tax burden near the breaking point that option was deemed unacceptable.

Trustees decided an Independent Library District is a better option. A District is a government entity. Commissioners appoint the inaugural library district board with trustees elected thereafter. The District owns all facilities and property, is

responsible for wages, benefits and insurance as well as all maintenance and improvements. Should voters ever decide to dissolve the District, all assets including property and facilities, would revert to the county. It's important to note the resolution on the June ballot states "...public library district may levy not more than 13.49 mills." This provides the flexibility to adjust for inflation with a cap on spending. Any additional increase requires voter approval. The current 3.49 dedicated mill levy would be removed from your tax bill.

Trustees feel there are significant advantages to forming an Independent District. Most importantly, it creates a stable source of revenue that can only be directed to the library system. Stable revenues would allow for

long-range planning, much needed maintenance to aging facilities, and expanded services for all ages. Revenue would still fluctuate with the value of a mill but it wouldn't depend on the discretion of three commissioners.

Asking voters to support an Independent Library District was a difficult decision. Trustees pay property taxes along with everyone else. We recognize the importance of libraries and how they add value to our communities. Your support for an Independent Library District is an investment in your community and guarantees the future of your library.

Barb Hvizdak
Eureka

Graduate supports Goodrich for trustee

I am a proud 1967 graduate of LCHS. The wonderful education I received there many years ago helped me enormously in college, graduate school, and two successful careers. But recently, I was astounded to read in an article a classmate sent to me, SchoolDigger's "Best High Schools in Montana," that in academic standards LCHS is ranked only 85th out of 124 Montana high schools. Of our nearest high schools, Libby ranked 13th and Whitefish ranked 9th, far above LCHS. In reading, LCHS scored only a little above the state average. The scores in math and science were dismal - in the bottom sixth of Montana high schools. This is embarrassing!

I know sports are so important there, just like they were when I attended LCHS and was a cheerleader. But we had great sports teams in the 1960s and an excellent academic program, along with top-of-the-line students who benefited from the wonderful classes we had. I was with them in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and calculus and our science classes. We all worked hard. I can't believe parents today are less concerned about educational standards than they were when I attended LCHS. Obviously, there must be changes made if Eureka's students are to be truly competitive in Montana and other places now and in the future.

As an initial solution, I would like to recommend Ben Goodrich for the School Board. He may be the least known candidate because Eureka is only recently his home, but I have been honored to know Ben and his family. The Goodriches have been our close neighbors and dear friends in rural Oregon for the past 25 years. I have worked with Ben's parents on numerous - almost insurmountable - community issues we have faced. The planning, organizational skills and intelligence, plus people skills, are what characterize the Goodriches. They are rural-oriented to the core, as am I. I know Ben has all these qualities and then some. What is more, he and his wife Lindsay have three school-aged children in Eureka and a fourth brand new Eureka baby.

There is also the problem of aging school buildings. I own property in Eureka and have paid taxes to Lincoln County for years. When school levies are passed, I pay for them. But, I cannot vote because I am not a Montana resident. I could say that is taxation without representation - but I trust Ben will be an excellent representative for out-of-staters like me.

Julia Follansbee
Bend, Oregon

On the fence at Creekside Trailer Park

In following the dustup between the county commissioners and Creekside Trailer Park several things come to mind, not the least of which is the taxation issue going back 67 years. That in and of itself should count for something.

And then there's the fence the county put up sometime in the seventies. Tom Price documented it rather humorously in his recent memoir, *An Old Sailor Remembers*: "We were just about ready for a rodeo. We put up some chain-link fence between the fairgrounds and Creekside Trailer Court. Unbeknown to us, the trailer court was renting out tent spaces. Evidently, they rented a space to a gal who slept bare-naked. Well, they turned the bulls out into the field to graze and one old bull went over, hooked his horns in the fence and lifted it up. He went over to this gal's tent and stuck his head in it. She saw that big head and she didn't wait for clothes. Kind of an embarrassing situation but there was nothing we could do about it."

Finally, there's the giant leap that Commissioner Josh Letcher made in connecting the snafu to undocumented migrants when he said, "But we have a lot of constituents, at least I do, that when they hear the words low-income housing and Section Eight, they think of illegal immigration and the things that are going on 60 miles south of here, in the Flathead and they're concerned."

Perhaps he should note that there is no shortage of current residents of the Tobacco Valley who would enjoy taking advantage of low-income housing. Josh might remind his constituents of the words of one famous historic figure: "To whom much is given, much will be required." What was that guy's name?

Gary Montgomery
Eureka

Perspective

Eclipsed by regret

Today's topic is regret. And yes, I realize that doesn't sound like a typical topic for what is allegedly a humor column. But I'm experiencing regret right now and writing is good therapy. Besides, I have a column due and no other idea for it.

Here's what happened. On April 7, I flew back from Dayton, Ohio where I'd been attending the Erma Bombeck Writers Workshop. The workshop was as wonderful as you'd expect. If you can't have fun at a humor writers convention you're just not trying.

But my enjoyment was spoiled somewhat by the knowledge that I was leaving Dayton the day before the solar eclipse. And Dayton was a perfect location to see it in totality. I'm often a day late and a dollar short. This time I was a day early. I was still a dollar short though.



DOROTHY ROSBY

I would have stayed an extra day, but this was one of those rare occasions when I'd been efficient. I'd made my reservations long before the eclipse was all the talk, at least in my world. Believe me, I won't be so efficient again.

A better travel agent than I am could have changed my hotel and airline reservations to stay an extra day but that proved too much for me. Dayton was overrun with excited people coming

to see the eclipse. Some of them probably moved into my hotel room shortly after I left it. I hope they waited for maid service.

I take some comfort in the fact that even if I didn't see the eclipse, I still get a column out of it. And there will be another eclipse in twenty years. I'll put it on my calendar as soon as I have one for 2044.

For now I'm adding "missing total eclipse by one day" to my long list of regrets. It's right up there with letting the tow truck driver leave before my stalled car was running, winning \$700 but not being present to claim it and only noticing I'd left my briefcase on the hood of my car as it slid off into the storm sewer.

I envy people who say they have no regrets. I'm not sure if it means they've never made a mistake, they forgive themselves easily or they have very poor memories. Despite my often-faulty memory, I remember every mistake I've ever made in vivid detail. Dumb things I've done and said come back to me at the oddest times and, as you know, often wind up in my column because I have deadlines. That which doesn't kill me gives me something else to write about.

But that doesn't mean I don't regret mistakes. In fact I've had so many regrets that I've come up with a strategy for dealing with them.

I haven't employed it yet for missing the eclipse, so I'll demonstrate now and you can try it when you next suffer from feelings of regret.

First I gently remind myself that regret is really an assumption that everything would be better if I'd done things differently. In other words, I'm assuming that had I stayed for the eclipse, I would have had a once-in-a-lifetime, spiritual experience because that's what those of you who saw it tell me. Thanks for rubbing it in, by the way.

Then I remind myself that, while that may be true, it's also possible that things could have gone terribly wrong had I managed to change my travel plans. I could have purchased eclipse glasses that turned out to be fake and had to make my way through the airport blind after the eclipse. I could have come to blows with another eclipse watcher over the best spot to witness it and wound up in jail for public brawling. I would have deeply regretted either of those. I still would have gotten a column out of the eclipse though.

Dorothy Rosby is an author and humor columnist whose work appears regularly in publications in the West and Midwest. You can subscribe to her blog at www.dorothyrosby.com or contact at www.dorothyrosby.com/contact.

Something on your mind? Say it with a

Letter to the Editor

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The Tobacco Valley NEWS (ISSN 8750-2925) is published weekly for annual subscription rates of \$56 in Lincoln County, \$66 elsewhere, by Bluebird Publishing, LLC, 200 Cliff Ave., PO Box 307, Eureka, Montana. Periodical postage (632060) paid at Eureka and Kalispell, Mont. Postmaster: Send address changes to Tobacco Valley NEWS, PO Box 307, Eureka, Mont., 59917. Information published in this newspaper may not be reproduced without the expressed, written consent of the publisher.

RECORD

Obituaries

Richard Leroy Bailey

Richard Leroy Bailey, 91, joined his mom, dad and sister in heaven on April 16, 2024.

He was born December 2, 1932 in Eureka to William (Bill) and Hallie Bailey. He lived in Eureka his entire life and worked in the forestry and lumber industry. He was kind and gentle soul who was loved by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Helen Gregory. He is survived by his nephew Herb



Gregory and Linda Gregory, Troy, Montana; niece Louisa Poteet, Casa Grande, Arizo-

na; nephew Melvin Gregory, Chatteroy, Washington; as well as numerous great and grand-nephews and nieces.

There will be a Graveside Memorial Service to honor his life at the Eureka Tobacco Valley Cemetery at 1 p.m. on May 3, 2024.

Arrangements are under the care of Schnackenberg Funeral Home of Libby, MT. Online condolences and memories may be shared by visiting www.schnackenbergfh.com.

David Christian Anderson

David Christian Anderson of Eureka passed away April 18, 2024.

He was born February 28, 1948, in Sidney, Montana.

He served as a Navy Seabee from November 1970 through June 1974.

David was an avid fisherman and team roper.

He worked in Hilo, Ha-

waii for Jas W. Glover and for the Department of Fish and Wildlife in Burns, Oregon.

David was married to Joyce Anderson.

He is survived by children Michelle (Michael) Araki of Hilo, Hawaii, and Cheryl (Dustin) Miller of Newberg, Oregon; and grandchildren Ayden

Araki, James Miller, Taylor Araki, and McKenzie Miller. He is also survived by brothers Gary (Linda) Anderson, Duane (Linda) Anderson; and sisters Janice (Richard) Kunda, Patricia (Pat) Micheletto, and Debra Kunda.

Private services were held.

Blotter

April 22

6:29 a.m. - Eureka Volunteer Ambulance Service provided a transport from a Highway 37 location.

8:06 a.m. - A reckless driver was reported to be speeding.

8:26 a.m. - A Kootenai Trail caller complained about the neighbor's dogs, alleging that the animals are aggressive and chase wildlife, citing a deer leg in the mouth of one.

9:33 a.m. - A medical call was received from Loon Lake Road.

10:21 a.m. - A caller reported a driver passing in a no passing zone and running another vehicle into the ditch.

4:14 p.m. - A public safety or public assist was logged.

7:05 p.m. - Eureka Police Department addressed a traffic hazard.

7:49 p.m. - A 2nd Ave. E. caller was concerned that his water was brown. The Fire Department was testing water pressure; the caller was advised to run the water until it cleared. Two further calls were received about brown water.

9:08 p.m. - A welfare check was logged.

9:22 p.m. - A public safety or assist matter was logged on Purdy Way.

10:58 p.m. - A suspicious vehicle was logged.

April 23

8:29 a.m. - Lincoln County Sheriff's Office issued a citation after a report of a vehicle driving erratically at speeds of over 100 miles per hour. A driver was cited for insurance and warned for speed and passing in a no passing zone.

8:49 a.m. - A Mills Spring Road caller reported three dead chickens, suspecting a dog from town.

11:19 a.m. - A welfare check on Bobcat Lair Road was logged.

12:53 p.m. - EVAS provided a medical transport.

2:30 p.m. - LCSO responded to a civil matter on Black Butte Road.

2:42 p.m. - LCSO issued a citation for speed and warning for not carrying insurance info or drivers license.

6:03 p.m. - A citizen dispute on Ksanka View Road was logged.

April 24

8:05 a.m. - EPD issued a warning for speed.

8:06 a.m. - EPD issued a warning for speed on Riverside.

1:15 p.m. - A Mountain View Drive caller reported someone making threats over the phone. A report was taken.

7:42 p.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call on North Pinkham.

April 25

4:23 a.m. - A 911 hangup call was received.

9:12 a.m. - EVAS provided a medical transport from Spring Lane.

9:22 a.m. - LCSO stopped a vehicle on Highway 93 and issued a warning for speed.

12:14 p.m. - A Banks Draw Road caller reported fraud.

2:03 p.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call on Highway 93 North.

6:55 p.m. - EVAS made a transport.

7:23 p.m. - Information was logged.

8:13 p.m. - EPD issued a warning at Dewey Avenue

See BLOTTER, Page 9

Nancy Rose Bothun Enghusen

Nancy Rose Bothun Enghusen passed away in her home surrounded by her family on the morning of April 17, 2024.

She attended school in Tacoma, Washington and truly enjoyed fishing Puget Sound with her stepfather George Wolze. Nancy spent nine years of her youth roller-skating, dancing and teaching classes to younger students. She eventually made her way to Montana where she married Chris Enghusen on June 5, 1976. This day will forever be one of his fondest memories.

From 1979 to 1986 she owned and operated the Rexford Grocery & Bakery and loved every minute.

Nancy worked in house-keeping at the Good Samaritan Evangelical Nursing Home from 1999 to 2023. She was so much more than a housekeeper. She also spent 24 years listening, laughing, crying, rearranging stuffed animals and blankets, bringing in puzzle books...If a resident was looking for something she'd find it. Her co-workers always knew she had a stash of candy hiding on her cart for them. They were her second family.

Mom was so much more than a timeline. She was more than a wife, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. She was a woman that would light up a room, bring a smile to your face and let everyone she was around know that they were special and loved. She was at every important event that we had and we were granted the honor of seeing her through to her next adventure.

I asked for special memories and it looks like this:



Her littlest people loved that she was always stocked up on the treats they love; they went up regularly to get some and share their day with her. They said she makes the best deviled eggs in the world and she shows up for their stuff. She was known for "I Love Lucy" marathons or good old fashioned cartoons. Mom was famous for the best hot chocolate that was served with Little Debbie goodies. Another favorite with her grandkids was going for a drive and reminiscing, as Gramma Nancy was always the best listener.

She always took care of anyone that came across her path, and if you were going to play cards with her you better bring your A game, because she made ya earn your win. How any of us could sit on that back porch, just talk about how they wanted to be successful in life and how beautiful the sky was. We all share that porch story equally.

Mom appreciated all of the crazy things we made for her over the years and most of it is still on her walls. Knowing that we had to stand over her shoulder to learn her recipes was a given. She would patiently walk us through the pro-

cess one entree at a time. She loved her family, each one for their own individuality. Even when we made her roll her eyes or her flip flops would fly through the air she never wanted any of us to change. When we had tough moments and her oldest saved every dime he made from his odd jobs so he could give it to her she had the grace to hug him tight and thank him.

She was our rock, our friend, our right hand and our confidant.

She is dearly missed by her husband Chris Enghusen and children Kenneth Enghusen (Lori), Twila Webb (Tracy), Blaine Enghusen (Tonya), Hilary Dennis (Joel), Ashley Watkins (Justin), Chelsie White (Zach). Grandchildren-Lena, Britney, Katie, Leha, Zach, Drake, Kala, Derek, Aeriana and Kaidence. Greatgrandchildren-Chase, Patrick, Preston, Tyrone, Aspyr, Prym, Kara, Lioni, Xyler, Remi, Cooper, Athena and Aletheia. Godchildren- Shawn, Kendra, Josh, David and Kim.

She was preceded in death by her mother Irene Collar; step-fathers, George Wolze and Leo Collar; and granddaughter, Bliss Ann Enghusen.

Mom requested no service. Remember her fondly for her quiet kindness. In lieu of flowers her family asks that you donate to the Tobacco Valley Animal Shelter. Arrangements are under the care of Schnackenberg Funeral Home of Eureka, MT. Online condolences and memories may be shared by visiting www.schnackenbergfh.com.

RECORDED WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Precip	Date	High	Low	Precip
April 17	46	28	0"	April 21	60	42	0"
April 18	49	36	0"	April 22	60	30	0"
April 19	50	22	0"	April 23	67	23	0"
April 20	59	20	0"	April 24	67	31	0"

FORECAST

Wednesday: Chance of rain and snow in the morning, then chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, high near 54, low around 34.

Thursday: 30 percent chance of rain in the afternoon. Partly sunny, high near 59. Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain overnight, low 35.

Friday: Partly sunny with a chance of rain, high near 60. Partly cloudy, low around 34.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, slight chance of rain, high 66. Mostly cloudy overnight, chance of rain, low 38.

Sunday: Partly sunny, chance of rain, high 65.
-National Weather Service

The Tobacco Valley NEWS (ISSN 8750-2925) is published weekly for annual subscription rates of \$56 in Lincoln County, \$66 elsewhere, by Bluebird Publishing, LLC, 200 Cliff Ave., PO Box 307, Eureka Mont. Periodical postage (632060) paid at Eureka and Kalispell, Mont. Postmaster: Send address changes to Tobacco Valley NEWS, PO Box 307, Eureka, Mont., 59917. Information published in this newspaper may not be reproduced without the expressed, written consent of the publisher.

Kootenai National Forest Issues Notice of Intent to Prepare an Over-Snow Travel Plan

This proposal aligns with travel management regulations aiming to improve recreational opportunities while ensuring environmental protection

Libby, Montana April 26th, 2024 - The Kootenai National Forest is taking steps to prepare a comprehensive Over-snow Motorized Use Travel Plan to manage motorized over-snow use across 2.2 million acres of National Forest lands, including the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. Per regulations, the agency is required to designate trails and areas open to motorized over-snow vehicle use and the Forest will be preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) to analyze potential impacts of the proposal. An amendment to the Kootenai National Forest 2015 Land Management Plan may be considered to modify the boundaries of management area 5a (Backcountry-Non-motorized Year-round).

The USDA Forest Service proposes to designate approx. 1,302,000 acres and approximately 380 miles of trails of the Kootenai National Forest as open to motorized over-snow vehicle use. The approach aims to enhance recreational opportunities while protecting the environment and improving the overall management of the area. The Over-Snow Vehicle Use Map would clearly identify areas, trails, vehicles classes and permitted seasons of allowed motorized over-snow use and would be available for all forest users. The proposal will not designate areas or trails for non-motorized winter uses.

Additional project information, including the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement are available for review online at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/kootenai/?project=64358>.

Public scoping of this project occurred in April 2015 and July through September 2023; those scoping efforts have informed this proposal and public scoping will not be repeated. However, additional opportunities for public comment will be provided when the Draft EIS is available early in 2025, with a 45-day public comment period immediately following publication of this project's Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement in the Federal Register. The final environmental impact statement is expected by summer of 2025.

Any decision about this project may be subject to 36 CFR 218 or 36 CFR 219 pre-decisional review. Unless received anonymously, public comments received during the scoping period from July 13, 2023 through September 29, 2023 may establish eligibility for participation in pre-decisional administrative review.

For additional information please contact the Kootenai National Forest at (406) 293-6211 or by email at SM.FS.knfcontactus@usda.gov

Greenhouse

Triangle 2 Greenhouse (West Kootenai) is open once again! We have a nice selection of flowers and vegetable plants, herbs, perennials, and beautiful hanging baskets. Open Monday through Saturday, 9a.m.-5p.m. 889-5638.

Help Wanted

AIRPORT MAINTENANCE/MANAGER: PART-TIME (20 HRS PER WEEK). CLOSING DATE: May 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. POSITION AVAILABLE: Under the general guidance and direction of the Airport Board Chairman, manages operations at the county airport by: providing for safety of operations on runways and taxiways; providing for security of the grounds, buildings and aircraft on the airport; manages and monitors the aviation fueling systems on site; maintains or obtains maintenance for county owned property and equipment at the airport. WAGE: \$16.99 After 6 Months \$17.65. BENEFITS: Sick Leave after 90 days, Vacation Leave after 6 months, Retirement. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: Cover Letter, Public Sector Application TREGO SCHOOL is seeking a credentialed K-3rd grade teacher. Applicant should be innovative and creative. Teachers should be flexible and work well as a team. Comfortable with technology and open to using educational resources. Our primary focus is providing each and every child with a quality education. Teachers who are out of the box thinkers and utilize all available resources to offer children the best education possible are welcome to apply. Our Student to Teacher ratio is about 7 to 1. This provides an excellent opportunity to build a strong connection with each student and their families. All staff are provided with free breakfast and lunch. Feel free to check out our website: www.tregoschool.org. Please contact Trego School for more information and an application packet: 406-882-4713. Historic newspaper in Havre hiring for editor who leads by example, general assignment and sports reporters. Contact Joshua Wood at wood.saratogasun@gmail.com

For Rent

Rental, Studio apartments, \$550 per mo., plus utilities; 6 or 12 month lease. (406)270-2940 Commercial Building for rent; highway frontage, 1500 sq ft, shop space, mini kitchen, office and full bathroom. Radiant heat floors, \$1500 per month plus electric. (406)334-3370.

Real Estate

Acreages ready for multiple families and/or dwellings. 406-293-3714. www.tungstenholdings.com 2-9 acres. Gated subdivisions. 406-293-3714. www.tungstenholdings.com

For Sale

Purebred Irish Wolfhound puppies. Beautiful colors. Exceed AKC standards. 9 weeks. Wolf Creek. Call Jim 406-936-9633. 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

Wanted

WANTED TO BUY: Old Car, Truck, Motorcycle, also old signs and license plates, gas station items or dealership items. Call 406-270-8630 any time.

Services

Septic Tank Services Portable Toilets RV Pump Outs Site Services Solutions, Inc. Call 297-2777 siteservicesolutions@gmail.com www.siteservicesolutions.com P.O. Box 1079 • Eureka 59917

Notice

Town Hall Q&A for North Lincoln County Commissioner Candidates. Where: Timbers Lodge, 101 Julian Drive, Eureka, MT 59917. When: Friday, May 10th 2024. Doors open at 6 pm with the Q&A to start at 6:30 pm. HOTTUB SUPPLIES! Eureka Furniture has what you're looking for. 297-2114. Laundromat at 632 US Hwy 93 N., located behind Eureka Furniture, MM 180, is open seven days a week, including holidays, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer - get \$50 off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-877-324-0193 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 Switch to DISH and get up to a \$300 gift card! Plus get the Multisport pack included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: 1-855-995-3572 Get your deduction ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-901-2620 today! 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 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

Legal

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO PROTEST ISSUANCE OF ONE NEW MONTANA ALL-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WITH CATERING ENDORSEMENT LICENSE ARENA INVESTMENTS LLC (Micheal Medlin, Marco Forcone, and Paul Reeder, Owner(s)) has applied for one new Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages with Catering Endorsement License No. 56-999-4363-002 to be operated at ARENA INVESTMENTS LLC, 17 Arena Ln, Eureka, Lincoln County. The public may protest this license transfer in accordance with the law. Who can protest this transfer? Protests will be accepted from residents of the county of the proposed location Lincoln County, residents of adjoining Montana counties, and residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in 16-4-207(4)(d), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), are met. What information must be included? Protest letters must be legible and contain (1) the protester's full name, mailing address, and street address; (2) the license number 56-999-4363-002 and the applicant's name ARENA INVESTMENTS LLC; (3) an indication that the letter is intended as a protest; (4) a description of the grounds for protesting; and (5) the protester's signature. A letter with multiple signatures will be considered one protest letter. What are valid protest grounds? The protest may be based on the applicant's qualifications listed in 16-4-401, MCA, or the grounds for denial of an application in 16-4-405, MCA. Examples of valid protest grounds include: (1) the applicant is unlikely to operate the establishment in compliance with the law; (2) the proposed location cannot be properly policed by local authorities; and (3) the welfare of the people in the vicinity of the proposed location will be adversely and

Legal

seriously affected. How are protests submitted? Protests must be postmarked to the Department of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604-5805 on or before May 25, 2024. What happens if the transfer is protested? Depending on the number of protests and the protest grounds, a public hearing will be held in Helena or Eureka. All valid protesters will be notified of the hearing's time, date and location. Hearings typically are scheduled within 90 days. A protester's hearing testimony is limited to the grounds in the protester's letter. Following the hearing, the Department of Revenue will notify the public whether the license transfer is approved or denied. How can additional information be obtained? The cited MCA statutes are online at leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/. Questions may be directed to Breanna Gill, Compliance Specialist for the Department of Revenue's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, at 444-0710 or Breanna.Gill@mt.gov. Published in the Tobacco Valley News, Eureka, Montana, April 24, May 1, May 8, and May 15, 2024. April 23rd, 2024 Area Landowners Board of County Commissioners Re: Public Notification Letter Opencut Mining Permit: Blankers Site - Lincoln County, Montana To Whom It May Concern: Schellinger Construction Co., Inc. of Columbia Falls, Montana is submitting this letter as our official Public Notification for a proposed Opencut Mining Permit on the Blankers Site in Lincoln County. The pit is located 4.4 miles northwest of Eureka, MT off Airport Road. Access to the permit area will be from an existing road off Airport

Legal

Road. Signs will be posted at the pit site. This proposed gravel permit would allow the excavating and processing of materials which will be used for MDT's Lake Koocanusa Bridge Rehab Project. The total area which will be permitted at this site is 16.4 acres. The current projection is to remove approximately 60,000 cubic yards of material from the site. The depth of excavation is estimated to be 20 feet from the existing ground surface level. The area currently is covered by approximately 18" of topsoil which will be stripped and saved for final reclamation. Work on the Lake Koocanusa project will commence at this site in the Spring of 2024 and will be complete in late Summer of 2025. The pit area will be reclaimed to rangeland/pasture immediately following this project. This site will not be utilized as an ongoing commercial source. Final reclamation, which includes re-establishment of vegetation, will be completed by December 31, 2034. The legal description of this site is: Section 27, Township 37N, Range 27W, Lincoln County Send any questions, concerns, or map requests regarding the Blankers Site to: Schellinger Construction Co., Inc. P.O. Box 39 Columbia Falls, Montana 59912 Phone: 406-892-2188 Fax: 406-892-2187 Email: robk@sccimt.com; bobw@sccimt.com DEQ Opencut Mining Program P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620-0901 Fax: 406-444-4988 E-mail: DEQOpencut@mt.gov Published in the Tobacco Valley News, Eureka, Montana, May 1 and May 8, 2024.

Business Card Directory

Construction

Back Country ROOFING • All Types of Roofing • Seamless Rain Gutters Ian Caswell • 406-291-1411

NorthWest Electrical Contractors Residential Commercial Service Calls Generators Solar (406) 297-2533 100 3rd St East nwelec@nwelec.net

Water Systems NorthWest (406) 297-7863 100 3rd St East nwelec@nwelec.net Well Pumps Water lines Service Work & Repair

MILLER DRYWALL and CONSTRUCTION, INC. Complete Drywall Service Custom Finishes, and Hand Textures BRAD MILLER Owner miller_drywall@hotmail.com PO Box 57, 550 6th Street E 406-297-7349 Eureka, MT 59917 406-260-1132

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Eureka Development LLC For all your earth moving needs. Equipment Rentals Road grading Land clearing Excavating/Dirt work Power installation Construction Landscaping Septic installation Tree thinning Bradley Persson 406-889-6100 • Eureka, Montana Manager/Operator eurekaequipt@gmail.com

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Candidate

Continued FROM page 1

money. “My son does attend Eureka Elementary, and so knowing how much money is going into that is outrageous, and it’s time for a new school,” she says.

Vredenburg says she’s open to serving on committees in other areas as she learns more. When it comes to policy, she says, “I’ve definitely read up on the manual. But talking to staff and students and seeing how they feel about certain policies may be the biggest thing, because I want them



STEPHANIE VREDEBURG

to trust me and our community to also trust me as a trustee.”

Vredenburg graduated from high school in Troy, moved to Eureka 14 years

ago, and in 2014 built her home with her husband in Trego, where the family now lives.

“I plan to work very diligently in shaping any processes, and making sure that our children are 100 percent able to be well-rounded individuals,” Vredenburg says. “So together we can, especially as a board, ensure that every child in our community receives the support and resources that they need to be able to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.”

Rendezvous

Continued FROM page 1

Cody Evanson, organizer of the Battle of the Arms arm wrestling tournament, said he felt the change from Saturday night to Friday night went well. A number of competitors came from Canada, Idaho, and the Flathead Valley, as well as quite a few locals.

Shelby Fowler of Eureka Dune Runners said the spectator turnout was down from last year, most likely

due to the weather. “We had around 750 to 800 spectators this year,” compared to over 1,000 last year, Fowler said. Around 25 to 30 volunteers pitched in.

It started raining about the same time the races were set to begin, but Fowler said they didn’t postpone, because they’re already used to mud. “We’re very much a rain or shine start” operation, she said, although she speculated that they lost spectators who might not have wanted to sit out in the

rain.

Fowler said they had 91 cars participate, although that did not necessarily reflect the number of drivers, since some drivers raced more than once. She also said they did a kids Dash for Cash mud race, and were fortunate that the weather broke long enough for that to be successful.

“The weather did dampen the spectators, but the food vendors did really well,” Fowler said.

Blotter

Continued FROM page 7

for driving left of center. 8:29 p.m. - EVAS made a transport from a West Avenue location.

9:23 p.m. - Francisco Ocegueda was arrested for obstruction at Highway 93 and Central Avenue.

9:35 p.m. - Information was logged.

11:03 p.m. - The peace was disturbed.

11:10 p.m. - A mental health matter was logged.

April 26
12:43 a.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call.

7:26 a.m. - A caller reported a flipped over vehicle in a ditch. Montana Highway Patrol was advised.

11:44 a.m. - A civil matter was logged on Tobacco Road.

12:42 p.m. - A Stevens Way caller reported fraud.

1:56 p.m. - A Grace Lane caller reported a Bernese mountain dog and a husky roaming around.

7:06 p.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call.

7:37 p.m. - A 911 hangup call was received.

9:50 p.m. - LCSO stopped a vehicle at mile marker 178 on Highway 93 and issued a warning for brake lights, littering and not carrying proof of insurance.

10:48 p.m. - LCSO stopped a vehicle at Highway 93 and South Rolling Hills Road, giving a warning for speed.

11:28 p.m. - Tina Smith-Compton was arrested for DUI - alcohol and possessing an open container of marijuana. A blood draw was taken.

11:34 p.m. - A traffic com-

plaint was logged.

April 27

7:57 a.m. - A caller reported that the Glen Lake Irrigation ditch was overflowing and washing out Sinclair Creek Road.

9:25 a.m. - A caller reported that someone was trying to sell his land.

11:04 a.m. - A 10th Street caller reported that her internet had been out since 9:30.

11:35 a.m. - EPD assisted with the Rendezvous Parade.

1:16 p.m. - A caller reported a white pickup parked in the road blocking traffic.

1:48 p.m. - A citation was issued for parking not to obstruct other vehicles after a caller reported a vehicle blocked in by a pickup.

2:24 p.m. - A Heron Road caller called for information.

3:19 p.m. - A caller reported that her purse was missing.

4:19 p.m. - A mental health matter was logged at Heron Road.

4:35 p.m. - EVAS made a medical transport from Second Avenue East.

4:48 p.m. - A civil matter was logged at Second Street.

5:14 p.m. - A caller reported teenagers driving around tearing up the Sophie Lake access.

5:47 p.m. - LCSO issued a stop sign warning.

6:50 p.m. - LCSO issued a warning for failure to yield right of way to a pedestrian.

7:02 p.m. - A welfare check was logged for a Raven’s Ridge Road location.

8:03 p.m. - A traffic complaint was logged.

8:55 p.m. - LCSO stopped a vehicle and warned the driver about headlights, and to

stay in their seats when getting pulled over.

9:13 p.m. - LCSO stopped a vehicle and issued a warning for tail lights.

9:19 p.m. - LCSO issued a warning on headlights and tail lights.

11:42 p.m. - LCSO issued a warning to a vehicle with no tail lights using flashers.

11:50 p.m. - EPD gave a warning for littering and walking across the highway while intoxicated.

April 28
2:36 a.m. - Suspicious activity was logged.

2:57 a.m. - James Williams was arrested for DUI, first offense.

5:20 a.m. - An alarm went off at a Tree Farm Trail residence.

9:27 a.m. - An abandoned vehicle was logged.

11:39 a.m. - A utility outage was reported at Vukonich Lane.

1:26 p.m. - A report was taken of a traffic accident.

2:22 p.m. - A report was taken of a disturbance.

6:38 p.m. - A Canada Drive caller complained of constantly barking dogs.

6:49 p.m. - A Tobacco Road caller said a neighbor’s dogs barked all of the time.

6:55 p.m. - Information was logged.

7:45 p.m. - Information was logged.

8:08 p.m. - LCSO stopped a vehicle at North Town Drive and issued warning for drivers side brake light and advised the passenger of an outstanding warrant.

10:11 p.m. - LCOS issued a warning for failure to dim lights.

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- ❖ Make sure your campfire is **DEAD OUT** before leaving your campsite. Keep your campfire small and never leave it unattended. Always have a shovel and a bucket of water ready.
- ❖ Make sure that trailer chains are secured to your vehicle and will not drag and throw sparks.
- ❖ Do not park or drive through dried grass.
- ❖ Clear around your home.

DEBRIS BURN REMINDERS & DATES:

December 1- February 28	Burn Season Closed
March 1 – April 30	Spring open burn season (no permit required)
May 1 - June 30	Burn permits required
July 1 – September 30	NO BURNING FIRE SEASON
October 1 – November 30	Fall open burning (no permit)

- Have tools, water, and a clear area around your burn site.
- Never leave a debris burn unattended. Understand how the wind may influence your burn.
- Do **NOT** burn trash or other household debris.
- To obtain a burn permit go to (app.egovmt.com/burnpermit/) or call 406-283-2441.

You are responsible for suppression costs if your debris burn escapes.

Please check the **MT/ID Smoke Airshed Group** before you burn by logging onto <https://mi.airshedgroup.org/>. Look for restrictions in **Airshed 1/NW Montana**.

For more information call the Rexford/Fortine Ranger District 406-296-2536.

What can you do?

Fire Adapted Community Awareness EVENTS

May 8 Fortine School
7 pm - 9 pm workshop only

May 11 Lincoln County Fairgrounds, Eureka
10 am - 12 pm workshop
Fun events!
12 pm - 3 pm Outside activities

Kids games • Wildland fire engine demonstrations • Information Booths Elkhorn Smokehouse BBQ food truck

Get information on:

- State and Federal fuel reduction projects
- Homeowner fuel reduction grant programs
- Protecting your home from wildfire
- Homeowner insurance
- Evacuation planning

Sponsored by: Kootenai Forest Stakeholders Collaborative
Lincoln County FireSafe Council
Kootenai National Forest
Montana DNRC

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, May 4 @ 9 AM

Liquidation of Bad Rock Betty’s Antiques

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Rendezvous Days 2024



Alan Rasmussen and Jon Leonard preside over the children's Gold Rush event. Krista Nemeroff photo.



Driver Kristen Billow splashes through the pit in the mud bog event. Keith Taylor photo.



A whipper snapper grapples with a keg at the VFW keg toss competition on Saturday. Patrick Broom photo.



Vendors and shoppers congregated at the indoor flea market when a heavy shower began. Patrick Broom photo.



Candy delights children at the 2024 Rendezvous parade. Patrick Broom photo.



Antique cars gather at a rainy afternoon meet-up. Keith Taylor photo.



Spectators react to a hard fought match in the Battle of the Arms, held Friday night. Keith Taylor photo.



Denise and Chet Haxton of Lolo, Montana pose in period regalia pose for a portrait at the David Thompson Black Powder Shoot. Patrick Broom photo.



Runners set out on the course of the 2024 Rendezvous Run at Indian Springs Ranch. Patrick Broom photo.