

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.

December 2017

Ennis Chamber of Commerce

Newsletter



Happy Holidays



Dear Chamber Members,

It has now been four long years from the day that I took over my role as President of the Ennis Chamber of Commerce. As I look back on these years, the challenging times of this position jump out, but what resonates more than the challenges, are the successful days the Chamber has had.

The creation and overall success of the Tap Into Ennis Brew and Spirit Fest as our first event of the year, streamlining the 4th of July parade management, the adoption of the Fly Fishing Festival, an increase in membership, fireworks stand, scholarships, flower baskets, more advertising opportunities

for members, a strong Board of Directors, and a fiscally responsible budget. While all of these might be bullet points of success, what I most remember about them is that others are more responsible than I am. Our hard working Board members, volunteers, and especially our great Executive Director, are solely accredited with this success. The number of hours given by the Board alone to make our events happen is staggering and goes unnoticed. It is this collection of people that make the Chamber successful and I am proud to say that I am part of this great team.

QUICK LINKS

www.ennischamber.com

www.southwestmt.com

www.visitmt.com

www.virginiacity.com

www.ennismontana.org

www.backroadtoyellowstone.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check out the Chamber's [event calendar](#) or [Norris Hot Springs, Gravel Bar](#), and [Willie's Distillery](#) websites for details on live music every week!

Shedhorn Sports 4th Annual Ladies Night December 10, 4 to 6 PM,
At Shedhorn Sports, 103 Main St.

Madison Valley Medical Center Cancer Support Group December 12 (second Tuesday of every month), 6 PM to 7:30 PM. Cancer survivors, newly diagnosed cancer patients, and family and friends are welcome at Moonlight Basin Building. Contact: Lisa Brubaker 406-670-4546.

Ennis Town Commission Meeting December 14, 7 PM at Ennis Town Hall.

Blue Moon Saloon Christmas Dance December 16, 8:45 to 9:45 PM at Blue Moon Saloon, Cameron.

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)
Shanna Swanson (Shanna Mae Photography)
Danica Lewis (Black Diamond Estate Services)

Lisa Carruthers (McAllister Inn and Lodging)

Event Calendars

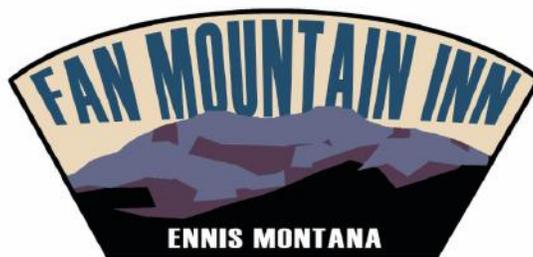
For the most up to date activities and

The Chamber is pointed in the right direction and all are pulling on the same rope. Our incoming President, Mr. K Mita, is extremely resourceful and will continue to push ahead. A great Board and a wonderful Director surround Mr. Mita. There is great work being done on the Downtown Ennis Committee, our Marketing Committee, as well as partner projects dealing with housing. From the day I joined the Chamber my focus has always been the same. I am not as concerned with my slice of the pie I am more concerned with making the pie bigger so that every slice is larger. Right now our pie is growing.

My work in Helena, as Chairman of the Montana Board of Outfitters, has taken up most of my discretionary time but I look forward to still serving as a Chamber Board member and being on the team. Thank you all for your time, trust, and this great opportunity.

~John Way

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS December 7



Join Fan Mountain Inn and 3 Rivers Communications for this month's Business After Hours from 5-7 PM on Thursday, December 7 and help them celebrate a tradition! They have been co-hosting the December BAH for at least 5 years!

Joel and Sherri bought Fan Mountain Inn in 2001 and the Inn is open year round. Come and meet our managers, Duncan and Melanie Hedges, who have returned to Ennis with their family and enjoy goodies from the Pie

events during the month please visit the below links. If you have events that you would like to be added to the Chamber events calendar, please send them to: info@ennischamber.com

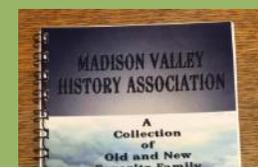
www.ennischamber.com

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

www.outpostevents.net

Chamber Merchandise 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.



have returned to Ennis with their family and enjoy the Pic a Nic Basket

3 Rivers Communications has been providing telephone service to rural Montana for 65 years. Over the years as technology has progressed we have evolved and now offer broadband Internet and digital TV. In addition to these services we can help you improve your communications to your customers with business phone systems and expanded internet options. We're happy to partner with Fan Mountain Inn and kick off the Holiday season at the December Business After Hours. Stop by to say "Hi" and enter the drawing for an Echo Dot.

This is a FREE networking event open to all Chamber members and their guests (be sure to bring a friend!). Come visit, talk shop, share news in the area, and exchange business cards and brochures!



The Spirit of Christmas Stroll Schedule of Events December 8

Look for the schedule in next week's newspaper too!

8AM - 5PM * Trezn Salon Annual Food Bank Drive! Bring in 3 cans of food and receive a free gift! Enjoy drinks, treats, and sign up for awesome gift drawings all day long!

8AM - 8PM * The Tackle Shop Storewide sales of 10% off everything as well as whiskey and eggnog for adults and Christmas cookies for kids. We will be playing National Lampoons Christmas vacation on the television.

10AM - 5PM * Gallery 287 Suckers for the kids and a 6"x6" original oil painting of a horse will be the door prize for the adults. Come check out the gallery and enter to win the door prize!

10AM - 8PM * Plain Janes Deck the Halls with 25% off everything and homemade mulled cider.

10AM - 8PM * Willie's Distillery Get a delicious Peppermint Hot Chocolate with our peppermint infused Montana Moonshine. We will be giving out \$10 gift cards for every \$100 spent, and we will be doing a raffle, winner announced on Saturday!

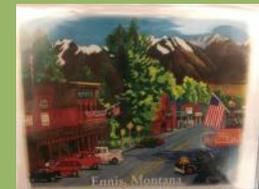
11:30AM - 1PM * Ennis True Value and Mountain View TV & Satellite Annual fundraiser for the Food Bank - Hot dog BBQ - \$1 Donation - in front of True Value.

3PM - 5PM * Ice Sculpture Contest Judging by the public. Ballots can be picked up and turned in at Ennis Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club Park. Turn in ballots by 7PM. Ice sculptures are at Lions Club Park and throughout Main St (locations detailed on the ballot).

3PM - 6PM * River Dogs Stop by for cookie decorating!

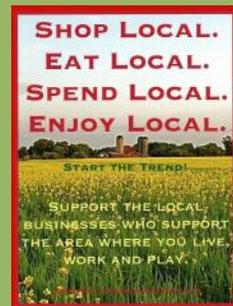
3PM - 6PM * Jack Daugherty Insurance Stop in for some holiday cheer! Gift basket drawings, drinks, and finger foods around a fire pit!

3PM - 7PM * Gravel Bar Ski and Skate Swap. Drop off sale items from 10AM - 2PM on Thursday or Friday then shop from 3PM - 7PM on Friday. *30% of the proceeds benefit the Virginia City Ice Rink.

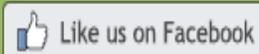


Ennis Chamber Cash

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!



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

3PM - 7PM * Gravel Bar Purchase your Jack Creek Road pass. Bring a complete application. Find it at ennischamber.com.

3PM - 7ish PM (until we run out) * Madison Valley Public Library (Conference Room) Stop by for stories, crafts, cookies and hot chocolate!

3PM - 8PM * Girl Scouts Christmas caroling throughout Main Street.

3PM - 8PM * The Wellness Center located in the Lone Elk Mall will have Gift Certificates for Massage and they come with Aromatherapy Bath Salts. Featuring handcrafted healing stone jewelry by Sarah Gerron. Serving homemade soups & breads for strollers.

3PM - 8PM * RE/MAX Mountain Property Stop in for treats, hot cocoa!

4PM - 6PM * Berkshire Hathaway Stop by for children's crafts!

4PM - 7PM * The Gift Barn Christmas cheer & great gifts for the holidays! Our espresso bar will be open for business, so please stop in!

4PM - 8PM * FREE Horse-drawn hay rides Pick up/drop off at Plain Janes parking lot and Lions Club Park - Sponsored by Ennis Chamber of Commerce, Fan Mountain Inn, The Pic a Nic Basket, My Home in Montana, and The Tackle Shop. Thank you Sponsors!

4PM - 8PM * Ennis Trading Post Holiday Minute to Win It Game. Come challenge a friend, a stranger, or yourself in a minute of holiday fun! Winners will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a prize! And we'll have live models 5-8 PM.

4PM - 8PM * Ennis Pharmacy Get your picture taken with Santa and then pick them up the next day.

4PM - 8PM * Nacho Mama's Chili Dinner 50% off, proceeds go to the Ennis Food Bank!

4PM - 8 PM * The Nearly New Shoppe will remain open for extended hours, stop by for cookies and a hot beverage! Provided by the MV Women's Club.

4:30PM - 8PM * First Madison Valley Bank Dressed in Holiday Style, Mason & Amber Hamilton will fill the air with Christmas Greetings in song as they stroll in and out of the Ennis Main Street businesses.

5 PM * Main Street Business Christmas decoration judging. Let's see you go all out!

5PM * Lions Club Tree lighting at Lions Club Park.

5PM - 8PM * The Pic-a-Nic Basket Customer Appreciation Open House.

5:30PM - 6PM * Meet this year's Christmas Stroll Button artist, Sky Keller, at the Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center!

5PM-9PM * El Western Outdoor Christmas Light Display - Drive on by!

6PM * Madison Wranglers 4H Club Live nativity scene at First Madison Valley Bank.



Winning Button Design by Sky Keller-5th Grade

Every year the Ennis Chamber of Commerce hosts an art contest among students in the Ennis Schools for the design of the year's Christmas Stroll button. The 2017 winning artist is 5th grader, Sky Keller, who will receive \$50 in Chamber Cash and her art on at least 100 buttons. Congratulations Sky!! The buttons are sold for \$2 each and 100% of the sales benefit a local charity. This year, the profits will be donated to Ennis Schools K-8 Enrichment Fund. The fund is used for activities such as art programs, guest lecturers, and field trips.

The Chamber would like to thank Stephanie Hess for getting all the art work together, Corinna Christensen for all of your time and effort for making the buttons, and all of the businesses that have volunteered to sell the buttons. We couldn't have pulled it off without you!

We have temporarily run out of buttons, but by **Wednesday, December 6** you can get your button at the Ennis Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center or at any of the following businesses:

- Plain Jane's
- Benjie's
- The Pharmacy
- Shedhorn Sports

- Sheehorn Sports
- Madison River Fishing Company
- Ennis Trading Post
- My Home In Montana
- The Madison Valley Library
- The Pic a Nic Basket
- The Tackle Shop
- True Value Hardware

Come by the Ennis Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center and meet Sky during the Christmas Stroll from 5:30 to 6PM!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The Lazy Marketer's Guide To Facebook Posts

Aka: How to Schedule Posts on Facebook



Facebook is a powerful marketing tool for every business. It creates top-of-mind awareness that often leads to sales.

But, as I've heard so often, it's just another chore to do on a busy day of running a business. Agreed.

So how do you maintain a robust Facebook

presence without adding to your daily to-do list? Scheduled posts.

It's easy, here's how to do it.

1. Carve out 1-2 hours of time per month to do Facebook posts.
2. This is often the hardest step. Decide if you want to post weekly, daily, or on certain days of the week. Assemble images and ideas for posts for the coming month.
3. Log in to your Facebook business page. If you do not have a business page, [here are the steps to get one](#).
4. Create your first post. An image with 1-4 sentences works best.
5. Before clicking the publish button, notice the downward pointing arrow in the right portion of the publish button. Click the arrow. This brings up options for publishing your post, Schedule, Backdate, and Save Draft. Choose Schedule.
6. With the Schedule window open, select a time and date for your post to publish. Studies show posting between 1-4 pm can bring the highest engagement rates.
7. Click the Schedule button, and you're done! Your post will be live on the date and time you selected.

You can edit or review your scheduled posts easily. At the top of your recent posts, you'll see the number of scheduled posts for your page with a link to view them. Click 'view posts,' and you'll be taken to a page that lists your upcoming posts. Should you need to edit a post, click the post and it will open. Next, click the edit to edit the post. Should you need to reschedule the post, click the down arrow beside edit and choose re-schedule.

You can schedule up to 6 months worth of posts. Scheduled Facebook posts are a great way to set it and forget it while keeping in touch with your customers.



Montana Department of **LABOR & INDUSTRY**

The Federal Bonding program has placed over 50,000 at-risk job seekers into employment through fidelity bonds. For more information on this program call Job Service Boze man at 406-582-9200.

Job Service is a proud member of the Ennis Chamber of Commerce!