

# YELLOWSTONE COUNTY NEWS

SOWING NEWS, REAPING HEADLINES

The Home of Patty Czarny

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Huntley Project Lions Club members Roger Bender, left, Dan Krum, middle, and Lyle Hill were at work Tuesday night placing portable outhouses around Homesteader Park, where Homesteader Days events begin Friday with an outdoor concert featuring the Gatlin Brothers, Craig Morgan and the Bucky Beaver Ground Grippers. (Jonathan McNiven photo)

## Annual Homesteader Days presents two days of fun

by Judy Killen

**HOMESTEADER PARK** – Come for the concert. Come for the fun, food, family activities and games.

Just come to Homesteader Days Friday and Saturday at Homesteader Park east of Huntley on Highway 312.

Lyle Hill of the Huntley Project Lions Club, which hosts the event, expects 2,500 to 3,000 people to attend Friday's concert.

Gates open at 5:30 p.m. and the music starts at 7 p.m. when Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers take the stage for the outdoor concert. They are followed at 8:45

by Craig Morgan and when he wraps up, local favorites Bucky Beaver Ground Grippers take the stage and play until 1 a.m.

"They have quite a local following," Hill said of the Bucky Beaver group. "They keep people here a real long time."

Hill and other Huntley Project Lions Club members have been preparing the grounds all week for the two day event.

They welded a new fence for the beer garden, made from panels from 20X Panels near Shepherd. They spruced up building and cleaned up

the grounds.

Hill said the club works with booking agent Gary Fjelstad of Forsyth, who helps find groups in the club's budget who are available at the right time.

This year, both the Gatlin Brothers and Craig Morgan are coming to Huntley on the way to or from Canada, Hill noted.

Advance ticket sales for the concert are "about the same as always," Hill said — some folks purchase in advance but at least one-third of sales happen at the gate

(Continued on page 7)

## Gatlin Brothers take stage during 60th Anniversary Celebration Tour

**HOMESTEADER PARK** – The gold in California may be in a bank in the middle of Beverly Hills, but the gold in the Gatlin Brothers' music has been 60 years in the making.

Larry Gatlin and his brothers Steve and Rudy started performing in local churches in their hometown of Abilene, Texas in 1955 when they were 6, 4 and 2 years old.

Sixty years later, they are winding down a career on the road to focus on their families and other interests, although they will continue to perform.

The veteran musicians will take the stage Friday at 7 p.m. for Homesteader Days as part of their 60th Anniversary Tour.

They play Thursday in Regina, Canada before rolling through Huntley. Next week, they play the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee.

On the band's website, Larry Gatlin says of their 60th

Anniversary Tour, "We're not calling it a farewell or a final tour. We're calling it the 60th Anniversary Celebration. By no means are we retiring, but after this tour, we are going to slow down a little bit. The promoters are going to have to want us about three times more than they want us right now."

As Larry says on the website, "There are other priorities in life. I have two granddaughters. Brother Steve has seven grandchildren and Rudy has two kids. We still love the fans and the road and we still love to sing but we want to spend more quality time with our families."

Larry Gatlin began his adult career as performer and singer after attending University of Houston and majoring in English. His songs were performed by artists including Johnny Cash, Kris Kristofferson, Barbra Strei-

(Continued on page 6)

## 'Country boy' Craig Morgan's music celebrates small towns

**HOMESTEADER PARK** – Country singer Craig Morgan, whose music incorporates his love of small towns and people, will take the Homesteader Days stage at 8:45 Friday night.

Morgan was born in Kingston Springs, Tennessee. He began singing as a child and at 10 he performed the National Anthem during a school field trip to Nashville.

Country singer Minnie Pearl was in audience and predicted that Craig Morgan would become a famous singer.

Morgan, an Army veteran, EMT, contractor and self-professed "country boy," hosts "Craig Morgan's All Access Outdoors" on the Outdoor Channel. The show started

(Continued on page 7)

## Huntley Project All-Class reunion ready to roll Saturday

**HP School open for afternoon tours, special ceremony welcomes all teachers**

by Judy Killen

**HOMESTEADER PARK** – Carol Reiter is ready to meet you.

The energetic Worden woman, who organized Saturday's All-class reunion for Huntley Project School, said she enjoys putting together big events like this and is

ready for all the events of the day.

"I get so excited," she said, when she has a chance to coordinate and plan a big event. "I thoroughly enjoy that."

However, Reiter, who graduated with the Class of 1960, concedes that because of recent health problems this may be the last reunion she puts together herself.

"I'm getting good response," Reiter said. Having

(Continued on page 7)

## Firefighter assist



A fire that broke out Tuesday afternoon near Ballantine burned about 42 acres of cropland farmed by Butch Ewing and adjacent grass and sagebrush. Carl Midgley, chief of the Worden Volunteer Fire Department, said his firefighters responded along with firefighters from Shepherd and Haley Bench volunteer fire departments and the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Midgley said the cause was unknown at presstime Wednesday. Volunteer firefighter Mike Hammond of the Haley Bench fire department, front, hoses down flames while his son Clint Hammond talks to Midgley in the background. (Jonathan McNiven photo)

Change Service Requested



# Guest editorial

by Judge Russell Fagg

I have had numerous people ask me what I thought of the recent Supreme Court rulings, two in particular.

To be clear, I have the utmost respect for the nine justices on the Supreme Court. They do a tough job well. Furthermore, I can see both sides of the issues from a policy standpoint. In the first, God calls us to love everyone, and he meant that.

God also set up marriage as between a man and a woman. In the second case, in a country as affluent as the United States everyone should have basic health care. On the other hand, it

is tough to swallow when government from afar (the Washington beltway) forces it on us, without our input.

So putting aside policy arguments, I was disappointed in the Supreme Court last week, specifically with how the justices got to their decisions. Regardless of how one feels about the issues, the Affordable Care Act and same-sex marriage, the rulings exhibited judicial activism, which is contrary to what judges are selected or elected to do. As a former legislator, I believe strongly the state Legislature or Congress should make the law, and

judges should follow the law.

The first case is a state's right issue. The 10th amendment to the Constitution clearly says: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, not prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." This is the basis of federalism. In other words, powers not expressly given to the federal government are "reserved" for the States. Thus, important issues, such as same-sex marriage, should be decided state by state, by each state's legislature, or by referendum, but in either case by "the people." This is the foundation of our system of government.

This system was working. During the last decade or two, there has been a debate, state by state, on same sex marriage. At the

time of the ruling, 36 states allowed same sex marriage, and 14 did not. Clearly, states were addressing the issue. I am very disappointed five unelected justices, all from the east coast and Ivy league schools, decided they should decide ("legislate") this issue for 320 million Americans.

Justice Antonin Scalia correctly called the ruling a "threat to American democracy" stating "This practice of constitutional revision by an unelected committee of nine...robs the people of the...freedom to govern themselves."

Justice Samuel Alito wrote: "Today's ruling usurps the constitutional right of the people to decide whether

to keep or alter the traditional understandings of marriage...All Americans, whatever their thinking on that issue, should worry about what the majority's claim of power portends."

I could not agree more. A second case is noteworthy, but for a different reason. In King v. Burwell the Supreme Court upheld federally mandated insurance subsidies in 34 states. The problem is that the court actually had to add language to the statute to make the ruling. I was taught only Congress could amend statutes.

Again, as Justice Scalia explained: "The Court holds

(Continued from page 3)

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## HAPPY SHEPHERD DAY!

We want to wish a Happy Birthday or Happy Anniversary to:

**Friday July 10**  
Rae Fehring, Abbey Emmons  
Sarah Westberg, Bryan Anderson  
Mr & Mrs. Ryan Smith  
Brandon Lewis  
Becky & Brad Skogas

**Saturday July 11**  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Johnson  
Don Huffman, Mike McGraw  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Quanbeck  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Maney  
Stephanie Nixon  
Mr. & Mrs. Mick Drake  
Felecity Hobbs, Isabelle Lewis  
Ben Carlson, Carol Bennett  
Mr. & Mrs. D. Flaherty

**Sunday July 12**  
Sierra Renee Bayles  
Rosemary Neumiller  
Joseph Staman  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Johnson  
Cash Berens, Sonya Hanson

**Monday July 13**  
Morgan Murray, Micky Murnion  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Card

**Tuesday July 14**  
Kristianne Wilson  
Diane O'Connor  
Cody O'Connor  
Alice Kitt, Dick DeVries  
Sky Caufield

**Wednesday July 15**  
Clay McCaffree, Robbie Spence  
Mason Reynolds, Dean Dalke

**Thursday July 16**  
Kent Oblender  
Avery Bergquist  
Mr. & Mrs. John Jr. Gottula  
Carol Bergquist, David Hindley

Thanks to the Shepherd Lions Club for their calendar. To order a calendar or add a name, call Calendar Chairman April Beddes at 671-5960.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

**FRIDAY, JULY 10**

- Homesteader Days Concert @ Homesteader Park Gates open at 5:30 pm (See schedule of events and concert info on pages 6 & 7)
- Worden Senior Lunch, VFW Hall, 2445 Main Street
- Heights Senior Lunch, Hope United Methodist Church, 244 Wicks Lane

**SATURDAY JULY 11**

- Homesteader Days Parade and All Day events starting at 8:30am, Parade at 11am (See pages 6 & 7 for full schedule of Homesteader Days)
- Junior Ranger Program-Beavers, 10-11:30 am @ Lake Elmo State Park

**MONDAY JULY 13**

- Custer Senior Lunch, 322 6th Street
- Worden-Ballantine Water & Sewer District Meeting, @6:30pm District Office
- Huntley Water Board District Meeting, @ 7pm YVEC
- Shepherd Lions Club Meeting, Feedlot Steakhouse, 7pm
- Heights Senior Lunch, Hope United Methodist Church, 244 Wicks Lane

**TUESDAY JULY 14**

- Huntley Project Lions Club Meeting, Homesteader Hall, 7 p.m
- Lockwood Senior Lunch 1413 Rosebud Lane
- Lockwood School Board Meeting, Board Room 7pm
- Lockwood Irrigation District Board Meeting, Water & Sewer District Office, 7pm
- Heights Senior Lunch, Hope United Methodist Church, 244 Wicks Lane

**WEDNESDAY JULY 15**

- Bookmobile 4pm-5pm, Lockwood School
- Bookmobile 2:45pm-3:45 Becraft & Old Hardin Rd
- Lockwood Irrigation District Board Meeting, Water & Sewer District office @ 7pm
- Bookmobile 11:30-1pm, Heights Senior Meal Site, 244 Wicks Ln,
- Shepherd Senior Lunch, Feedlot Steakhouse, 11:30 a.m.
- Heights Senior Lunch, Hope United Methodist Church, 244 Wicks Lane

**THURSDAY JULY 16**

- Custer Senior Lunch, 322 6th Street
- Lockwood Senior Lunch 1413 Rosebud Lane
- Heights Senior Lunch, Hope United Methodist Church, 244 Wicks Lane
- Huntley Senior Lunch, Sportmans Club, 37 Minecha Avenue
- South Central Montana Antique Tractor & Machinery Club Meeting, YVEC @ 7pm

• Huntley Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Friday at 7 p.m. at Huntley United Methodist Church. AA Hotline 657-0776

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# The Outdoors

by Carl Wolf

Someone kept hammering on the door but after going to all three doors to our home no one could be found. Puzzled, we went back to bed. After all, it was a Sunday, and we wanted to sleep late and no one should be out this early in the morning anyhow. Then the knocking started again. This time it sounded more like someone drumming on the door impatiently. Jumping up we both ran to a door at either end of the house and checked to see who was there. No one. What the heck!

Back to bed again and fortunately the noise did not come again. At breakfast, we suddenly heard someone at a door again insistently

trying for attention. Yep, you guessed it, no one there. Suspecting a jokester, we went about our chores then I hid out by the bushes in the yard to see who might be pulling the prank. The drumming started up again, but I could clearly see no one was there. Suspecting senility I eased up to the back door in time to hear the knocking, but could see no one was doing it.

Glancing up above the door



Female flicker suet feeding. (Wolf photo)

I noticed motion on top of our wood stove pipe. Sneaking around to the front yard I soon got a picture of a red shafted flicker pecking vigorously on the tin top of our stove pipe. It sounded just like someone knocking! Flickers and some other birds are known for doing this rapid drumming/pecking noise each spring for a couple

of reasons. One is that a male is trying to get the attention of a lady flicker and let her know he is a mighty, potential mate.

The other purpose for the noise is to let rivals know this is his territory and to not come near. Northern flickers are large woodpeckers found all over North America and are most noticeable in the spring during mating. They are distinctive with their bright flight feathers and white rump. At a foot long and nearly two foot wide wingspan and their high-pitched call during looping flight, they can easily be identified. Many come through Montana to summer in Canada, and then come down in the fall to winter in the U.S. and especially along the northern border of Mexico.

Thanks to Donna Delp for this flicker suggestion. She is an excellent photographer

and caught one on a power line at her home up Arrow Creek, where she overlooks our whole valley. The area has few trees and mostly grain fields or sagebrush so the flicker was a surprise. They tend to be in wooded areas where they can build big, round nest holes and peck into trees for the bugs that live there.

However, flickers are known for their love of ants, and each summer and fall they can be seen hopping on the ground as they pursue ants of all kinds. It is not uncommon for them to be found in sagebrush feeding on ants. The male can be told from the female by the bright red or black "moustache" running under their eyes.

Native American people consider the red wings of the flicker to represent fire and the birds tend to bring good luck.

## Letter to the editor

Dear Editor:

I did not vote for or in favor of the bond issue to expand the Yellowstone County jail.

My reason for voting against the mill levy is there is a 464-person bed, \$27.4-million prison, sitting empty, 45 minutes from Billings at Hardin. Google it up and take a picture tour on the Internet, and you will see that it is a very clean and useful unit. This prison could be used for nonviolent prisoners, DUI, traffic violation, nonpayment of child support, robbery, etc., etc.

People being held for murder or rape would be held in Billings.

I am thinking that it must

take some 25 to 30 minutes to transport a prisoner from the Yellowstone County jail to the courthouse. I watch television and prisoners are interviewed via video from the center to the courthouse. Travel time to transport a prisoner from Billings to Hardin would be around 45 minutes to one hour. Video could also be used from Hardin to the Billings courthouse as well.

A political issue is the reason the Hardin prison is not being used. Somebody forgot to cross all the T's or dot all the I's when construction was started.

Carl F. Betts  
Worden

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## Judge Russell Fagg editorial...

(continued from page 2)

that when the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act says 'Exchange established by the State' it means 'Exchange established by the State or Federal Government.' This is of course absurd...The somersaults of statutory interpretation they have performed...will be cited by litigants endlessly, to the confusion of honest jurisprudence."

To be fair, conservative justices have also contorted the law to suit their purposes—the most notable example being the infamous Dred Scott decision, which upheld slavery in 1857, leading to the Civil War.

So, at the end of the day,

regardless of where you come out on these important issues, you should be concerned. Our Supreme Court seems to be willing, in split decisions no less, to conform the law to their liking. Whether you consider yourself a liberal, conservative or moderate,

this activism could be on your side one day, and against you the next. These type of important policy decisions are best left to our elected legislative branch, whether state Legislatures or Congress, where "the people" can debate and decide for themselves.

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WEEK OF June 30 – July 6, 2015

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Date	Temps		Record Hi/Low for date	Temps		Rain/Snow (") 24 hr
	High/Low	Rain/Snow (") 24 hr		High/Low	Last Year High/Low	
30	96/58	.Tr/.00"	102 (1990)/43 (1995)	98/58	72/50	.00/.00"
01	95/57	.00/.00"	100(1990)/46 (1972)	99/64	77/50	.00/.00"
02	85/63	.00/.00"	100 (1936)/42 (1955)	92/69	84/44	.03/.00"
03	93/59	.00/.00"	101 (1961)/47 (1972)	85/66	90/50	.04/.00"
04	99/62	.00/.00"	106 (1937)/41 (1972)	93/55	95/57	.00/.00"
05	76/63	.04/.00"	104 (1981)/46 (1959)	100/57	96/57	.00/.00"
06	74/65	.Tr/.00"	104 (2007)/47 (1958)	66/62	94/52	.00/.00"

YELLOWSTONERIVER- NOT UPDATED YET AT BILLINGS

Height (Feet)	Flow (CFS)	80-year mean flow
Not updated at this time.		

-Valley Weather Almanac supplied by John Pulasky and [www.sarc.montana.edu/wx](http://www.sarc.montana.edu/wx)

River data from the U.S. Geological Survey ([waterdata.usgs.gov](http://waterdata.usgs.gov))

# Lockwood Fire Station hosts grand opening July 31

by Evelyn Pyburn  
**LOCKWOOD** — The grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new Lockwood Fire Station will be at 11 a.m. July 31.

Only details remain to complete the station, including having to await the delivery of counter tops before being able to install appliances, according to project manager Kris Koessler of A & E, who has overseen construction on behalf of the district.

Koessler announced at the meeting of the Lockwood Fire District Board on Wednesday, that the target date to switch phones, computers and radio communications is July 15. The project is being completed \$33,000 under budget, with the remaining contingency fund having been spent to insulate and finish the pole building that was built several years ago for storage.

The board agreed to pay an additional \$10,000 (included in the costs in calculating the \$33,000) to A&E for services

requested beyond the original contract, including those involved in finishing the pole barn, and issuing an RFP for bids on concrete rather than asphalt and attending more meetings. Total cost for the additional services was \$12,500. Chief John Staley said that he offered to pay \$10,000. Board members also noted that Koessler not only did extra work, but had saved them a “boat load of money.”

They also commended him for the professionalism and the ease to work with him.

With the opening of the new fire station, which is expected to serve the community in additional capacities, there will be a need for someone to cover the front desk more consistently, and there will be other additional duties. Staley requested the board consider hiring a part-time assistant. Hiring an additional administrative staffer would require a budget amendment and would probably mean, initially, that the district would be contributing less to the capital budget in order to pay for the staffing cost.

He explained the laws involved in hiring a part-time person, and that if at any time their hours go over the maximum, they are then considered by the state to be full time. The board asked for more information regarding costs and options and tabled the matter until that information is available at the next meeting.

Board member Frosty Erben reported that the “broker price opinion” on the value of the old fire station was between \$600,000 and \$426,000.

“We have a very unique piece of property to sell,” said Erben, who added that there has already been contact from interested buyers. One could not replace the facility for \$600,000, said Erben.

By law, to sell public property the board must post notice of the sale for 30 days and accept the highest offer they receive within 90 percent of the estimated value. The board agreed to post the property at \$590,000.

The property is zoned for a fire station, and the new owner will be responsible for changing the zoning.

Staley announced that an anonymous benefactor had donated a recreational vehicle to the district, which will be shared with the Yellowstone County Sheriff’s Department as a mobile command post and rehabilitation unit. The two agencies will share the cost of converting the vehicle.

“It will be a major asset to Lockwood Fire and Yellowstone County,” said Staley.

In other business, Staley recommended that the district plan a special meeting for the residents of Sage Hills. The district is not in the Lockwood Fire District and is not covered by any other fire service. Despite the posting of signs that indicate that the area is outside Lockwood Fire District, there are probably property owners who do not realize that they do not have fire service, said Staley. Lockwood Fire District is committed to the county to put out grass fires, but not any structure fires.

Chief Staley said that he has given Captains the authority to make the decision of whether to respond to a fire

in the Sage Hills area, other than grass fires. The individual property owner would be responsible for the cost of putting out a residential fire.

Board members said that efforts to get the area into the district have failed. Some property owners – those with large properties – have said they would rather take their chances.

Chief Staley said that they pay considerably higher premiums for insurance, not being in the district.

Board members agreed that it is probably time to pursue the matter again, and a meeting with the residents of Sage Hills would be the best approach.

Some law enforcement individuals are incorrectly informing residents of Emerald Hills that burning and fireworks are allowed in that area, reported Staley. The area, however, has a permanent fire ban in place and is strictly prohibited from open burning or the use of fireworks, said Staley. Signs advising the public of that have been destroyed and torn down. The district plans to replace them. The risk of fire to homes in that area is just too great to allow burning at any time.

Lockwood Fire District will pilot a new program to raise funds for cancer research and prevention, announced Staley. The district is partnering with Gainan’s Floral to sell “Hero Bouquest” for cancer survivors as a fundraiser for the American Cancer Foundation. The flowers

– six pink roses in a vase with a pink ribbon – will be delivered by firefighters in uniform on the fire engine.

The district is also in the early stages of developing its fire education program for elementary school children so that it incorporates the curriculum of teachers so that the school can dedicate more school time to fire education. The school is strictly regulated regarding how many hours of instruction time must be given for each discipline, explained the chief, so if fire education can be incorporated into reading, math or other activities the teachers can count it as part of instructional time for that discipline.

Staley also reported on his attendance of at the Montana State Fire chiefs’ convention in Ennis. He said that there is an effort to combine Career Chiefs, the Volunteer Chiefs and the Combination Chiefs into one organization. Staley said he suggested that they should also include the State EMS organization as part of that group as well.

“There was also a lengthy discussion about fire code enforcement in the state and the role the State Fire Marshal’s office could play if it were a cabinet level position,” reported Staley. That change would require legislative action, he said.

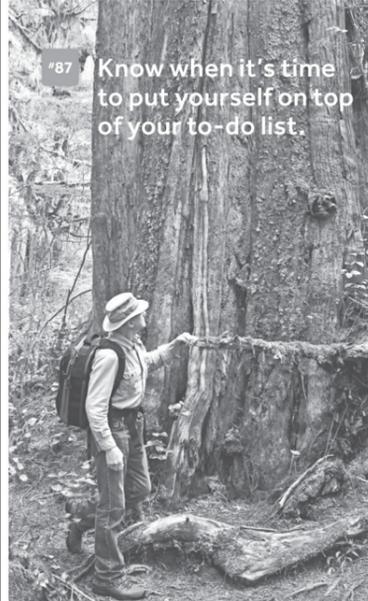
There was also considerable concern at the convention from volunteer fire departments about the serious lack of recruiting and retaining firefighters.

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**Sheriff: Inmate's death likely a suicide**

BILLINGS — An inmate who was found unconscious in the Yellowstone County Detention Center and who later died has been identified as Michael Ostby, 28, of Cody, Wyoming.

Yellowstone County Sheriff Mike Linder said in a press release this week that Ostby

was found in his cell on July 1 by a detention officer, who removed a piece of cloth from around Ostby's neck. The officer immediately began CPR, and he and other officers continued CPR until paramedics arrived and took over.

An autopsy was been performed at a medical examiner's office in Rapid City, South Dakota, and the results indicate Ostby died as a result of asphyxiation.

At this time the investigation suggests the incident is a suicide, although the investigation is continuing. Because the death occurred while Ostby was in custody, the Yellowstone County Attorney's office will schedule a coroner's inquest.

Ostby was in jail pending court hearings on several charges. According to court records, he attempted to steal a Billings Police Department patrol car and told his girlfriend to let the police shoot him.

Ostby was removed from his court appearance after he was disruptive and later assaulted a detention officer after intentionally flooding his cell, according to court records.

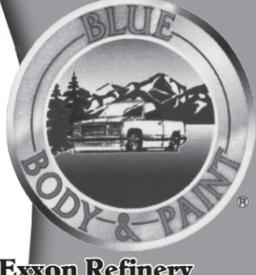
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# Lockwood Pedestrian Safety Board seeking support for grant application

by Evelyn Pyburn

LOCKWOOD - The Lockwood Pedestrian Safety Board is requesting as much community support as possible in its quest to secure a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant from the State of Montana. Citizens are being asked to write letters of support to accompany the application by July 31.

The grant would help fund what is estimated to be a \$300,000 project to build a sidewalk along Becraft Lane in Lockwood, from Noblewood Drive to Old Hardin Road. The project has been set as a priority by the Pedestrian Safety Board, which was created a year ago to address a need for lighting and sidewalks in the community. A child was killed by a vehicle while he was walking along Becraft Lane about two and a half years ago — an incident that catapulted the creation of

the pedestrian safety district by Lockwood voters. There was also an earlier incident that resulted in the death of another child on Old Hardin Road.

Becraft Lane was identified as a priority for a sidewalk, second only to a sidewalk along Highway 87 leading to Lockwood School, which is proposed for construction this summer. That project may, however, have hit a snag with bids coming in much higher than budgeted.

The one bid received from CMG Construction, Billings, was almost \$140,000 over the projected estimate. The bid was for \$338,961, while engineers estimated it would cost about \$200,000. The board will decide at its next meeting what next steps to take in dealing with that project.

"We are certainly disappointed that the pricing came in much higher than expected,

but we are definitely not going to stop fighting to make Lockwood a safer place to live in and commute through," said Board Chairman Nic Talmark. "Our goal is to provide safe and functional corridors for non-motorized transportation, but it has to be at a reasonable value."

Talmark reported, "We are leaning towards rebidding the project, possibly in stages if necessary, to fit within our budget. The lack of participation and seemingly high pricing may be a product of our timeline and the bid environment during this busy summer season. Our consulting team is looking into the obstacles that lead to this result. We may be forced to delay the construction of the path longer than we originally hoped (we wanted to have it completed before school started), but we are still shooting to complete construction as close

to the beginning of the school year as possible."

The TAP grant will help fund the designing of the sidewalk for Becraft Lane, which carries over 2,600 vehicle trips per day. The Lockwood and Billings school districts also have over nine bus stops on Becraft Lane with no staging area for students to wait. The Becraft Lane Sidewalk project will provide a safe place for bus stops and a route for pedestrians to connect to the Johnson Lane commercial area.

The TAP application, being prepared for the Pedestrian Safety Board by Big Sky Economic Development, will be in competition with applications from other communities for projects. A lot of broad community support will improve the application's chances for success, according to the board, which is asking that letters be sent by July 14 in

order to help facilitate the July 31 application deadline.

Letters should be addressed to Mr. Bill Kennedy, Chairman of the Yellowstone County Commissioners, Yellowstone County, 217 North 27th Street, Billings, MT 59101. They may be emailed to [commission@co.yellowstone.mt.gov](mailto:commission@co.yellowstone.mt.gov).

Copies should also be sent to Patrick Klugman at [klugman@bigskyeda.org](mailto:klugman@bigskyeda.org) or mailed to Patrick Klugman, Community Development Project Manager, Big Sky Economic Development, 222 North 32nd Street, Suite 200, Billings, Montana 59101.

Questions may be directed to Klugman at (406) 869-8418.

# Lockwood business group building vision for future growth

by Evelyn Pyburn

LOCKWOOD — How best to move forward was a primary topic of conversation for the Lockwood Business Group on Tuesday morning, among some ten members in attendance for breakfast at Hitt the Spot Café, courtesy of Rocky Mountain Compost.

Taylor Brown, owner of Northern Broadcasting Network, recommended setting goals to motivate attendance.

"It really does not matter what goals we pick," said Brown. "The important thing is that everyone feels that we do have a strong purpose that is worth their time and effort to participate."

The group worked on identifying a number of business owners who are dedicated to making Lockwood a better

place, as well as wanting to improve their businesses, as prospects to call upon to engage support.

"Business people who live here and have kids here would be good members because they care enough," it was stated.

As Lockwood businesses were listed, there was some surprise as to how many there really are in Lockwood. Just establishing a list of Lockwood businesses could be one possible goal, said Brown.

The Lockwood Business Group was envisioned as essentially being a future Chamber of Commerce for Lockwood.

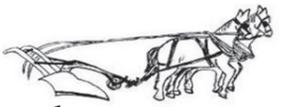
Bryce Glen of Rocky Moun-

tain Compost readily agreed to be among those active participants saying that they are planning to be part of the Lockwood community for a long time, and he is willing to spend time making things happen that will benefit both his business and the community.

Possible purposes for the group could be varied. Brown pointed out some, including the ability to network to keep up on what is going on in the Lockwood business community, staying aware of the problem that businesses face, and to create awareness about businesses in Lockwood.

The next meeting of the Lockwood Business Group

will be held at 7 a.m. Aug. 11 at First Interstate Bank in Lockwood. The September meeting will be held in the new Lockwood Fire Station.



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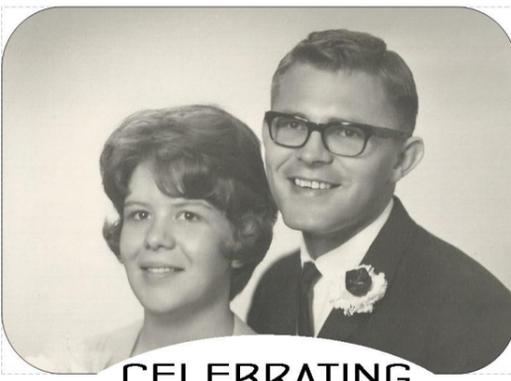
*YCN reserves the right to edit letters to the editor. Anonymous letters will not be printed.*

**Community News**



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*Bee & Maria Burton*

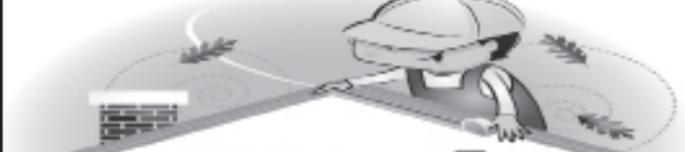


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# 'Redneck Yacht Club' theme for Homesteader Days Parade

**HOMESTEADER PARK** — The annual Homesteader Days parade will roll on Saturday at 11 a.m.

Ty Parker of the Huntley Project Lions Club said anyone can join the parade, just show up at 10 a.m. Saturday and sign up at a table at the east end of Homesteader Park.

The theme this year is "Redneck Yacht Club." There is no entry fee.

Entries are accepted in several categories: horses, marching, floats, old cars and

possibly a separate category for antique tractors and farm equipment.

The top entry in each category wins a \$75 prize, but Parker said the parade is relaxed with several people tapped for an informal judging panel.

The parade follows a route that begins on the east end of Homesteader Park near Road 8 and heads west on the paved road in front of the park.

At the park's west end, it loops back into the park.



Larry Gatlin, center, and the Gatlin Brothers will perform Friday at Homesteader Days, taking the stage at 7 p.m. (Courtesy photo)

## Gatlin Brothers ...

(Continued from page 1)

sand and even Elvis Presley.

He recorded two solo albums and won Grammy in 1976. All three brothers were inducted into the Grand Ole Opry and signed a record deal

with Columbia Records.

Their hits include "All the Gold in California," which was single of the year in 1979, the same year Larry Gatlin won the Academy of Country Music's top male vocalist award. "Straight Ahead," the album that contained the single, was named Album of the year.

The band toured extensively in the 1970s and 1980s before performing an "Adios Tour" in 1992 and taking a

pause from touring before later resuming concert performances.

Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers are touring internationally this summer, with concert dates in the United States, Canada and Switzerland, and have released a new album, "Larry and the Gatlin Brothers 60th Anniversary Celebration." Larry Gatlin joked that it could also be called, "The Gospel According to Gatlin."

**Huntley Project Lions**  
**2015 Homesteader Days**  
**Outdoor Concert - Friday July 10**  
**Craig Morgan**  
**Larry Gatlin & the Gatlin Brothers**  
 "Gatlins 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour"

**With: Bucky Beaver Ground Grippers**  
 Homesteader Park - 12 miles east of Billings on Hwy 312  
**Gates open at 5:30 Live Music 7:00PM till 1:00AM**  
 The Gatlins at 7:00 - Craig Morgan at 8:45 then Bucky Beaver till 1:00

**Food & Drink Available**  
 \$35 Advanced tickets available at  
 All 3 Shipton's Big R locations in Billings  
 Project Merc in Worden & R&R Trading in Huntley

Tickets at the gate \$40

---

**Saturday July 11 - Traditional Homesteader Days**  
 Gates open 9:00 am admission \$2.00 at the gate (No advanced tickets)

**Fun Run 8:15 AM**  
**Parade at the Park 11:00 AM**

**Lions Club's Famous BBQ Beef and BBQ Chicken Dinners**  
 Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Tacos, Nachos, Homemade Pies

Carnival Games - "Fun on the Farm" Games - Bingo  
 Craft Show and Sale - Kids Carnival Rides (Small Rides for Small Kids)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Greased Pig Race"**  
 Age Brackets - Cash Prizes - Calcutta Auction

**Teen Dance at 9:00**  
**Fireworks at Dusk**

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 Happy Anniversary to:

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 Carl & Edie Fauver

Saturday July 11  
 Kyla Brockel, Tim Brady  
 Thomasina McKay  
 Haley Rose, Julie Ewen  
 Jeremy Hargis  
 Jennifer Gable  
 Gerry & Nancy Breiland

Sunday July 12  
 Tana McNiven  
 Norman Johannes  
 Pam Bilyeu  
 Derek & Shawn Hinz

Monday July 13  
 March Shaules, Andre Caster  
 Aaron Beard  
 Rachel Wittman  
 Dan & Martha Vogel  
 Vincent & Kelly Castro

Tuesday July 14  
 Rodney & Rose Erb  
 Jodi & Jocee Hedrick  
 Marcus Vogel, Jerry Althoff

Wednesday July 15  
 Geraldine Ketterling  
 Lauren Sian  
 Jeremy & Keeley Sholley  
 Kathy Hill  
 Laurel Noland  
 Chris McCune

Thursday July 16  
 Colt Reich  
 Robert Laux

Thanks to the Huntley Project Lions & Lionesses for their calendar.  
 To purchase a complete calendar, contact Helen Toogood at 967-4581.

Schedule for Friday, July 10

The Huntley Project Lions are offering a Friday evening full of outdoor musical entertainment at Osborn Park. There will be plenty of free parking at the site. Bring folding chairs, blankets or cushions. No reserved seating. Bleacher seating available but with a limited view. No coolers or outside beverages allowed. Beer stands and food will be available. Dancing encouraged.

**5:30 p.m. Gates open**  
**6:00 p.m. Vendors open with food, beer & more**  
**7:00 pm: Larry Gatlin & Gatlin Brothers**  
**8:45 pm: Craig Morgan**  
**10:30 pm: Bucky Beaver Ground Grippers**  
 Beer Garden Open Until 1:00 am

**Ticket Info**  
 Advance tickets are \$35 and are being sold at Project Merc in Worden, R&R Trading in Huntley and both Shipton's Big R stores in Billings. Cash or check only, payable to Huntley Project Lions Club.  
 Tickets will be sold the day of the show for \$40.

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**Craig Morgan, country singer and host of an outdoors television program, will perform Friday night at Homesteader Days, following the Gatlin Brothers. (Courtesy photo)**

## Craig Morgan ...

(Continued from page 1)

its sixth season this past week.

He and his wife, Karen, live with their four children near Dickson, Tennessee.

His debut album was the self-titled "Craig Morgan" in 2000, followed by "I Love It" in 2003. That album contained the single "Almost Home," about a man who wakes a sleeping homeless person out of concern to find that he had been dreaming of his childhood home.

The 2005 Album "My kind of Livin'" delivered the single "Redneck Yacht Club," the theme of Saturday's Homesteader Days parade.

Five more albums have followed as Morgan combines recording, touring, television and philanthropic efforts

with his family life in Tennessee.

Morgan describes what his music means on his website.

"It's the outlet for me to express everything I am," he said. "When I'm riding my dirt bike, you may not know about my music, and when I'm in a military environment, it's not the centerpoint. But my music career allows me to talk about and be a part of all those other energies in my life. When I'm on stage, I get to express all of it."

Morgan's summer tour brings him to Huntley from Red River Valley Fair in West Fargo, N.D., where he performs Thursday night, and on to the Craven County Jamboree in Craven, Canada on July 11.

## Homesteader Days Schedule for Saturday, July 11

- 8:15 a.m. Homesteader Run
- 8:30 a.m. Gates open
- 10 a.m. Museum of Irrigated Agriculture opens
- 10 a.m. Country Market Craft Sale
- 11 a.m. Parade at the Park: entry form in this issue
- 11 a.m. Beer Garden opens
- ALL DAY: Food offerings include the Lions Club's famous BBQ beef and chicken dinner, plus hamburgers, hot dogs, tacos, nachos, pie and much more.
- ALL DAY: Carnival games, Bingo, Fun on the Farm, Craft Show & Sale and Kids Carnival
- 6:00 p.m. Greased Pig Calcutta and Race
- 9 p.m. Teen Dance, Live Music in the Beer Garden until 1 a.m.
- 10 p.m. Fireworks begin at dusk

**Ticket Info:** Tickets are \$2 per person and are good for all day and night. No advance tickets.

## Homesteader Days ...

(Continued from page 1)

every year.

Homesteader Days is competing with a large music festival in Billings, but Hill said people will still turn out in Huntley.

"It's a tradition for a lot," he said, and "we always have new folks that show up too."

After the concert, Lions Club members do some clean-up, and then members of the Al Bedoo Shrine Black Horse Patrol roll in and work through the night so the grounds are fresh for Saturday's events.

All day Saturday, fun for families is the main event with a fun run, parade, carnival games and concessions. The Huntley Project School

All-Class reunion will also be held on the grounds this year, something new for the event. (Please see related story.)

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## HP class reunion ...

(Continued from page 1)

the reunion during Homesteader Days was a chance to shake things up, she said, since the reunion is usually held at the school. Some people may like it better, and some may not, but the fun is in getting together with friends who may have not seen each other for a while.

The Huntley Project School will be open on Saturday from 2 to 3 p.m. for anyone who wants to see the "new" school. Graduates are also encouraged to bring photos of their high school days, especially photos that show classes outside the old high school, to donate them to a Wall of Fame being constructed at the school.

"I am so excited," Reiter said, as plans fall into place.

The reunion starts as early as 9 a.m. Saturday, when people can walk through the gates at Homesteader Park by the museum and pick up their name tags. The site's buildings will be open for tours.

Reiter hopes alumni will join the parade at 11 a.m., followed by lunch on their own.

But she wants to extend a special welcome to teachers, who will be honored at a meeting in the old school house at the museum at 4 p.m. Brandon Wittman will officiate at the program.

"I don't know how many teachers are alive," Reiter said, but she hopes anyone who can turn up to be honored at the reception.

Dinner of beef and chicken will be offered and a dace

wraps up the reunion in Homesteader Hall from 8 to 11 p.m. Cimarron, a band from Billings, will provide the music. An everyone will be able to see the fireworks

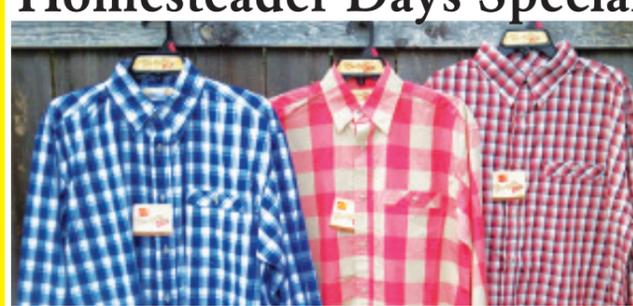
at dusk.

"I think we'll get a good turnout at the dance," Reiter said.

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**Huntley Project Lions & Lioness Clubs Homesteader Days Parade 2015**

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**Parade Theme: 'Diamonds on the Project'**  
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Comments for the Announcer (Names, History):  
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 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_

Parade Entry Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Assigned at time of registration)

We will line up on the east end of the park at 10:15 a.m. The parade will start at 11 a.m.

**Enter Saturday morning or mail by July 8 to:**  
**Ty Parker**  
**P.O. Box 271**  
**Huntley, MT 59037**

# Weekly Ramblings - It's not about the cake

by Krayton Kerns

Humanity is governed by both God's laws and man's laws with the former reigning supreme. This creates a rub, so progressives equate God's and man's law by insisting government is god. Lacking the true and living God, morality can then be altered by a simple majority vote and absolutely anything can be deemed acceptable.

The recent Supreme Court (SCOTUS) ruling establishing a universal right to same-sex marriage has blasted this issue to the forefront. With the rap of the gavel, SCOTUS amended both God's law and man's law; powers expressly prohibited both by the Bible and our Constitution. I am a Christian, so I believe the Holy Scripture is the word of God, but to prove my point to non-believing progressives using Biblical principles is as futile as describing color to a blind

person. Instead, I will set God's law aside and explain the damage the SCOTUS same-sex decision inflicted on man's law.

By a vote of 5-4, the SCOTUS established same-sex marriage as a right, effectively tossing the First Amendment in the trash and empowering government to regulate what is preached from the pulpit. Inspired by the court's decision, a same-sex couple immediately filed suit to force a church to marry them. Only the blindest progressive could possibly ignore this First Amendment conflict, but they do, and it gets worse.

A Christian baker in Oregon refused to bake a wedding cake for a same-sex couple, so the couple filed suit. Based on the SCOTUS ruling, an Oregon Labor Commissioner levied a \$135,000 fine against the bakers and ordered them to not speak publicly of the

ruling. Regardless your political beliefs, this should terrify all Americans, but such does not appear to be the case. The many rainbow banners splattering social media create the illusion this SCOTUS decision is popular, as if mob rule determines law in a constitutional republic. Answer me this: If a progressive, activist Supreme Court can repeal the First Amendment, what prevents them from suspending the Second? Nothing, actually. This

is exactly why our founders balanced powers between the three branches of government, granted the judiciary no power to write man's law and specifically blocked government's interference with religion. Here is what is next.

After numerous defeats at the state and local level, leftist operatives are preparing to launch a national NDO. Low information voters will be told NDO means Non-Discrimination Ordinance when in

practice it means National Discrimination Ordinance, where Christians will be targeted and silenced by government. We, the religious unwashed, will be expected to abandon our Christian beliefs or face fines and re-education training. Same-sex weddings are not about the cake, just as Obamacare is not about healthcare, nor is climate change regulation about climate. It is always about control.

## New LWSD manager



Mike Ariztia

The new manager for the Lockwood Water and Sewer District (LWSD) is on the job. Mike Ariztia attended the Yellowstone County Commissioners' meeting on Tuesday, where retiring manager, Woody Woods, introduced him to public officials. Ariztia, who has moved to Lockwood from Reno, Nevada, said that he worked for a water and sewer district similar to Lockwood's in Nevada for 18 and a half years. He said that he was excited to be moving to Montana, and pledged his support to the district and the community. (Evelyn Pyburn photo)



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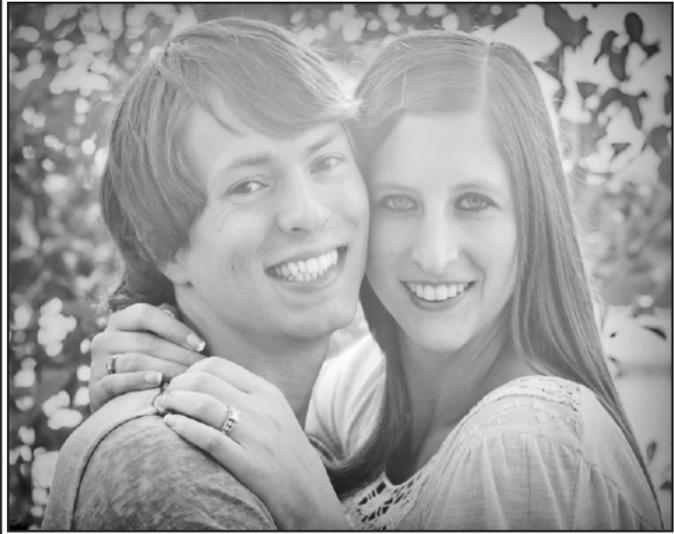
**YELLOWSTONE VALLEY COMMUNITY DIRECTORY**  
(Nemont, Triangle) will publish your cell phone number for a small annual fee.

**Call 670-3381 for details.**

## THE GOOD NEWS

 <p><i>To include your church in this "Good News" section, call YCN 348-2650</i></p>	<p><b>HUNTLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 AM</b> (NEW WORSHIP TIME)</p> <p>Pastor Gary Geiman</p>	<p>Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church <i>Corner of Rd 16 &amp; East 1, Ballantine</i></p> <p>Sunday Mass, 9 a.m.</p> <p><b>Father David Reichling</b></p> <p><b>259-4350</b></p>
<p><b>WORDEN OPEN BIBLE</b></p> <p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM Wednesday Worship 7 PM</p> <p>Pastor Rick King CELL 698-9630 CHURCH 967-6463 1460 Railroad Rd</p>	<p><b>BALLANTINE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</b></p> <p><b>Worship Service 11 a.m.</b></p> <p><b>Rev. Jim Smith</b></p>	<p><b>BETHLEHEM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH — WORDEN —</b></p> <p>Worship Service: 10 a.m. Sunday Sunday School: 10 AM for all children &amp; youth REV. BILL TIBBS</p>
<p><b>CUSTER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH</b></p> <p>Dohn Ratliff, Minister 224 3rd St - Custer</p> <p>ALL FAITHS WELCOME</p> <p>Sunday Service 10 a.m. Sunday School: 10 a.m. Friendly Circle: 4th Monday</p>	<p><b>OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS</b></p> <p>BIBLE STUDY Sundays - 9:45 AM</p> <p>WORSHIP Sundays - 10:45 AM</p> <p>PASTOR ROBERT LANE 5th &amp; Ash, Worden <b>671-0193</b></p> 	<p><b>PROJECT COMMUNITY Fellowship</b></p> <p>Sunday School FOR ALL AGES: 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICE: 10:30 A.M.</p> <p>CORNER OF THIRD &amp; MAIN STREET, WORDEN <b>Pastor Tim Wittman 967-3030</b></p>
<p><b>SHEPHERD BIBLE CHURCH</b></p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Awana Club - Wednesday 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>PASTOR JIM MILLER 373-6382 Shepherd Rd at Chicago Rd</p>	 <p><b>EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b></p> <p>JOYFUL CARING LOVING SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 a.m. ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9 a.m. Pastor Mark Morgenstern</p> <p><b>SHEPHERD</b></p>	 <p><b>VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH</b> Equip. Engage. Multiply.</p> <p>SUNDAY: Worship Service 10 a.m. Summit Kids 10 a.m.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY: Youth Group 6:30 p.m. www.valleybaptistchurch.us 348-2202 Hwy 312/Road 8 N</p>

### Nelson-Keil Engagement



**Wedding Date - September 12**

**Craig Nelson & Courtney Keil**  
Announce their  
**wedding engagement**  
along with their parents  
**A'lona & Mike Keil of Custer and Kim & Lloyd Nelson of Forsyth, MT**

Photo by Montana Made Photography

### Fire & Rescue

**WEEK OF JUNE 28 - JULY 3**

<p><b>Shepherd:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Vehicle fire</li> <li>1 Mutual aid structure fire</li> <li>2 Medical calls</li> <li>5 Grass fires</li> </ul> <p><b>Worden:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 Emergency medical service calls</li> <li>1 Grass fire,</li> <li>1 Service assist</li> <li>1 Structure fire</li> <li>4 Grass fire responses</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lockwood:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Investigate</li> <li>2 Assist physically disabled</li> <li>1 Assistance, Other</li> <li>3 Provide advanced life support</li> <li>2 Provide basic life support</li> <li>4 Extinguishment by fire service personnel.</li> <li>1 Emergency medical services</li> </ul>
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# Obituaries

Ron Becker, 70, passed away on July 5th, 2015 at his home in Ballantine, MT. He was son to Ed and Elma Becker.



**Ron Becker**

Ron was born May 14, 1945, in Billings, MT. He was married to Gen Becker on February 9, 1965. They celebrated 50 years of marriage this year. They have two children, a son, Thad, and daughter, Kimberly.

Ron was a hard working man who helped his father farm on the Huntley Project for several years. He worked at ranching for several years, then went to work at Stanley Structure in Billings as plant

manager for 10 years. He then transferred and moved with his family to Colorado. He and Gen then moved back to the project, which is where his heart always was. He worked as a Track Superintendent at Metra Park for several years and made an excellent reputation for himself as the man who made the track and horse racing safe and the trainers expressed appreciation for it

protecting their horses. He then worked construction until his retirement. He was always creative and a talented man. He took up oil painting in CO and took to it, creating many beautiful works of art. He was the man who could fix anything and did. He started carving over the last few years and made several small creations of tractors and farm equipment, as well as cabins and whatever his imagination came up with! He was happiest with his hands busy.

He is survived by his wife, Gen Becker of Ballantine, his sister Donna Lesser (Gene) of Bozeman, his son Thad Becker of Milliken, CO, his daughter Kimberly Pfauth of Castle

Rock, CO, his granddaughters, Allison Becker of Loveland, CO, Julie Newcombe (Garrett) of Aurora, CO, Cara Dolan (David) of Westminster, CO, great granddaughters Mackenzie, Kaleigh and Katelynn Newcombe, Taylor and Terilynn Dolan. And several nieces and nephews who love him dearly.

He was preceded in death by his Father, Ed Becker, his mother, Elma Becker, his brother, Randy Becker.

Services will be held on Friday July 10th at 2:00pm at Cremation and Funeral Gallery 29 8th Street West Billings MT 59101

Reception to follow at Valley Baptist Church in Huntley MT.

HUNTLEY — Leo K. Reiter was granted his angel wings in the early morning hours of July 2, 2015, with his loving wife, Shirley, by his side at the family home in Huntley. He died as he had lived — with a quiet grace, never one to want to burden anyone.

Leo was born Feb. 11, 1938, to Alexander and Anna (Gabel) Reiter in Ballantine. He grew up and was educated in the Huntley Project area, graduating in 1957.

On Dec. 11, 1960, his life was made complete when the love of his life, Shirley Haman, agreed to be his wife. They settled on the Project, welcoming five children: Brenda, Judy, Michael, Patrick and Thomas. Throughout his early days of providing for his family, Leo wore many hats professionally, that of farmer, contract custodian, and perhaps most memorable and cherished to his friends and neighbors, that of bus driver for Huntley Project Schools.

But it was the roles of husband, dad and grandpa (Papa Leo) that meant the most to Leo, as family took priority in his life. Leo spread his love and generosity around abun-

dantly to 11 grandchildren, but unfortunately, was taken from us before welcoming two great-grandchildren due to arrive in September.

Once everyone was cared for and nurtured in the family, Leo made time for himself, enjoying many hobbies, including tending to his gardens and yard. In addition, he enjoyed watching sports and enjoyed his pets. Leo was also a long-time and proud member of the Bethlehem Congregational Church in Worden.

Waiting to welcome Leo in Heaven are his parents and three brothers, George, Harold and Ed.

Survivors include his wife of 54-½ years, Shirley; daughters Brenda (Wes) Oglesby and Judy; sons Michael (Mink), Patrick (Marcia) and Thomas (Kari); grandchildren Calvin (Erica), Tyson (Samantha), Andrew, Noelle,



**Leo K Reiter**

Skylar (Kelsey), Chase, Trenton, Dalton, Jodi, Kilynn, Mikaylee; and Leo's spirit will live on in his two great-grandchildren who will arrive in September. Also left to celebrate his life are countless extended family members, friends and neighbors.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Bethlehem Congregational Church, PO Box 96, Worden, MT 59088.

Please join us for visitation at Smith Downtown Chapel, 925 S. 27th St., in Billings on Monday, July 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. Service will be Tuesday, July 7, at 11 a.m., at Bethlehem Congregational Church on Main Street in Worden. Burial will follow in Pleasantview Cemetery in Ballantine. Lunch will follow at the church.

Condolences may be left for the family at smithfuneralchapels.com.



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Ask T-Rae



T. Rae

Do you have any questions for our Ask T-Rae Section? If so, email your questions and inquiries to info@yellowstonecountynews.com and we'll have T.-Rae to answer it in the coming weeks section of the Yellowstone County News.

T. Rae is a licensed mortician, certified grief recovery specialist and owner of Heights Family Funeral Home and Cremation & Funeral Gallery in Billings.

Community News



Events & Info

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### FRESH EGGS

Farm Fresh eggs for sale. 851 West G Road, \$3.00 per dozen, call 967-3670

### SERVICES OFFERED

Print your cell phone number in the local co-op phone directory. Yellowstone Valley Community Directory. 670-3381.

### HELP WANTED

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### OFFICE PRODUCTION

Yellowstone County News is accepting applications for a Production Specialist position. Requires organizing the weekly newspaper as well as creating ads for customers. Requirements include advanced communication and computer skills in programs such as InDesign, Photoshop, Microsoft Word & Excel. The position is part-time, 25-30 hours per week. Pay DOE, submit applications in person or email Jonathan@yellowstone-countynews.com or call 406-672-5941.

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# County officials continue compensation board work

by Evelyn Pyburn  
**BILLINGS** - Two more hearings have been set for the Yellowstone County Elected Official Compensation Board.

Following their rejection of the Board's earlier recommendation Yellowstone County Commissioners are asking the board to recon-

vene to make another recommendation.

The board met Monday and will meet again at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 21, at the Yellowstone County Courthouse in the Commissioners Conference Room on fourth floor.

The commissioners also re-appointed the compensation board since the terms of

the citizen members expired June 30. Oscar Heinrich and Billie Ruff are citizen members of the board, which also includes all three commissioners as members, the sheriff, county attorney, county clerk and recorder, and county auditor.

The board previously proposed a 1-percent increase on

base pay for elected county officials and another 1-percent on longevity pay. Commissioners unanimously rejected the proposal because it would have meant but a minimal increase in wages for sheriff's deputies and assistant county attorneys, whose wage increases are tied to that of elected officials.

## Sage Sayings

*Discipline:  
 "Doing something I don't  
 want to do  
 to accomplish what I have  
 always wanted."*

## Sheriff's report ...

(Continued from page 12)

Sirius radio system, Kenwood amplifier and speaker, a Black and Decker three-drawer tool box, a Black and Decker charger, a 42-inch Vizio television, a 55-inch Philips television and a DeWalt reciprocating saw.

The case remained open, according to the report.

### Assault, fist, feet

Deputies investigated a report of an assault in the 1000 block of Highway 212 South on July 2. The case was assigned for follow up, according to the report.

### Fraud

Deputies investigated a report of credit card fraud in the 2000 block of East Maryland Lane in Laurel on July 5.

No suspects were identified, but the case remained open, according to the report.

### Grass fire

Deputies responded to a grass fire caused by fireworks in the 2100 block of West Arrow Creek in Ballantine at 10:18 p.m. July 4.

According to the report, Worden Volunteer Fire De-

partment officials estimated the fire burned about 5 acres of grass and five or six fence posts.

### Lost/found items

\* A sheriff's deputy received a wallet from the Laurel Police Department on July 5 and placed it in evidence at the sheriff's office. According to the report, someone had found the wallet in the county and brought it to Laurel police, who turned it over to county officers.

\* A sheriff's deputy retrieved a firearm that someone had found in the Yellowstone River at the Duck Creek Bridge at 4:07 p.m. on July 3.

According to the report, the gun, which was not identified, had not been reported stolen.

### Dog bite, quarantine

A sheriff's office animal control officer placed a dog in quarantine after it bit a child in the 1600 block of Canary Avenue in Lockwood at 11:43 a.m. July 3.

According to the report, the child was treated at a hospital and released.

## Legal Notices

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Montana Thirteenth Judicial District Court, Yellowstone County  
 In the Matter of the Name Change of Clairissa K. Barnes, Clairissa K. Barnes, Petitioner.  
 Cause No. DV-15-0770  
 Judge Mary Jane Knisely  
 Notice of Hearing on Name Change.  
 This is notice that Petitioner has asked the District Court for a change of name from Clairissa Kay Barnes to Clairissa Kay Albrecht. The hearing will be on August 27, 2015 at 9 a.m. The hearing will be at the Courthouse in Yellowstone County.  
 Dated this 25th day of June, 2015.  
 s/s Kristie Lee Boelter  
 Clerk of District Court

7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31 2015  
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Fireworks line the shelves in the Homesteader Museum's stand last week leading up to the Fourth of July. (Jonathan McNiven photo)

### Fireworks stand draws local customers

by Judy Killen  
**HOMESTEADER MUSEUM** — The fireworks stand at the Huntley Project Museum was a boon to both local buyers and sellers.  
 "It went well," said museum curator Neal Gunnels. "I was very happy with it."  
 The museum board of directors decided to take on the fireworks stand for the first time this year, operating it as a fundraiser to support local projects. Gunnels said their estimate of how many fireworks they would sell came pretty close.  
 Gunnels said buyers liked having a local stand on the

Project, since many nearby fireworks stands are commercial operations that take their money with them.  
 Many buyers walked on into the museum to have a look around, Gunnels said.  
 "It went quite well and I was very happy with the community support," Gunnels said. "I had several people thank me for having a fireworks stand here."  
 Buyers appreciated having a stand operated by a non-profit organization and they liked the local touch, he said.  
 "I don't remember the last time one was here," Gunnels said. "A period of years."

## Monday Morning Sheriff's Report

### Driving while under the influence

\* After a traffic stop at 32nd Street and King Avenue West in Billings at 4:45 a.m. July 3, a sheriff's deputy cited Donnie Ray VanMeter of Billings for alleged driving while under the influence of alcohol, first offense, and alleged obstruction of a peace officer.  
 \* Kendra Sue Nieskens of Billings was cited for alleged driving while under the influence, third offense, after a traffic stop at Hesper and Gabel roads at 7:58 p.m. July 2.

\* A sheriff's deputy who observed "poor driving behavior" stopped a vehicle driven by David Diaz of Billings at Highway 3 and North 27th Street at 10:39 p.m. July 3.

The deputy cited Diaz for alleged driving while under the influence, second offense.

\* After a traffic stop at mile marker 450 in the Billings area in the westbound lanes of Interstate 90 at 2:40 a.m. July 5, a deputy cited Matthew Brian Jolly of Great Falls for alleged driving while under the influence, second offense.

\* After stopping a vehicle for expired registration in the 2100 block of Old Hardin Road, a deputy arrested Terry Jay Bigback, 34, of Lame Deer for alleged driving under the influence of alcohol, third offences, at 9:13 p.m. July 4.

According to the report, Bigback remained in jail at presstime charged with DUI, obstructing a peace officer and driving with a revoked or suspended driver's license.

### Burglary

\* A sheriff's deputy inves-

tigated the theft of batteries and a battery tender from a semi-truck parked in a shop in the 5400 block of Yeoman Road in Shepherd on July 4.

According to the report, four Excide 1800 12-volt batteries and a battery tender charger of unknown brand were taken.

\* A burglary was reported in the 7111 block of Yellowstone Trail south of Huntley on July 4.

According to the report, jewelry had been stolen. No suspects were identified in the report.

### Criminal mischief

\* A deputy investigated a report that two vehicles had been vandalized in the 1100 block of Crist Drive in the Billings Heights on July 3. The vehicles were not identified in the report. No suspects were identified.

\* A deputy investigated a report that someone with a BB gun shot out a window in a home in the 1600 block of Lone Crest Drive in the Billings Heights on July 4.

### Civil issue

Deputies investigated an ongoing civil issue in the 1500 block of Plateau Road north of Highway 312 east of the Billings Heights on July 1 and again on July 2.

### Disturbance

\* Deputies investigated a disturbance in the 1800 block of Sunrise Avenue in Lockwood on July 5. According to the report, two parties were equally at fault in the dispute and no citations were issued.  
 \* Sheriff's deputies investigated a report of a disturbance in the 200 block of Hemlock in Lockwood on July 4.

No citations were issued.  
 \* After investigating a reported disturbance in the 5000 block of Homer Davis Road in Shepherd on July 5, deputies cited Robert Eugene Davis Jr. of Shepherd for alleged obstruction of a peace officer.

### Thefts

\* A deputy investigated a report that a legal document was stolen from the 5700 block of Camas Prairie Trail

west of Laurel on July 2.  
 According to the report, a possible suspect had been identified but no arrests had been made.

\* Deputies investigated a report that a credit or debit card was stolen from the 3500 block of Kingswood Drive in Lockwood on July 5.

The case remained open, according to the report.

\* A woman reported to the sheriff's office that about 20 gallons of gasoline had been siphoned from a vehicle parked in the 2300 block of North 14th Road in Worden on July 3.

\* Deputies investigated a theft of an HP EliteBook computer from a car in the 800 block of Ollie Street in west Billings on July 2.

A potential suspect had been identified, according to the report, and the case was assigned for follow up.

\* Two people from Miles City reported to the sheriff's office on July 1 that several household goods had been stolen.

According to the report, a possible suspect had been identified, but it was not certain the items had been stolen in Yellowstone County.

Items missing include a

(Continued on page 11)

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