

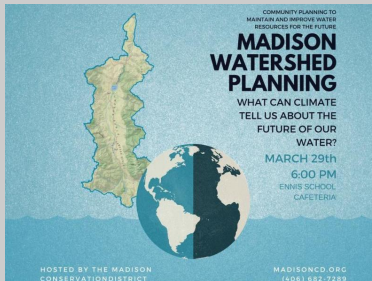
You are receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in the Ennis Area Chamber of Commerce. Don't forget to add info@ennischamber.com to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

April 2017 Ennis Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

It has now been about 3 months since I first started my position as the Executive Director for the Ennis Area Chamber of Commerce and I finally feel like I am getting into the swing of things. I have met so many people and learned so much about our little community already and I still have a lot to learn! Thank you to those that have been helping me get acquainted with all things Chamber of Commerce and Ennis and for your patience while I continue to learn the ins and outs of my job. ~Abi King

During the February Chamber Board of Directors meeting, Ethan



Kunard from the Madison Conservation District was invited to speak to the Board about the Madison Watershed Planning project. He is currently implementing a one year planning process and has been reaching out to the community to provide information on watershed conditions, watershed planning efforts, and to identify current and future water resource concerns in the Madison Watershed.

The Board agrees that this project is important to the community and would like to offer support by bringing this project to the attention of local business owners. It is important that local businesses appreciate the connection of ensuring a healthy, sustainable watershed with success of their businesses.

QUICK LINKS

- www.ennischamber.com
- www.southwestmt.com
- www.visitmt.com
- www.virginiacity.com
- www.ennismontana.org
- www.backroadtoyellowstone.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have anything you would like to announce in future newsletters, please send information to info@ennischamber.com before the last week of the month.

Backroad to Yellowstone

Starting their 4th year, [Backroad to Yellowstone](http://www.backroadtoyellowstone.com), a non-profit community website promoting tourism in the Madison Valley, is on a roll! The website generated over 90,000 page views last year. In February, two great videos were launched featuring the Madison Valley and Ennis with tremendous social media response.

You can support this promotional effort and give your business a boost! To learn more about the limited advertising opportunities on the website, contact Kris Hauck at 682-4217. Don't wait - slots are first come, first served.

www.backroadtoyellowstone.com

Muddled Moose Studio Gallery Silent Auction

Help celebrate Muddled Moose Studio Gallery's 1st Year by participating in the minis silent auction. Bidding will **start April 3 at 10am and ends April 29 at 4pm**. Half the proceeds will go to the Ennis Food Bank. Contact Cathy Toot at 406-490-1453 or

Water, and other natural resources, provide a foundation from which our community thrives. Water supports our agricultural producers which in turn provides open spaces for people and wildlife to enjoy. Similarly, healthy watersheds support the recreation and travel industries in our community that in turn provide opportunities for local businesses to be successful. Regardless of the role we play in the community, water is the centerpiece of our lives here in the Madison Valley.

Just as water provides us opportunities, it also is the limiting factor to our future success. We face a number of challenges, including, but not limited to: variability in climate, invasive species, increased water demand, changes in land use, and degraded water quality. In order to address these vulnerabilities, the Madison Conservation District is working with the community to identify priority concerns, and to then identify strategies and opportunities to improve watershed health and/or water use efficiencies to mitigate these current and future threats.

We believe businesses are an integral piece to this planning process, and we would invite our local businesses to attend our upcoming meetings to learn more about these issues, and to provide your feedback on how we can develop community-wide efforts to maintain and improve our water resources. For more information, please contact the Madison Conservation District or visit our website at madisoncd.org.

Ethan Kunard
ethan@madisoncd.org
(406) 682-7289

NEXT MEETING APRIL 26



**Featured
Business
Berkshire
Hathaway**

Home Services

*****This featured business will be
hosting Business
After Hours on April 6, 5-7pm.*****

Local Expertise - Montana Owned
National & Global Exposure

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Montana Properties is a locally owned and independently operated full-service brokerage with 16 offices and over 200 agents throughout western Montana. We have a long standing track record

cathy@muddledmoosestudio.com

Ennis Lions Club Auction

The Ennis Lions Club will hold their Annual Auction on **Saturday, April 29** at the Ennis Rodeo Grounds. The auction will start at 9am. Auction items will be similar to previous years and donations are still needed. The proceeds go back to the community through financial support to various service and school groups

Tap into Ennis Brew and Spirit Fest

This event has been scheduled for **May 20**. We are currently looking for sponsors, brewery, winery, and distillery participants, and volunteers.

[Check out the TIE FB page](#)
[Or the TIE webpage.](#)

Business After Hours

will be hosted by **Berkshire Hathaway Home Services** on **Thursday, April 6** from 5 to 7pm.

82nd Annual Ennis 4th of July Parade Theme: "Ropin' and Reelin"

Summer is right around the corner and the planning for this event is already in the works!

We need your participation!

1. Artists please submit your art for a chance to be on the 2017 4th of July T shirt. Deadline April 30.

[Art Submission Form](#)

2. Get your group together to be in the parade and fill out a parade entry form. Deadline June 29

[Parade Entry Form](#)

3. And lastly, we are now taking bids for the T shirt sponsor!

Contact Abi King at 682-4288 or info@ennischamber.com for more information and visit the [4th of July Parade webpage](#)

Ennis Chamber Board Meeting All

Chamber members are welcome to attend the Board of Directors meeting on **Wednesday, April 5** from 8-10 am at the First Madison Valley Bank. If you wish to add an item to the agenda please call the Chamber office at 406-682-4388 or email info@ennischamber.com

2017 Chamber Board

John Way - President (The Tackle Shop)
K Mita-Vice President (Braggin' Rights Guns)
Amanda Nelsen - Treasurer (Agency Insurance)
Bill Mercer (RE/Max Mountain Property)
Russ Whitacre (Ennis Lions Club)
Ron Gay (ERA Landmark)
Shanna Swanson (Shanna Mae Photography)
Danica Lewis (Willie's Distillery)

Event Calendars

For the most up to date activities and events during the month please visit the below links. If you have events that you would like to be

of market dominance and dependability with BHHSMT having over \$708 million in sales volume and 2,371 transaction sides in 2016 alone. The BHHS Website is now translated into 14 languages, reaching five continents, 37 countries and over 70 Websites world wide.

The local Ennis office is 15 diverse agents strong with over 193 years of combined real estate experience. We have best-in-class marketing and technology platforms at our finger tips to give you the advantages that no other competitor can hope to match. We are committed as a team to provide you with a real estate transaction experience that is effective, efficient, and enjoyable.

We are dedicated to serving our local Ennis Community and all of Southwest Montana. Please let us know how we can serve you!

What has the Chamber been up to?

THE DAILY ADMINISTRATIVE STUFF:

- **Phone calls, emails, and visitors:** Even though it has been a little slower than I imagine June and July are, I get quite a few calls, emails, and visitors. Inquiries range from dates for events, tanning beds, to general information about Ennis. I have started contacting businesses when their particular business was inquired about or mentioned. Hopefully I can keep that up in the summer as well.
- **Reorganizing computer and hard files:** We all have our own way of doing things, so I have been slowly organizing the filing cabinet and the computer files to make them work for me. This will be an ongoing process...
- **Visitor Center Window Displays:** We are filling the weeks with folks who want to promote their businesses in the Visitors Center windows. As expected, everyone wants the summer months. We do still have some time frames available.
- **Business After Hours:** We did pretty good to get every month (except January and July) in 2017 filled up with members wanting to host Business After Hours. We are already working on the 2018 schedule. I am excited to see businesses eager to host and to learn more about them.

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP:

- **Processing membership dues:** Membership dues were coming in pretty regularly, they are starting to slow down now. We currently have 149 members. Keep them coming!
- **Updating Member information:**

added to the Chamber events calendar, please send them to info@ennischamber.com

www.ennischamber.com

<http://www.southwestmt.com/calendarofevents/>

www.outpostevents.net

Chamber

Merchandise



Note Cards

2012 parade T-shirt design by local artist Sherry Gold was such a huge success, and with the help of an anonymous donor, the Chamber was afforded the rights to reproduce the Main Street Ennis image. We have 4x5 cards tastefully wrapped for purchase in the Visitor's Center.

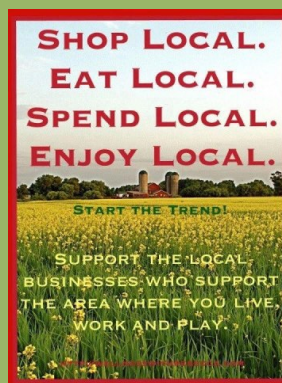
1 card = \$2.00 or
5 cards = \$10

Sale Items:

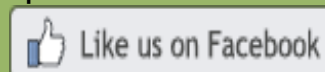
We have various products from our local non-profits and T shirts from previous events. Stop by the Chamber to check them out.

Ennis Chamber Cash

Keep it local by using the Ennis Chamber of Commerce's "Chamber Cash" which is specially designed anti-copy currency produced in \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations and can be used at any one of the participating businesses for full face value. It's like a gift card to the town of Ennis! You may purchase and get reimbursed for Chamber Cash at the Chamber Visitor Center.



Remember to like us on Facebook and to check us out for community and event updates!



Contact information and member profile information for the Chamber website is continually being updated. Although I try to keep up with it, I appreciate when folks call to let me know something needs to be edited on the website.

- **Trying to recruit more members!**
- **Updating the Chamber Event Calendar and the SW Mt Website Event Calendar:** I've been able to get quite a few events on both of these calendars. I can find many pertinent events from previous years to update on the calendars, but I also really appreciate getting events from members to post as well.

DEVELOPING A 2017 BUDGET: Thank goodness for our treasurer! We have been working together to get a budget finalized for 2017 and just need to have it approved by the Board of Directors.

ADVERTISING:

- **Ennis Tourism Brochure:**
I recently approved the proof for the 2017 Ennis Tourism Brochure. This has involved collecting payment and ad content from members to get it to the printing company and finalize the brochure. As of March 31, the new brochures have arrived! Chamber members, please come by and pick some up for your business.
- **Fly Fish America Magazine Ad:** The Chamber reserved 4 pages that will feature the town of Ennis and its businesses in the spring edition of the Fly Fish America Magazine. It was a really unique opportunity to advertise as a community in this magazine that reaches up to 150,000 readers online and in print. We look forward to seeing the feature in the magazine by May.
- **Other Advertising Opportunities:** We include a Chamber ad in the Destination Yellowstone Magazine and participate in Radio ads and digital advertising through Outside Bozeman for our Chamber sponsored events.

EVENT PLANNING: Our first Chamber sponsored event is the Tap into Ennis Brew and Spirit Fest on May 20. I've been busy seeking sponsors, participants, and volunteers for this event. I have also started my "to dos" for the 4th of July Parade. We have committees for these events that are made up of different people, many who are well versed in all planning aspects, so that is very helpful. We meet frequently and slowly start crossing off our to do list.

MEETING, MEETINGS, MEETINGS: Besides the above mentioned event specific committee meetings and our monthly Board of Directors meetings, we have also been to a couple of



You can pay membership and purchase merchandise on line at the chamber website and pay with credit card via PayPal.

meetings hosted by the Madison County Economic Development Council to discuss and create ways to improve our downtown business area.

In March, we had the pleasure of having Mayor Larry Pine at our Board of Directors Meeting. We look forward to his attendance at our meetings from now on to offer more connectivity between the Chamber and the Town.

In addition, the Board Members are all very busy people, yet they are essentially my supervisors. Meetings are important for me to have all of them together to ensure regular communication and feedback.