

# Community Issues Report

First Quarter 2011

KTVM (K42BZ-TV) Bozeman, MT

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## Topics of Focus:

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1. Crime and Safety
  2. Economy / Economic Recovery
  3. Education
  4. Health / Healthcare
  5. Housing / Homelessness
  6. Jobs / Employment
  7. Politics
  8. Substance Abuse / DUIs
  9. Taxes / Government Spending
  10. Weather
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Montana Today

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**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>Today was the first day in office for many elected officials around the state. Up in the flathead region, the new sheriff made quite a statement. Flathead County Sheriff Chuck Curry cleaned house and replaced most of the Department's top brass. He says it's just part of the change that comes when a new sheriff moves in. Some of those affected: the head of patrol and the head of the Detectives Division. He's also requiring all deputies move to a five day work week. They used to pull 4- ten hour days. Curry says his office will also try to better communicate with the public. <i>See also Politics.</i></p>	03/03/11 0:36 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>Avalanche danger is still high in northwest Montana, and in west central-Montana, the danger is moderate. At least four avalanches hit the area north of Hungry Horse Dam over the weekend, killing one person. Bruce Lee Unitch was snowmobiling when he was caught in the snow slide. A search group had packed in the tools they needed for a possible rescue, but Unitch couldn't be saved. It is important it is to be prepared. Avalanche danger is considerable to moderate in southwest Montana. For more information, visit our website, nbcmontana.com. We'll keep you updated with the latest alerts and warnings. <i>See also Weather.</i></p>	01/11/11 0:50 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>Flathead National Forest officials are worried that as the temperatures rise and the snow melts, we could have the perfect recipe for avalanches. Warmer temperatures and increased precipitation in the form of rain and freezing rain and snow build an unstable layer. Folks need to be aware of that and be very responsible and prepared. <i>See also Weather.</i></p>	01/13/11 0:26 VO/SOT
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>Recent weather conditions have pushed avalanche danger to "high" in the Flathead. Folks headed into the back country are encouraged to plan ahead and test their equipment. The Flathead National Forest created a park where you can test your avalanche beacon. It's located at Whitefish Mountain Resort. When you come to the park you can turn on beacons under the snow. Beacons would typically be strapped on someone's body. Once you locate the beacon you use the probe to find it. <i>See also Weather.</i></p>	01/19/11 1:33 PKG

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

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<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The government starts phasing out the color coded Terrorist Alert System today and integrating a new system for alerts. The five-tiered color code system ranks the terror threat from low-danger green, to high alert-red. It was created after the September 11th attacks. Homeland Security secretary Janet Napolitano is expected to announce that the system will be discarded by April 17th and will be replaced by a new system that will use the media to inform the public about travel alerts and other notices the government deems important for the general population.	01/27/11 0:38 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The start of the shipment "Megaloads" marks the end of a long legal and political battle to stop them. The shipments began last night at eleven. They'll cross Idaho on Highway 12, and come into Montana over Lolo pass - they should be here by Friday night. These loads slowly make their way across Idaho and into Montana and to their final destination of billings. The big rigs are the topic of our Question of the Week: we want to know, should big rigs be allowed to transport oil equipment down Highway 12 through Idaho and Montana? Log onto nbcmontana.com to vote and leave a comment. <i>See also Politics.</i>	02/02/11 1:53 PKG
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Ford Motor Company Is recalling nearly 365, 000 F-150 pickup trucks in North America. About 280,000 of those are in the United States. The automaker is recalling 2010 and 2009 model years to fix a spring in the interior door handles that could cause the doors to open during in a crash. The F-series pickups are usually the best-selling vehicles in the United States.	02/04/11 0:25 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The Big Rigs will finally move again tonight after being stuck in northern Idaho all weekend. A winter storm moved through the area, leaving the Mega load of refinery equipment at a standstill. The shipment is expected to start moving again tomorrow night, traveling a 52-mile leg before stopping about five miles east of the Lochsa Ranger Station. The tree-story, 226-foot-long truck only moves at night and is the first of four loads heading to a Conoco Phillips refinery in Billings. Conoco-Phillips put up a phone number to so people can track the progress of the	02/07/11 0:45 VO

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

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	shipments. We have all the information on our website nbcmontana.com.	
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Flathead County is changing its open burning policy. Open burning season starts March 1, 2011, but if you plan to burn this year it'll cost you \$10 for the permit, good for the whole year. You'll also have to tell officials what day you plan to burn. The changes are meant to help Flathead County better track controlled burns and hopefully save money by cutting down on unnecessary emergency calls.	02/09/11 0:28 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Snowfall this season caused Missoula to blow through its plowing budget. Right now the City's about 100,000 over budget. And winter certainly isn't over yet. Officials at City Hall say this is Missoula's worst winter in 15 years. Administrators hoped they wouldn't go more than 100-thousand dollars over budget, but they're already there. Departments in the General Fund cut about 1 percent to cover the shortfall. Heavy snow drained Kalispell's plow budget too. Kalispell's City Manager says its already gone through its plow budget for the whole year. The City wants residents to know safety's still a priority and the city will draw money from other funds to keep the streets clear. City leaders could also choose not to pick up snow berms as a way to save money. <i>See also Govt. Spending.</i>	02/11/11 1:12 VO/SOT
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Some residents west of Bozeman say a growing traffic problem is making the area unsafe for local neighborhoods. Residents of Four Corners want to see better sidewalks, bike lanes, and a stop light at one of the major intersections in that area. Kids and parents walk area roads to nearby schools every day, but residents say it's time to find solutions to a growing problem. The group is holding a meeting tonight at Monforton School starting at 6-pm. They're inviting the public to bring ideas for improvements.	02/15/11 0:49 VO/SOT/TAG
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A renewed push by Missoula bicycling advocates to put bike lanes on 5th and sixth streets. Cyclists say they have to share lanes with vehicles that are traveling too fast between Higgins and Russell. They suggest reducing fifth and sixth down to one	02/15/11 0:28 VO

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	lane for vehicles, and adding a bike lane. Last night the Missoula Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board told the City Council they support this recommendation.	
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	There are no reports of any major overnight accidents so far, but troopers say to be careful. This combination of snow, ice, and wind can create life threatening conditions. If you get stuck in subzero conditions, you're in danger, so plan ahead if you're traveling today. If you're driving in a blizzard, you are a danger not only to yourself, but also to others. Mountain passes will continue to be some of the nastiest stretches of highway, so make sure you've got warm clothes, food, and water if you're going to get behind the wheel. <i>See also Weather and Safety.</i>	02/24/11 0:55 VO/SOT
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Crews in Missoula begin preparing for the Conoco Mega loads to make their way through the city. Early this morning crews removed the Van Buren signs on 1-90 west by mile marker 104 because they would block the big rigs' route. Traffic was down to one lane on each side of the highway. Crews plan to breakdown a total of four signs to allow for the mega loads to come through. Today crews will remove the van burn signs at exit 105.	03/01/11 0:28 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Here are a few facts on preparations crews will be working on once the mega loads reach Missoula. They'll remove traffic signals using two methods. Detaching and swinging the mast arm that extends over the street out of the way, or taking down the mast arm all traffic signals will be replaced immediately once the mega loads pass through. Temporary traffic controls will be out. Crews estimate it will take four weeks for each part of the mega loads to travel from the Montana border to billings.	03/03/11 0:33 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The National Park Service reports signs of hungry grizzly bears in Yellowstone National Park. Park employees spotted fresh bear tracks Tuesday. That means hibernation season is over, and the bears are looking for food. Officials say grizzlies usually look for elk and bison carcasses when they come out of their dens. They can sometimes react aggressively if they're caught off guard. Park officials recommend anyone in the park travel in	03/07/11 0:35 VO

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	groups of three or more, make noise and keep an eye out for those hungry bears.	
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Missoula hair salon wants to make sure women, especially those who are or want to be pregnant aren't exposed to too much mercury. Boomswagger will test women's hair for mercury next week. We've got information on nbcmontana.com. Experts say fish like lake trout, brown trout and shark have some of the highest levels. High levels of mercury can interfere with brain development in infants and small children. The body stores it and women pass it on to their fetus. Here are some facts on mercury levels in fish: smaller fish have less mercury in them than larger fish. Young children, nursing mothers and women of childbearing age are at the greatest risk. Mercury levels in Montana fish are generally low, but can build up if you eat fish on a frequent basis	03/31/11 0:54 VO
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Experts predict that a weak dollar and rising demand will push oil prices up on top off the 15-percent jump at the end of last year. Analysts predict global demand will reach record levels in 2011, adding up to prices over three dollars a gallon in the U.S.	01/07/11 0:36 VO/SOT
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Economists say a turnaround in consumer spending over the holidays may be just the boost the economy needs. They call it a "virtuous cycle" when higher consumer spending raises company profits, which in turn spur hiring and more spending and growth. Consumer spending is critical because it powers about 70 percent of the economy. <i>See also Jobs.</i>	01/11/11 0:22 VO
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	The Bozeman old navy store will close January 26th. It's unknown how many people will lose their jobs at that location. We called the missoula store. They say it's site specific and there are no plans to close the Missoula location. <i>See also Jobs.</i>	01/11/11 0:20 VO
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Montana officials think the job market is improving, however, experts are noticing a change in trends. The Montana Department of Labor saw a drop in construction and housing jobs. The sectors showing growth include health care and education. In 2005, 13.3 percent of all new job openings in Montana were in health and education. In 2009, that number	01/11/11 0:29 VO

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	jumped to 17 point 7 percent. Experts think it has to do with the state's aging population. <i>See also Healthcare, Education, Jobs.</i>	
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Less than a year after Macy's shuttered its historic downtown Missoula store, new owners are set to take over. Virginia-based Octagon Partners closed on the building on Friday. News of the purchase ends months of speculation about what will happen with the former downtown retail anchor. Octagon Partners specializes in restoring old buildings in college towns. Company bosses scouted out 45 college towns around the country before deciding on this, their first purchase in Montana. They will gut the building, but keep its appearance, history and its old name, the Missoula Mercantile, alive. The company is still working on specific plans for the building, but is actively searching for retail and office tenants and may develop residential units on the top floor. News of the purchase is hoped to boost business in Downtown. Octagon Partners says a full historic restoration takes 10 to 12 months.	01/11/11 1:57 PKG
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Economists expect 2011 to be a big year for Montana's farming and ranching industries, and if it's anything like 2010, it could mean another \$3-billion dollar year. Unlike many other industries that took a tumble in the recession, experts have noticed farming and ranching standing strong in Montana. Agriculture has historically been the stabilizing effect on Montana's economy. It isn't highly correlated with the rest of the economic trends. Farmers credit a couple of years of increased precipitation throughout the state and stable pricing. It not only has impacts on farmers and ranchers, it has impacts on everyone from machinery dealerships to the fertilizer dealer, to people buying cars, and all the way throughout the economy.	01/17/11 1:44 PKG
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Governor Schweitzer's fourth and final "State of the State" speech on Wednesday revealed that he will back bills from lawmakers that focus on jobs and the economy. Much of his time at the podium was spent highlighting past accomplishments and the state's envied financial health. He pointed to a \$330-million balance in the state's bank accounts, credited state employees for improved efficiency, and acknowledged improvements in	01/27/11 0:38 VO

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	Montana's bond rating. The Governor also spotlighted Montana business development in mining, manufacturing and energy, each time, counting off the number of jobs added to Montana's payroll. <i>See also Politics.</i>	
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	The recession's deep job cuts seem to have ended. The outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas says that in January, companies announced plans to trim fewer than 39,000 jobs, 46% fewer than a year earlier and the lowest number since the firm began keeping track in 1993. Finding a job is still a struggle for the unemployed as businesses likely won't hire until they feel more confident about the economy. <i>See also Jobs.</i>	02/07/11 0:19 VO
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	The head of General Motors said China will play a bigger role in the company's plans as it moves to capitalize further on the world's largest auto market. GM Chief Executive Officer Daniel Akerson held a news conference today in Beijing and during it he said that china was central to the company's global strategy. GM sold more cars and trucks in China last year than it did in the US for the first time in the company's 102-year history. The CEO states that China is a unique market sitting in what I think is probably the highest growth area over the next ten, twenty, 30 years that being Asia, and China being the epicenter of that growth.	02/15/11 0:30 VO/SOT
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Senator Jon Tester hosted a Small Business Opportunity Workshop in Missoula yesterday. It's for entrepreneurs looking for ways to implement good ideas. Business people from all over the country offered advice on starting and growing businesses. A "Buy Local Program" helped Big Dipper Ice Cream grow in Missoula and Helena. The store also uses social media to attract and inform its customers.	02/24/11 0:28 VO
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	About 135 workers in Helena are likely have steady positions for 20 years, now that the air force has awarded Boeing a \$35 billion contract to build its next fleet of refueling tankers. Summit Aeronautics in Helena makes the main 'landing gear beams' for 767 wide-body jetliners. Boeing acquired the plant in November. The defense contract was announced Thursday.	02/28/11 0:25 VO

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Missoula Mayor John Engen opened the doors of the new Garlington building to senator Jon Tester. Construction of the building started in 2009. The building was financed from a New Market Tax Credit designed to boost economic development in Missoula. Tester was especially impressed with the views from the top floor and the state of the art video conference room and stated that Missoula is "getting very very aggressive on recruitment of businesses and they know you have to have good infrastructure if you're going to be able to recruit businesses into the region and I applaud their efforts. I think they are going to be successful, what this building is is just a sign of good solid infrastructure to help recruit business to the Missoula area." See also Taxes.	03/07/11 0:26 VO
<b>Education</b>	The University of Montana wants to build a \$16 million biomass boiler. Right now the campus uses three natural gas boilers housed inside this building, but the new heat source could cut the campus' use of natural gas by more than 60-percent. The University still needs to take the first step toward getting the new boiler approved. That means they'll ask the Department of Environmental Quality what permits are require and how it will affect air quality in the valley. The biomass boiler will emit a certain amount of pollution that will need to be taken into account.	01/07/11 0:29 VO
<b>Education</b>	Montana officials think the job market is improving, however, experts are noticing a change in trends. The Montana Department of Labor saw a drop in construction and housing jobs. The sectors showing growth include health care and education. In 2005, 13.3 percent of all new job openings in Montana were in health and education. In 2009, that number jumped to 17 point 7 percent. Experts think it has to do with the state's aging population. <i>See also Healthcare, Jobs, Economy.</i>	01/11/11 0:29 VO
<b>Education</b>	Florence High School Administration isn't too happy with the way students have been dancing, so they decided to give them lessons. More than 200 students got step-by-step directions	01/25/11 0:32 VO/SOT

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	from community dance instructors in Salsa and Swing dance. The students also got a lesson in how to work with a partner, and had a little fun while they were doing it.	
<b>Education</b>	Some University of Montana students think a financial company partnered with the school is ripping them off. Administrators wanted to get rid of paper checks for financial aid, so the University signed on with a private financial services company called "Higher One." The deal lets students sign up for accounts where financial aid refunds are directly deposited instead of waiting for a paper check. It's estimated to save s the U.M. \$25,000 a year. But some worry students will fall victim to hidden fees with the cards. University Officials counter that this is the best option for students because it gives them quick easy access to money compared to waiting weeks for a check.	02/04/11 0:35 VO/SOT/TAG
<b>Education</b>	Some western Montanans can save some extra dough on tax preparations this year. The IRS and University of Montana joined up to help people who make under \$49,000 each year. They'll file returns for free every Saturday until March 12th. The IRS provided computers with tax software. Each student went through training and took an IRS exam in order to help. Organizers say they help over 600 people with tax returns each year. <i>See also Taxes.</i>	02/07/11 0:28 VO
<b>Education</b>	Montana Tech Administrators will crack down on cheating at the Butte College. Apparently, an increasing number of students reporting cheating caused the decision. Faculty members started having extra teaching assistants in classrooms during exams. They're also using software to detect plagiarism. Administrators worry the cheating will reduce the value of a degree from the school.	02/07/11 0:26 VO
<b>Education</b>	In May, voters will decide whether to renew the high school and elementary school levies. The elementary building reserve levy is worth \$2.5 million. The high school worth a little over \$3 million. Meetings are scheduled on Wednesday at Sentinel High and Thursday at Lowell Elementary. All meetings start at 7 and end at 8:30. <i>See also Govt. Spending.</i>	02/15/11 0:51 VO/SOT/TAG

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Education</b>	<p>Crews are working to clean up the mess after close to 2,700 gallons of water flooded glacier high school. It soaked 11 rooms at the school around 2 pm Saturday. Workers stayed throughout Saturday night and will continue until everything is restored. Officials believe the cold winter weather froze a pipe in one of its conference rooms. Water flooded five classrooms on the second floor. It came through the ceiling and damaged five administrative offices and the special education quarters. There is no estimate yet on how much this will cost. School will resume tomorrow, but students will be in temporary spaces.</p>	<p>02/28/11 0:43 VO/SOT/TAG</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Montana Governor Schweitzer urged Montana high school students to think "green" when choosing their careers. The "green con" meeting's designed to get students to think outside box.. The Governor met with 150 high school students from across the state and talked about wind and solar energy, and the future, telling them that "it's not politicians that change the world its ideas and innovators its engineers that change the world - and so if I can do one thing in Montana it would be to convince a whole generation to be scientists to be engineers to create a new energy system so that we're no longer dependent on these dictators in the middle east." <i>See also Employment.</i></p>	<p>03/11/11 0:34 VO/SOT</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Montana State University's President wants school employees to weigh in on a decision to ban tobacco from the Bozeman campus. Over 61 percent of students approved the ban in a vote Wednesday. The University's President wants more people involved in the conversation. She's also asked students to present more information about the vote to the faculty, senate, staff senate and professional council.</p>	<p>03/14/11 0:24 VO</p>
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>For those who resolved to quit smoking in the new year ... Prescription medication may be the help their brain needs to fight powerful nicotine cravings. Researchers at UCLA studied the brains of smokers attempting to quit while taking the medications Chantix or Wellbutrin -- drugs proven to help people kick the habit. They found those taking the drugs had reduced activity in areas of the brain linked to cravings and</p>	<p>01/03/11 0:35 VO</p>

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	reward. The researchers say their study shows the drugs change the way the brain reacts to smoking triggers, making it easier for people to quit.	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Missoula Chamber of Commerce is holding the 14th Annual Chamber Health Fair. The purpose is to educated the community about ways to improve their health. For more information call Amanda Henry at 880-1025.	01/05/11 1:41 Interview
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	The House Rules Committee had to temporarily stop work on the Health Care Repeal Bill yesterday when it was discovered that one of its members, Congressman Pete Sessions of Texas, wasn't officially sworn in. He and another Republican cast half a dozen votes yesterday before the discrepancy was discovered. <b><i>See also Politics.</i></b>	01/07/11 0:19 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Montana officials think the job market is improving, however, experts are noticing a change in trends. The Montana Department of Labor saw a drop in construction and housing jobs. The sectors showing growth include health care and education. In 2005, 13.3 percent of all new job openings in Montana were in health and education. In 2009, that number jumped to 17 point 7 percent. Experts think it has to do with the state's aging population. <b><i>See also Education, Jobs, Economy.</i></b>	01/11/11 0:29 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Critical Health Departments at one hospital in Missoula are struggling to find specialty nurses. It's particularly evident in cardiology and pediatrics departments. Those jobs require extensive education and experience, so community hospital reports some positions have been vacant for close to two years. The temporary solution has administrators hiring traveling nurses or offering special training to critical care nurses. <b><i>See also Jobs.</i></b>	1/13/11 0:30 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Too much exposure to indoor light before bedtime may affect your quality of sleep , and could pose other health risks as well. A new study finds light suppresses melatonin, a hormone produced at night. Melatonin regulates the sleep-wake cycle, and has been shown to lower blood pressure and affect glucose	01/13/11 0:47 VO

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>levels. When a group of healthy adults were exposed to room light eight hours before bed, it shortened their melatonin duration by about 90 minutes compared to those exposed to dim light. And melatonin was suppressed by more than 50-percent when they were exposed to room light during usual sleep hours. This could affect shift workers who are exposed to indoor light at night over many years.</p>	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>Two is better than one when it comes to blood pressure medications. British researchers found patients who start treatment taking two medicines together got faster results than the standard treatment of beginning with one medication and adding others later. Patients on two medicines were also less likely to stop treatment because of side effects. Researchers say these findings could change the way doctors treat hypertension in the future. Drug manufacturer Novartis played a role in the study design.</p>	01/13/11 0:35 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>One Kalispell clinic reports that it is an example of the growing health industry. The Montana Center for Wellness and Pain Management quadrupled in size since it joined Northwest Healthcare five years ago. They specialize in treating chronic pain. Nearly 20 percent of the clinic's patients come from outside the Flathead. Administrators state that Healthcare in the valley has been not only a large employer, but has been very successful as evidenced by the success of the Montana center.  <i>See also Jobs.</i></p>	01/27/11 0:21 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>Ravalli County received a \$425,000 grant to finish building a Crisis Stabilization Center in Hamilton. The money comes from the Montana Health Settlement Trust. The Center will accept involuntarily committed patients who've suffered mental breaks. Mental Health Advocate Kathleen Driscoll says the trust money will save the county from taking out a loan to finish the Center. The former Commissioner says until now, most people suffering mental breakdowns, or who were a danger to themselves or others had few alternatives. They'd end up at the state hospital, or in jail, which is more expensive. Through the years, several mentally compromised jail inmates committed suicide in Ravalli</p>	02/02/11 1:50 PKG

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	County. At the secured center, professionals will evaluate the patient's mental health, then determine what the next step should be. The stabilization center should be completed by March. <b><i>See also Govt. Spending.</i></b>	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	The Senate Judiciary Committee today will hear bills to outlaw or allow physician assisted suicide in Montana. Senator Anders Blewett of Great Falls has sponsored SB167, to allow it, Senator Greg Hinkle of Thompson Falls sponsored SB116 which prohibits it. Hinkle will also present SB169, which would add penalties for a quote "suicide predator" who assists in the suicide. Over a year ago, Montana joined Oregon and Washington in allowing physician assisted suicide. Some Montana legislators want to see regulations put in place, similar to those in the two other states. Discussions begin at 8 this morning. <b><i>See also Politics.</i></b>	02/09/11 0:46 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Michelle Obama marks the one-year anniversary of her nationwide effort to get children moving and eating healthy foods. She's spent the last 12 months practicing what she preaches. Today the First Lady will unveil a public service announcement campaign designed to provide information on healthy eating and physical activity options for children.	02/09/11 0:31 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Videos posted online highlighting self-injury behaviors may be harmful to kids, according to a new study. Videos featuring cutting or burning and other non-suicidal self-injuries are posted on websites like youTube. Researchers in Canada looked at 100 of the most popular videos on youTube and found millions of viewers rated many of those self-injury videos favorably. They say the videos may promote such behavior among youth, which can increase the risk for social and psychiatric problems and in some cases, suicidal thoughts.	02/21/11 0:38 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	More than half of parents are still giving their young children over-the-counter cold and cough medicine, despite the fact the Food and Drug Administration warns against children under the age of two using the drugs. A new poll shows over sixty percent of parents with kids ages six months to two years gave cold and	02/21/11 1:01 VO/SOT

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>cough medicine to their children within the past twelve months. Studies linking the drugs to poisonings, and sometimes death, in this young age group spurred the FDA warning. More than half of participants said their children's doctor said the drugs were safe. The poll also shows the use of these drugs was highest among African Americans and people with annual incomes less than thirty thousand dollars. Experts say there's a good chance new parents didn't know about the warning was released two years ago. However doctors should be aware and may not be passing on the information.</p>	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>A former Philip Morris research scientist, who became the first whistle-blower to reveal the tobacco industry's secrets about the dangerous health effects of tobacco, will give a talk on the campus of Montana Tech in Butte this Wednesday. Victor Denoble will speak at 1:00pm in the copper lounge of the Student Union Building. The event is free and open to the public.</p>	02/21/11 0:33 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>The Montana Council on problem gambling will offer free counseling throughout Gambling Awareness week. The council says two to three percent of Americans have a gambling problem. Officials say many gamblers don't realize they have a problem. You can visit <a href="http://nbcmontana.com">nbcmontana.com</a> for more information on the free counseling.</p>	03/07/11 0:22 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>Officials at the Bozeman Deaconess Hospital concerned about the spread of a respiratory virus are asking that children age 12 and under not visit the facility. Hospital spokeswoman Connie Martin tells the Bozeman Daily Chronicle that children are most susceptible to the virus which can lead to pneumonia.</p>	03/21/11 0:21 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>Today is the deadline for chain restaurants to post their nutritional content, such as fat, protein, and carbohydrates for standard menu items. It's part of the Federal Health Reform Bill that President Obama signed into law one year ago today.</p>	03/24/11 0:21 VO
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	<p>We've been in the midst of some pretty cold temperatures since November and unfortunately some people in Bozeman don't have anywhere to go to stay warm. Tonight city commissioners</p>	01/03/11 0:51 VO/SOT/TAG

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>are discussing whether to kick in up to 6 thousand dollars toward a temporary solution. Over the new year's weekend the Human Resources Development Council set up a temporary "warming shelter" at the Gallatin county fairgrounds which runs from 7pm to 7am. The money from the commission would ensure that the warming shelter will stay open through the end of the winter. Commissioner Chris Mehl says it's a minimal amount when you consider lives could be saved this winter. People from the Bozeman community have raised several thousand dollars to match the city's contribution.</p>	
<p><b>Housing/ Homelessness</b></p>	<p>The Bozeman City Commission voted 5 to 0 to give \$6,000 to help fund a warming shelter for the City's homeless. After a meeting that stretched into the early morning, the commission voted to give the human resource development council the money. HRDC opened a warming shelter at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds over new year's weekend. The new funding will help keep a warming center open all winter. The community is still looking for a more permanent location to house the homeless. <i>See also Govt. Spending.</i></p>	<p>01/05/11 0:31 VO</p>
<p><b>Housing/ Homelessness</b></p>	<p>The United Way has its boots on the ground trying to count the nation's homeless population. The 2011 housing status survey went out Wednesday. Every year, Sherry Stevens coordinates homeless survey centers in the flathead valley. She heads up the area's United Way and stated that the survey is critical because it helps UW know the number of people who are at risk of homelessness and people who are homeless, helping them to bring more financial resources into the community. United Way doesn't get money from the survey. Local shelters and food banks do, but, as a non-profit, United Way sees its role in the community as helping to head up volunteer efforts to count those without homes. They're asking all the homeless to come to Gateway Mall to take the survey, but, they also have volunteers out in the community. They expect more homeless surveys this year with continued economic shortfalls. The survey ends Wednesday, but, Stevens has to wait a month to see just how much federal money they'll receive.</p>	<p>01/31/11 1:47 PKG</p>

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	The government has released the first jobs numbers of 2011. Analysts expect December's report to show a healthy gain , but not enough to put a dent in the nation's unemployment rate. The first jobs numbers of the new year, according to Peter Morici, Economist at University of Maryland, The consensus is for 150,000 jobs -- that might bring unemployment down a tick to nine-point-seven percent, which is good news, but not a game changer.	01/07/11 1:24 PKG
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Economists say a turnaround in consumer spending over the holidays may be just the boost the economy needs. They call it a "virtuous cycle" when higher consumer spending raises company profits, which in turn spur hiring and more spending and growth. Consumer spending is critical because it powers about 70 percent of the economy. <i>See also Economy.</i>	01/11/11 0:22 VO
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	The Bozeman old navy store will close January 26th. It's unknown how many people will lose their jobs at that location. We called the missoula store. They say it's site specific and there are no plans to close the Missoula location. <i>See also Economy.</i>	01/11/11 0:20 VO
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Montana officials think the job market is improving, however, experts are noticing a change in trends. The Montana Department of Labor saw a drop in construction and housing jobs. The sectors showing growth include health care and education. In 2005, 13.3 percent of all new job openings in Montana were in health and education. In 2009, that number jumped to 17 point 7 percent. Experts think it has to do with the state's aging population. <i>See also Healthcare, Education, Economy.</i>	01/11/11 0:29 VO
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Critical Health Departments at one hospital in Missoula are struggling to find specialty nurses. It's particularly evident in cardiology and pediatrics departments. Those jobs require extensive education and experience, so community hospital reports some positions have been vacant for close to two years. The temporary solution has administrators hiring traveling nurses or offering special training to critical care nurses. <i>See also Healthcare.</i>	01/31/11 0:30 VO

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	One Kalispell clinic reports that it is an example of the growing health industry. The Montana Center for Wellness and Pain Management quadrupled in size since it joined Northwest Healthcare five years ago. They specialize in treating chronic pain. Nearly 20 percent of the clinic's patients come from outside the Flathead. Administrators state that Healthcare in the valley has been not only a large employer, but has been very successful as evidenced by the success of the Montana center. <b><i>See also Healthcare.</i></b>	01/27/11 0:21 VO
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	The recession's deep job cuts seem to have ended. The outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas says that in January, companies announced plans to trim fewer than 39,000 jobs, 46% fewer than a year earlier and the lowest number since the firm began keeping track in 1993. Finding a job is still a struggle for the unemployed as businesses likely won't hire until they feel more confident about the economy. <b><i>See also Economy.</i></b>	02/07/11 0:19 VO
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Montana Governor Schweitzer urged Montana high school students to think "green" when choosing their careers. The "green con" meeting's designed to get students to think outside box.. The Governor met with 150 high school students from across the state and talked about wind and solar energy, and the future, telling them that "it's not politicians that change the world its ideas and innovators its engineers that change the world - and so if I can do one thing in Montana it would be to convince a whole generation to be scientists to be engineers to create a new energy system so that we're no longer dependent on these dictators in the middle east." <b><i>See also Education.</i></b>	03/11/11 0:34 VO/SOT
<b>Politics</b>	Montana lawmakers are diving into a number of issues as the legislative session gets underway. The session started in Helena today. The session's big issue is sure to be the budget, but there are number of small issues lawmakers hope tackle in 2011. Montana's legislature will be looking at new laws for Montana's deadly alcohol problem and for medical marijuana use. Both sides agree the budget will be the biggest and hardest fought issue. Governor Schweitzer's budget includes tax cuts for homeowners and small businesses, and an increase in funding	03/03/11 1:29 PKG

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>for education. He tells NBC Montana that he is putting his faith in bi-partisan support.</p> <p>Other big issues include: making it easier for new businesses to start up in the state. Lowering worker's comp rates. The state has the highest in the nation. And trying to come up with solutions to the deadly drunk driving problem. You can follow the legislature live online...we have a link on nbcmontana. com. Plus we'll be in Helena to alert you to major decisions as they develop.</p>	
<b>Politics</b>	<p>Today was the first day in office for many elected officials around the state. Up in the flathead region, the new sheriff made quite a statement. Flathead County Sheriff Chuck Curry cleaned house and replaced most of the Department's top brass. He says it's just part of the change that comes when a new sheriff moves in. Some of those affected: the head of patrol and the head of the Detectives Division. He's also requiring all deputies move to a five day work week. They used to pull 4- ten hour days. Curry says his office will also try to better communicate with the public. <i>See also Crime and Safety.</i></p>	03/03/11 0:36 VO
<b>Politics</b>	<p>The House Rules Committee had to temporarily stop work on the Health Care Repeal Bill yesterday when it was discovered that one of its members, Congressman Pete Sessions of Texas, wasn't officially sworn in. He and another Republican cast half a dozen votes yesterday before the discrepancy was discovered. <i>See also Healthcare.</i></p>	01/07/11 0:19 VO
<b>Politics</b>	<p>A 15-year legal battle that started in Montana is over, and senator Jon Tester commemorated that Saturday in browning. More than 3 billion dollars will go to American Indians throughout the country. More than 100 years ago, the federal government passed an act that allowed it to lease out native American land.</p> <p>On behalf of more than 500 thousand native Americans, one tribal member, Eliose Cobell, sued the government, demanding money for the land they say they never received. That was in 1996. In 2010 they got their answer, a 3.4 billion dollar</p>	01/17/11 1:28 PKG

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	settlement. It will take some time before individual native Americans receive their portion, but, as Cobell says, the real fight is over. <b><i>See also Govt. Spending.</i></b>	
<b>Politics</b>	In the House, lawmakers passed a bill that would allow tougher punishment for minors who kill someone while driving under the influence. House Bill 18, introduced by Republican Janna Yaylor, of Dayton, would allow the option of charging 16 and 17 year olds with vehicular homicide. The Bill passed 67 to 33. A similar bill was passed by both houses last session but vetoed by the Governor. <b><i>See also DUIs.</i></b>	01/21/11 0:26 VO
<b>Politics</b>	Governor Schweitzer's fourth and final "State of the State" speech on Wednesday revealed that he will back bills from lawmakers that focus on jobs and the economy. Much of his time at the podium was spent highlighting past accomplishments and the state's envied financial health. He pointed to a \$330-million balance in the state's bank accounts, credited state employees for improved efficiency, and acknowledged improvements in Montana's bond rating. The Governor also spotlighted Montana business development in mining, manufacturing and energy, each time, counting off the number of jobs added to Montana's payroll. <b><i>See also Politics and Economy.</i></b>	01/27/11 0:38 VO
<b>Politics</b>	The start of the shipment "Megaloads" marks the end of a long legal and political battle to stop them. The shipments began last night at eleven. They'll cross Idaho on Highway 12, and come into Montana over Lolo pass - they should be here by Friday night. These loads slowly make their way across Idaho and into Montana and to their final destination of billings. The big rigs are the topic of our Question of the Week: we want to know, should big rigs be allowed to transport oil equipment down Highway 12 through Idaho and Montana? Log onto nbcmontana.com to vote and leave a comment. <b><i>See also Safety.</i></b>	02/02/11 1:53 PKG
<b>Politics</b>	A Republican legislative leader wants to cut the state's highest salaries to be more in line with incomes of average Montanan's. State Senator Dave Lewis of Helena proposed a ballot initiative that would cap state salaries at 200% of the median household	02/04/11 0:28 VO

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	income. Right now that would be around \$84,000. Lewis said it would affect about 240 employees and save the state a million dollars a year. <b>See also Govt. Spending.</b>	
<b>Politics</b>	The Senate Judiciary Committee today will hear bills to outlaw or allow physician assisted suicide in Montana. Senator Anders Blewett of Great Falls has sponsored SB167, to allow it, Senator Greg Hinkle of Thompson Falls sponsored SB116 which prohibits it. Hinkle will also present SB169, which would add penalties for a quote "suicide predator" who assists in the suicide. Over a year ago, Montana joined Oregon and Washington in allowing physician assisted suicide. Some Montana legislators want to see regulations put in place, similar to those in the two other states. Discussions begin at 8 this morning. <b>See also Healthcare.</b>	02/09/11 0:46 VO
<b>Politics</b>	Governor Brian Schweitzer says he's fed up with the growing wolf population. He's sent a letter to the federal government saying Montana will defy federal protections for wolves. Schweitzer has told interior secretary ken Salazar that he is encouraging livestock owners north of i-90 to shoot wolves that harass their animals, despite a federal court decision that put wolves under special, federal protections. The Governor says Montana has done everything required to regain control of the wolves and cannot wait any longer. However, environmental groups say the Governor's rogue actions will upset protections that are working. The Governor does not fear this will derail efforts to delist the wolf. Governor Schweitzer also is ordering fish wildlife and parks to stop investigating wolf shootings north of interstate 90.	02/17/11 1:25 PKG
<b>Politics</b>	The House passed a bill in Helena today that would make the endangered species act extinct in Montana. Republicans led the 61 to 39 vote. Representative Krayton Kerns, sponsor of the bill, wants the State to manage its own animals - not the federal government. Butte Representative Jon Sesso says getting rid of the Endangered Species Act would cost the State about one-billion dollars in federal funds.	02/21/11 0:33 VO

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Politics</b>	The annual Lincoln Reagan Luncheon is this Saturday at the Victor Steak house. The festivities start at eleven and will wrap up at 2pm. Main speakers include: congressman Denny Rehberg, and Steve Daines. For tickets, call 207-7630.	02/21/11 0:19 VO
<b>Politics</b>	The Montana House has endorsed two measures aimed at cracking down on illegal immigration. State lawmakers voted 52-48 to penalize businesses that hire illegal immigrants. The house also endorsed a plan on a 56-43 vote that would ban state agencies from providing services to illegal immigrants. Both of the proposed new laws will face a final vote in the house sometime today.	02/24/11 0:25 VO
<b>Politics</b>	The Montana commissioner of political practices has denied a request from the governor to throw out an ethics complaint against him. Commissioner Jennifer Hensley issued the order denying Governor Brian Schweitzer's motion last week. The complaint comes from the Montana Republican Party over Schweitzer's appearance in a public service radio ad during his 2008 campaign.	03/03/11 0:25 VO
<b>Politics</b>	Today in Helena another program goes before the senate. Attorney general Steve Bullock's "24/7" Sobriety Program passed the house on a 96-to-three vote. The program would require repeat offenders to submit breath tests daily at their own expense. Supporters say it's been effective in other states and doesn't cost the state any money.	03/03/11 0:22 VO
<b>Politics</b>	The Prescription Drug Registry Bill passed the house Saturday and will now head to the Montana Senate. The registry would provide a tool for doctors and pharmacists to prevent abuses of prescription drugs. The misuse of prescription drugs is estimated to kill over 300 Montanans a year. More than traffic accidents, murders, meth, cocaine and heroin combined. <b><i>See also Substance Abuse and Politics.</i></b>	03/28/11 0:24 VO
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	More than \$150 grand is going towards DUI prevention in Kalispell -- and while the city is excited, it has some asking how efficiently it will be use. NBC Montana rode along with the	01/05/11 1:36 PKG

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>Kalispell city police to see just how the grants will help. Kalispell city courts get 100 grand to help keep drunks off the roads...and, the police department gets another 50 thousand to work overtime on DUIs.</p> <p>But, defense attorneys think the grant puts extra pressure on cops to pull people over for small things that might not usually be noticed. Kalispell Chief Roger Nasset promises that won't happen. He credits similar state grants since the 1970's with putting a dent in Montana's drunk driving. Just this week... NBC Montana reported the number of drunk driving accidents and wrecks dropped more than 40 percent from 2009 to 2010. <b>See also Govt. Spending.</b></p>	
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	<p>In the House, lawmakers passed a bill that would allow tougher punishment for minors who kill someone while driving under the influence. House Bill 18, introduced by Republican Janna Yaylor, of Dayton, would allow the option of charging 16 and 17 year olds with vehicular homicide. The Bill passed 67 to 33. A similar bill was passed by both houses last session but vetoed by the Governor. <b>See also Politics.</b></p>	01/21/11 0:26 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	<p>Missoula has a big problem. All the snow fall is straining the Streets Department budget, particularly when it comes to paying for de-icing fluid. As of Tuesday, the City reports snow removal crews have run through about three quarters of their de-icing fluid budget, about 150-thousand dollars of their allotted 200-thousand. That's on top of already blowing through their overtime budget for plow crews. City Hall admits, Missoula can't take much more snow. City leaders hope the budget remains in the black after this very white winter. Less than 100-thousand dollars remains in the city's contingency fund...only about half the cost of re-filling the de-icer budget.</p>	01/05/11 1:36 PKG
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	<p>More than \$150 grand is going towards DUI prevention in Kalispell -- and while the city is excited, it has some asking how efficiently it will be use. NBC Montana rode along with the Kalispell city police to see just how the grants will help. Kalispell city courts get 100 grand to help keep drunks off the roads...and, the police department gets another 50 thousand to work</p>	01/05/11 1:36 PKG

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>overtime on DUIs. But, defense attorneys think the grant puts extra pressure on cops to pull people over for small things that might not usually be noticed. Kalispell Chief Roger Nasset promises that won't happen. He credits similar state grants since the 1970's with putting a dent in Montana's drunk driving. Just this week... NBC Montana reported the number of drunk driving accidents and wrecks dropped more than 40 percent from 2009 to 2010. <b>See also DUIs.</b></p>	
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	<p>The Bozeman City Commission voted 5 to 0 to give \$6,000 to help fund a warming shelter for the City's homeless. After a meeting that stretched into the early morning, the commission voted to give the human resource development council the money. HRDC opened a warming shelter at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds over new year's weekend. The new funding will help keep a warming center open all winter. The community is still looking for a more permanent location to house the homeless. <b>See also Homelessness.</b></p>	01/05/11 0:31 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	<p>Millions of dollars are waiting for some Americans. The Department of Veterans Affairs says there are millions of dollars for vets and their families that sit unclaimed. The money is for the most part life insurance policy payouts, or dividend checks and premium refunds that were mailed to policy holders. If payments can't be made, the money's held indefinitely. To see if you or a family member has any unclaimed money, check the Veterans Affairs website. You'll need the veteran's full name, date of birth and death, if deceased.</p>	01/05/11 0:33 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	<p>A 15-year legal battle that started in Montana is over, and senator Jon Tester commemorated that Saturday in Browning. More than 3 billion dollars will go to American Indians throughout the country. More than 100 years ago, the federal government passed an act that allowed it to lease out native American land. On behalf of more than 500 thousand native Americans, one tribal member, Eliose Cobell, sued the government, demanding money for the land they say they never received. That was in</p>	01/17/11 1:28 PKG

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	1996. In 2010 they got their answer, a 3.4 billion dollar settlement. It will take some time before individual native Americans receive their portion, but, as Cobell says, the real fight is over. <i>See also Politics.</i>	
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Ravalli County received a \$425,000 grant to finish building a Crisis Stabilization Center in Hamilton. The money comes from the Montana Health Settlement Trust. The Center will accept involuntarily committed patients who've suffered mental breaks. Mental Health Advocate Kathleen Driscoll says the trust money will save the county from taking out a loan to finish the Center. The former Commissioner says until now, most people suffering mental breakdowns, or who were a danger to themselves or others had few alternatives. They'd end up at the state hospital, or in jail, which is more expensive. Through the years, several mentally compromised jail inmates committed suicide in Ravalli County. At the secured center, professionals will evaluate the patient's mental health, then determine what the next step should be. The stabilization center should be completed by March. <i>See also Healthcare.</i>	02/02/11 1:50 PKG
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	A Republican legislative leader wants to cut the state's highest salaries to be more in line with incomes of average Montanan's. State Senator Dave Lewis of Helena proposed a ballot initiative that would cap state salaries at 200% of the median household income. Right now that would be around \$84,000. Lewis said it would affect about 240 employees and save the state a million dollars a year. <i>See also Politics.</i>	02/04/11 0:28 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Some western Montanans can save some extra dough on tax preparations this year. The IRS and U of M joined up to help people who make under \$49,000 each year. They'll file returns for free every Saturday until March 12th. The IRS provided computers with tax software. Each student went through training and took an IRS exam in order to help. Organizers say they help over 600 people with tax returns each year. <i>See also Education.</i>	02/07/11 0:28 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt.</b>	Snowfall this season caused Missoula to blow through its	02/11/11

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Spending</b>	plowing budget. Right now the City's about 100,000 over budget. And winter certainly isn't over yet. Officials at City Hall say this is Missoula's worst winter in 15 years. Administrators hoped they wouldn't go more than 100-thousand dollars over budget, but they're already there. Departments in the General Fund cut about 1 percent to cover the shortfall. Heavy snow drained Kalispell's plow budget too. Kalispell's City Manager says its already gone through its plow budget for the whole year. The City wants residents to know safety's still a priority and the city will draw money from other funds to keep the streets clear. City leaders could also choose not to pick up snow berms as a way to save money. <i>See also Safety.</i>	1:12 VO/SOT
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	In May, voters will decide whether to renew the high school and elementary school levies. The elementary building reserve levy is worth \$2.5 million. The high school worth a little over \$3 million. Meetings are scheduled on Wednesday at Sentinel High and Thursday at Lowell Elementary. All meetings start at 7 and end at 8:30. <i>See also Education.</i>	02/15/11 0:51 VO/SOT/TAG
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Missoula Mayor John Engen opened the doors of the new Garlington building to senator Jon Tester. Construction of the building started in 2009. The building was financed from a New Market Tax Credit designed to boost economic development in Missoula. Tester was especially impressed with the views from the top floor and the state of the art video conference room and stated that "Missoula is" getting very very aggressive on recruitment of businesses and they know you have to have good infrastructure if you're going to be able to recruit businesses into the region and I applaud their efforts. I think they are going to be successful, what this building is is just a sign of good solid infrastructure to help recruit business to the Missoula area." See also Economic Recovery.	03/07/11 0:26 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	The City of Whitefish approved an \$800,000 plan to bury half a mile of power lines. City leaders want the west end of town to be more 'aesthetically pleasing. The plan will be funded by the state Department of Transportation. The power lines would be buried as workers expand the roadway over the next year and a	03/09/11 0:30 VO/SOT/TAG

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	half.	
<b>Weather</b>	Warmer weather has eased flooding concerns in Twin Bridges about an hour south of Butte. Ice jams clogged rivers this week, forcing water levels to rise in town. Residents used pumps, sandbags and dikes to protect property, but the colder weather next week could create more ice jams and raise the river level again.	01/07/11 0:27 VO/SOT
<b>Weather</b>	Avalanche danger is still high in northwest Montana and in west central-Montana, the danger is moderate. At least four avalanches hit the area north of Hungry Horse Dam over the weekend, killing one person. Bruce Lee Unitch was snowmobiling when he was caught in the snow slide. A search group had packed in the tools they needed for a possible rescue, but Unitch couldn't be saved. It is important it is to be prepared. Avalanche danger is considerable to moderate in southwest Montana. For more information, visit our website, nbcmontana.com. We'll keep you updated with the latest alerts and warnings. <i>See also Safety.</i>	01/11/11 0:50 VO
<b>Weather</b>	Flathead National Forest officials are worried that as the temperatures rise and the snow melts, we could have the perfect recipe for avalanches. Warmer temperatures and increased precipitation in the form of rain and freezing rain and snow build an unstable layer. Folks need to be aware of that and be very responsible and prepared. <i>See also Safety.</i>	01/13/11 0:26 VO/SOT
<b>Weather</b>	Recent weather conditions have pushed avalanche danger to "high" in the Flathead. Folks headed into the back country are encouraged to plan ahead and test their equipment. The Flathead National Forest created a park where you can test your avalanche beacon. It's located at Whitefish Mountain Resort. When you come to the park you can turn on beacons under the snow. Beacons would typically be strapped on someone's body. Once you locate the beacon you use the probe to find it. <i>See also Safety.</i>	01/19/11 1:33 PKG
<b>Weather</b>	If you're just waking up, allow yourself some extra time to	01/31/11

**Montana Today**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	defrost and deice your windshield! And there is a layer of ice under the snow, so things are moving pretty slowly this morning.	0:23 VO
<b>Weather</b>	There are no reports of any major overnight accidents so far, but troopers say to be careful. This combination of snow, ice, and wind can create life threatening conditions. If you get stuck in subzero conditions, you're in danger, so plan ahead if you're traveling today. If you're driving in a blizzard , ou are a danger not only to yourself, but also to others. Mountain passes will continue to be some of the nastiest stretches of highway, so make sure you've got warm clothes, food, and water if you're going to get behind the wheel. <i>See also Safety.</i>	02/24/11 0:55 VO/SOT
<b>Weather</b>	An ice jam south of Missoula has people on alert for rising water. Ice chunks have broke loose in Lolo creek, about 20 miles south of the town of Lolo on Highway 12. The break up brought water levels up near a berm along highway 12, but it has receded a bit tonight. There is minor flooding at the Earl Tennant recreation site. That is close to Mile Marker 14. So far, the water has not reached any homes or roads. About an hour south of Butte, two ice jams have nearly converged to form a ten mile long mass, which is flooding low lying areas near twin bridges. Authorities say the threat may continue for a week, with warnings of possible flash flooding near the communities of Silver Star and Waterloo.	02/28/11 1:09 VO/SOT
<b>Weather</b>	Dangerous driving conditions lead to another round of snow days in western Montana. Right now we know that Thompson falls schools will have a two hour bus delay and two hour delay for classes this morning. And the same goes for Libby - busses will be running two hours late and classes will begin late as well. Severe driving conditions west of Missoula , from Saint Regis to Tarkio, be sure to watch for snow and ice on your commute. And we're also seeing severe driving conditions on Marias pass. Missoula County is talking about flooding, and this week, representatives from FEMA, the national weather service and local government will hold a public meeting Thursday 7pm	03/01/11 1:11 VO/SOT/TAG

**Montana Today**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
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about the shape of the upcoming flood season.

# Community Issues Report

First Quarter 2011

News at 5

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## Topics of Focus:

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1. Crime and Safety
  2. Economy / Economic Recovery
  3. Education
  4. Health / Healthcare
  5. Housing / Homelessness
  6. Jobs / Employment
  7. Politics
  8. Substance Abuse / DUIs
  9. Taxes / Government Spending
  10. Weather
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## News at 5

### Community Issues Report First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>The Montana Highway Patrol reports alcohol related car crashes were down almost 45 percent from last year and fatalities were down 43 percent. Public education seems to be working and Montanans may be more wary about drinking and driving. The Montana Highway Patrol reports a total of 13 DUIs in Montana over the holiday weekend and there were 4 alcohol related crashes in Montana. MHP believes that tavern owners are being more responsible and providing services such as transportation. This year's legislature will tackle whether tougher laws might make an even bigger impact. The city of Missoula recorded six DUIs over the holiday. The city of Bozeman had 7 DUIs. The Montana Highway patrol in Kalispell, its City Police and the Flathead County Sheriff's Department reported 2 DUIs on New Year's Eve. <i>See also Crime and Safety.</i></p>	010311 1:36 PKG
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>The postal service wants to make sure people keep the path to their mailbox clear. Ice and snow make delivering the mail tricky. Mail carriers are also asking homeowners not to park in front of their mail boxes. The postal service warns that if the path to your mailbox isn't clear, you may not get your mail. Carriers are instructed to pass up any boxes that don't have safe access. <i>See also Weather.</i></p>	01/04/11 0:22 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>There is a weather alert tonight: Brutal cold is headed our way again and snow on top of it. People in southwest Montana are already facing danger from severe weather. Ice jams are sparking flood warnings for rivers in southwest Montana. In twin bridges, the river is filled with ice and the water's rising. Emergency workers sandbagged, pumped water and dumped more dirt on a dike. No houses are flooded so far but the water is spreading to the Madison County Fairgrounds. Crews are struggling to protect historic buildings. Ice jams are dangerous, so folks in Twin Bridges be aware that the river level can change at any time. In addition to that flood warning... There's another one out for another ice jam... This one in Logan, Gallatin County. <i>See also Weather.</i></p>	01/05/11 0:56 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>Commissioners in Butte are meeting Wednesday to review a law making it illegal to use cell phones and other hand held devices</p>	01/10/11 0:27 VO/SOT

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>while driving. Those caught red handed could be slapped with a one-hundred dollar fine. Some commissioners want to put the brakes on the proposed law, saying they're sick of taking away people's rights. But others say it would save lives, stating, "There are people that follow the law and there will be less people on the phone and less chances of accidents. When you drive you have to drive defensively...it's hard to drive defensively on the telephone."</p>	
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>Identity theft is on the rise in Butte with 175-people victimized so far. Their information was stolen after they swiped their debit and credit cards through electronic readers found at most stores. Officials warn there are also other ways for crooks to get their hands on your personal information, warning to keep a close eye on your bank accounts. Notify your bank and police right away if you notice anything suspicious. Don't keep your social security card in your wallet, and shred personal documents such as bank statements.</p>	<p>01/11/11          0:55          VO/SOT/TAG</p>
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>A 71-year old former Missoula day care provider got 30-years with 15 suspended for molesting a 4-year old girl at his family run center, "Cuddles and More". Albert Gaub admitted he molested her for about 14-months, starting in 2008. Court records say his wife didn't know what was going on.</p>	<p>01/14/11          0:17 VO</p>
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>Recent weather conditions have pushed avalanche danger to "high" in Central Montana. Folks headed into the back country are encouraged to plan ahead and test their equipment. The Flathead National Forest created a park where you can test your avalanche beacon. It's located at Whitefish Mountain Resort. When you come to the park you can turn on beacons under the snow. Beacons would typically be strapped on someone's body. Once you locate the beacon you use the probe to find it. <b>See also Weather.</b></p>	<p>01/14/11          0:21 VO</p>
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	<p>A case of mistaken identity has police warning wireless internet users to make sure their connections are secure. Missoulian Shannon Adkins got an unexpected visit from law enforcement this past November when Police traced illegal child porn to</p>	<p>01/24/11          0:53          VO/SOT/TAG</p>

**News at 5**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	Adkins's home. But no one in Adkins's home was doing the downloading; someone had been stealing internet from her to get access to the pornography. Police officers say internet predators are becoming savvier. Officers say you should always set up a security password for wireless connections so that you know who's using your connection and to keep personal information safe.	
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The Flathead County Sheriff's Department already has their order in. Sheriff Chuck Curry says it's part of an effort to bring the Department up to speed with technology. Because of a government contract with Verizon, Curry says the cost won't be much more than they currently pay, which he says will be paid for with the efficiency the phones will bring. He stated that it is crucial to have immediate access to both the internet and to the criminal justice system from the field to makes enforcement more efficient, and provide s better service. At this point, only administrative staff will get the phones. They're still deciding if they'll buy them for all the patrol officers. <b><i>See also Govt. Spending.</i></b>	01/25/11 0:49 VO/SOT
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	It's important to keep active in the winter, but cold weather workouts pose special problems. Experts emphasize dressing in layers, using a hat and avoiding cotton clothing because it absorbs moisture and can make you colder. Aldo, make sure to stay hydrated even though you don't feel as thirsty in winter months. <b><i>See also Health.</i></b>	01.31.11 0:22 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A highway safety group claims it has evidence that red light cameras are saving lives. Red light runners kill almost 700 people a year and injure 133,000. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety claims that number would be much higher if it weren't for hundreds of cities putting red light cameras at intersections. The Institute says the cameras mean drivers slow down to avoid ticket, which can save lives. Fatal crashes were 25% less than would have been expected from red-light-running compared to the cities that did not adopt camera enforcement.	02/01/11 0:35 VO/SOT
<b>Crime and</b>	The newly elected Flathead County Sheriff is reworking rules for	02/02/11

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Safety</b>	off-duty cops after one of his Deputies got a DUI. Bruce Parish was fined \$850 after pleading no contest to driving under the influence. The only action the Department took under former Sheriff Mike Meehan was a two-day work suspension. New Sheriff Chuck Curry says consistency is what's missing. He's working to standardize the way officers are disciplined when they get in trouble off duty. <i>See alsoDUIs.</i>	0:37 VO/SOT
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Butte police hope a baseball cap will lead them to a suspect in a fatal stabbing. The black hat was found near the uptown post office a block and a half from where 62-year-old Robert Bazjer's Body was found on West Park Street early Sunday morning. The cap has the letter 'L' monogrammed on it and has a union pin attached to it. Investigators aren't saying if it's connected to the homicide.	02/18/11 0:23 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Butte police say teenagers are behind a fake money scam, accused of targeting several businesses including Wendy's, Subway and the Safeway on Montana Street. Thursday, a casino and laundromat were also hit. Police say the teens used bogus twenties, tens and fives in their counterfeit operation. Possibly three juveniles that were involved in this process. The investigation is still ongoing but we believe these are the culprits and again they'll be taken into juvenile probation and then handled through the juvenile courts.	02/18/11 0:19 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Jefferson Acres, an area just outside of Twin Bridges . Is dealing with the worst flooding they've seen in over 30 years. An ice jam forced the Jefferson River to begin swelling on Sunday. Roads are shutdown and some houses are threatened but so far no houses are flooded. Officials are giving out sandbags and pumps to residents who need them, but advise it may be a good idea to leave if the situation gets any worse. According to Christopher Mumme, Emergency Management Director, if you have a place to go, you might think about packing your personal items and your insurance forms, pictures, anything that you're going to need for identification. <i>See also Weather.</i>	02/21/11 0:37 VO
<b>Crime and</b>	In southwest Montana a photographer pleaded guilty to illegally	03/01/11

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Safety</b>	feeding bighorn sheep so he could take pictures of them. 35-year old Ryan Molde dumped hay to lure bighorns close so he could take shots of them with Lone Peak just outside Big Sky in the background. Investigators ticketed Molde once before for the same thing. This time he'll do 10-days in jail, pay over a thousand dollars and hand over the rights to the pictures, too.	0:29 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The FDA is warning consumers about a possible link between California hazelnuts and ecoli. Seven people in three states have been sickened from eating products with in-shell hazelnuts from Defranco and Sons. Three of them ended up in the hospital. Defranco has issued a voluntary recall for products with the hazelnuts, including one, two and four pound bags of trail mix. <i>See also Health.</i>	03/07/11 0:23 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued a voluntary recall of outdoor fireplaces sold at Lowe's. About 20,000 freestanding outdoor fireplaces are being recalled. The "Garden Treasure Living" stoves were made by Ohio company Sun-Joy in China. The decorative finish on the chimney can catch fire while the stove is being used. There have been 14 reports of them catching fire.	03/09/11 0:25 VO
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Harmful levels of radioactivity are not expected to make it to the United States. Damage to the nuclear reactors in Japan, is not expected to raise a health hazard here. Four thousand miles of open water separate Tokyo from Seattle. According to a UM Professor, radiation from Japan would be barely detectable in the U.S. and would not be injected high up in the stratosphere. It would stay in the lower atmosphere. And that means as it comes across the Pacific it would just be rained out in rain events, and all the atmospheric turbulence and circulation. It would diffuse through the entire Northern Hemisphere.	03/14/11 0:51 VO/SOT
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A winter storm has created some treacherous road conditions in southwest Montana. Troopers say they've responded to around thirty crashes from about midnight to 1:30 this afternoon. Most of those were just slide-offs, although a few of them involved multiple wrecked cars. This storm left a slushy mess all-over the	03/22/11 0:55 PKG

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>area. Troopers offered up some basic advice for keeping yourself safe on the roads. They said do things like make sure your windshield wipers are in working order, and clean your headlights off. A highway patrol dispatch person told us no one was injured in any of those crashes today. But with that thick slush everywhere, it's still important to keep in mind how slick things can get out there. <i>See also Weather.</i></p>	
<p><b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b></p>	<p>The U.S Economy is growing at its fastest rate in five years. Americans bought more clothing and cars last quarter. But growth isn't strong enough yet to spark new hiring. Analysts report no big upswing in the last quarter and predict none for this entire year. You still end up with an unemployment rate, depending on how many people give up entirely, above 9 percent by the end of the year. Unemployment should ease a bit, but some areas will continue to lag behind the rest. A rebound in housing construction's not in the near future. But agriculture's a bright spot. The global economic rebound has pushed food prices up.</p>	<p>01/28/11 2:30 PKG</p>
<p><b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b></p>	<p>Last year, Bozeman closed its main street 28 times for various Downtown events. Tonight, City Commissioners are looking at new rules for how the City approves closing the City's main artery. Some businesses think frequent closures cost them customers on busy summer weekends. Business owner, Jolee Barry likes the idea of stricter enforcement for closures, stating, "We only have so many days in the month to make money, and we're still paying rent, we're still paying employees and we're still sitting on inventory for those days. So, one day is an important day in the day of a retailer." Some business leaders think Downtown events could help the Downtown area. But they think the events should be held in the evening, when many stores have already closed their doors.</p>	<p>01/31/11 0:54 VO/SOT/TAG</p>
<p><b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b></p>	<p>Stillwater mining company... In southwest Montana... Is reporting its best year in a decade thanks to strong prices for precious metals. Stillwater reported a net income of more than \$50 million last year. Compare that to its almost \$9 million loss for 2009. The news comes just after Stillwater purchased</p>	<p>02/21/11 0:29 VO</p>

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	platinum and palladium reserve in Ontario and renewed a deal with general motors. Stillwater operates the only platinum and palladium mines in the U.S.	
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Problems in the Mideast have led to predictions of four dollar a gallon gas. The increase is driving up the prices for food, goods and services. Analysts say it will likely go higher, mainly because the Libyan unrest is creating a 'fear premium' on oil markets. In Montana, the average for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline is \$3.01. A year ago, it was \$2.67. Prices in our bigger cities like Missoula and Billings are about 2.97 a gallon.	02/24/11 0:37 VO
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	The Smurfit plant provided 20 percent of the school's tax base when it was in operation and 10 percent after it closed. But since the closure, enrollment for the school has dropped as families move away. The District recently passed a \$20 million bond to help build a new school in Frenchtown. Administrators promise they won't default on the bond, .but they're looking at trimming \$200,000 from their budget. The paper mill was a huge financial contributor to the School District. Last year Frenchtown schools got \$817,000 of Smurfit's property tax money. When the mill was operating it provided more than 20 percent of the school's tax base. After Smurfit closed, the tax amount the company owed dropped to \$369,000, or roughly 10 percent of the school's tax base. The new owner will continue to pay property taxes, but as the buildings and equipment disappear, .so do the dollars. Frenchtown is paying for a new junior high school, additions to the high school, and a remodel to its elementary school. Superintendent Cline says the school district will not default on its \$20 million worth of bonds. But he says local taxpayers will probably see an increase in their bills. Since the mill closed, the school recorded its first significant drop in enrollment in 20 years. <i>See also Education and Taxes.</i>	02/28/11 1:23 VO/SOT/TAG
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Montinore Minerals say they've invested at least \$20 million into their mine but are still waiting on permits to begin work. Representatives say the process to get a mine running takes a long time anywhere, but in this case Montinore has encountered hurdle after hurdle. Once they do open, they say they'll hire 500	03/03/11 1:13 VO/SOT

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	workers to operate the mine. That's why a group of Libby residents is planning a rally to show their support for the project which could add 1,200. The Montinore mine is located 23 miles southeast of Libby, down Libby Creek Road. In the 90's a company started digging at the sight, but abandoned it when copper and silver prices dropped. Montinore minerals bought the mine in 2005.	
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Senator Max Baucus says he's proud to see a Bozeman company succeeding, even expanding, in the tough economy. Mystery Ranch, a backpack manufacturer, recently moved to a new facility north of Bozeman. The company held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and gave tours of its new building. Baucus says expanding local companies like mystery ranch are key to creating jobs in the state.	03/24/11 0:23 VO
<b>Education</b>	A new study indicates that Montana State University brings in about a billion dollars to Montana's economy. Research also shows the school's four campuses contributed almost 14,000 jobs to Montana's economy. The report was done by the University of Montana's Business Administration. It also explains a college graduate makes more money over their lifetime. About \$816,000 more for a man and \$569,000 more for a woman. Experts explain the school generates more tax revenue than it spends. For every dollar the state is investing in the Montana State University campuses and agencies, MSU returns almost \$3 back to the pockets of households in Montana. This is the first complete study ever done on the University. <b><i>See also Taxes.</i></b>	01/05/11 0:50 VO/SOT
<b>Education</b>	Montana State University wants to help more female Native American students succeed in math, science and engineering. Psychology Professor Jessi Smith recently received a \$218,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. Smith will study how gender roles impact Native American students' success in those fields. She says it's important to have many backgrounds represented in science because it leads to higher quality decision-making.	01/06/11 0:29 VO

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

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<b>Education</b>	<p>The Smurfit plant provided 20 percent of the school's tax base when it was in operation and 10 percent after it closed. But since the closure, enrollment for the school has dropped as families move away. The District recently passed a \$20 million bond to help build a new school in Frenchtown. Administrators promise they won't default on the bond, .but they're looking at trimming \$200,000 from their budget. The paper mill was a huge financial contributor to the School District. Last year Frenchtown schools got \$817,000 of Smurfit's property tax money. When the mill was operating it provided more than 20 percent of the school's tax base. After Smurfit closed, the tax amount the company owed dropped to \$369,000, or roughly 10 percent of the school's tax base. The new owner will continue to pay property taxes, but as the buildings and equipment disappear, so do the dollars. Frenchtown is paying for a new junior high school, additions to the high school, and a remodel to its elementary school. Superintendent Cline says the school district will not default on its \$20 million worth of bonds. But he says local taxpayers will probably see an increase in their bills. Since the mill closed, the school recorded its first significant drop in enrollment in 20 years. <i><b>See also Economic Recovery and Taxes.</b></i></p>	<p>02/28/11 1:23 VO/SOT/TAG</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>He's a scrappy little fellow with great balance and tremendous dexterity, thanks to the students at Ronan high who built him. The students will compete in the World Robotics Championships in St. Louis next month. Ronan isn't just state champion - it has the highest qualifying score in the nation. The Ronan High School Robotics Team is on a major fundraising drive for its trip to St. Louis. It needs to raise \$12,000 to send 8 team members and two adults to the championships. If you want to help you can log onto nbcmontana.com for the facts.</p>	<p>03/16/11 1:43 PKG</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>About fifty students from colleges across Montana traveled to Helena today to talk with lawmakers about funding. Students spent their lunch with lawmakers after legislators announced 32 million dollars in higher education cuts. That has some students worried about tuition hikes. A lobbyist for students at the University of Montana says for every million dollars lost,</p>	<p>03/18/11 0:35 VO</p>

**News at 5**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	students can expect a 1 percent increase in tuition. Republicans have said there needs to be cuts across the board. A senate committee gets ready to work on the budget tomorrow. <b><i>See Govt. Spending and Politics.</i></b>	
<b>Education</b>	The Montana science fair wrapped up this morning at the university of Montana. It has been a major event at the university since 1956. Junior high and high school students from all over western Montana competed in the event. Some of the exhibit titles were "Solar Savvy" and "Ouch! That's Cold!" Projects focused on everything from avalanches to ants to black holes.	03/22/11 0:22 VO
<b>Education</b>	Tonight, the Bozeman School Board will decide how much to put on the ballot for May 3 <sup>rd</sup> . The Superintendent is recommending the board increase taxes to raise more than \$470,000 dollars combined for the high school and elementary districts. Right now the District would face a 2.1 million dollar shortfall to continue operating the way it is. The School Board meeting starts at 6pm tonight at the Willson School.	03/24/11 0:23 VO
<b>Education</b>	The University of Montana's Dining Services broke ground on its first sustainable garden. The 75-hundred square foot garden will have 13 raised beds surrounded by an area for plants native to Montana. Student gardeners hope to fill it with produce like berries, lettuce and tomatoes. Some seeds are being started indoors and students say they like the concept because it helps to raise awareness about sustainability, where our food comes from, health, diet and nutrition.	03/31/11 0:34 VO
<b>Education</b>	Montana State University is about to release two new strains of wheat designed to resist insect infestations. Professors say the winter wheat strains called Judee and Bearpaw - and a spring wheat called Duclair, will help farmers harvest bigger crops. The new strains have solid stems that make them more resistant to pests. The wheat stem saw-fly can reduce yield by 15 to 20 percent, costing farmers an estimated 25 million dollars a year.	3/31/11 0:28 VO
<b>Health/</b>	Today, the Government announced plans to lower the	01/07/11

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Healthcare</b>	recommended fluoride levels in drinking water. Fluoridated water has been called one of the top ten accomplishments for Public Health in the last hundred years. Recently however, dentists have noticed white spots called Fluorosis on patients' teeth. The condition is becoming more common and it's caused by too much fluoride. That's why the Government is calling for lower levels since more people receive fluoride from several sources in addition to drinking water, such as toothpaste and mouth rinses.	0:27 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Thousands of children will never experience the tradition of an all ice cream diet after a tonsillectomy. New guidelines say the operation should only be used in severe cases. A panel of experts says tonsillectomies could even be harmful to people with -just moderate throat infections. Children who have more than seven infections are still candidates for the surgery.	01/07/11 0:23 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Sunlight is a vital part in helping with Seasonal Affectation Disorder, also known as the "Winter Blues." Sunlight enters the eye and through the retinas stimulates production of serotonin, which is important in the maintenance of good mood states. If the sun is not around, the next best thing is physical activity. According to Doctors, doctors weather is just one factor that contributes to seasonal depression. Genetic backgrounds that we inherit often make us vulnerable to certain health states including depression. Experts claim that the best medicine is to take preventative measures such as exercise, sun exposure or a visit to your doctor. One doctor in our region offers free depression and support group discussions to anyone interested. If you'd like more information, you can head to <a href="http://nbcmontana.com">nbcmontana.com</a> , and click on the cabin fever article.	01/07/11 1:44 PKG
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Prozac may help stroke patients recover. Researchers in France started 50 patients on Prozac within a few days of having a stroke and kept them on the drug for three months. They found those taking the antidepressant regained motor skills faster than those who didn't. Researchers report more patients on Prozac were able to live independently.	01/11/11 0:21 VO

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Critical Health Departments at one hospital in Missoula are struggling to find specialty nurses. It's particularly evident in cardiology and pediatrics departments. Those jobs require extensive education and experience, so community hospital reports some positions have been vacant for close to two years. The temporary solution has administrators hiring traveling nurses or offering special training to critical care nurses. <b><i>See also Jobs.</i></b>	01/12/11 0:35 VO/SOT
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	New research shows antibiotics are*the best treatment for kids with ear infections. The treatment can help young kids feel better and recover faster. The study comes from the national institute of allergy and infectious diseases. It goes against other research that claims most ear infections would clear up on their own. Some doctors maintain overusing antibiotics makes bacteria more resistant.	01/12/11 0:25 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	A federal judge in Florida has ruled the Obama administration's health care overhaul is unconstitutional. The ruling sides with 26 states that have sued to block it. President Obama signed the overhaul last march. Today U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson accepted Florida's argument that the new law violates people's rights by forcing them to purchase health insurance by 2014 or face penalties. Two other federal judges have upheld the law. <b><i>See also Politics.</i></b>	01/13/11 0:27 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	A group that helps Montana seniors and persons with disabilities is rallying the legislature to re-instate cuts made to services. The state chopped 3-million dollars from Montana's area agencies on aging. It could affect meals on wheels, transportation and respite services for caregivers. Also cut was Big Sky Rx, supplemental program to help seniors pay for prescriptions, and at least 60 slots to help the very poor receive home health care instead of being placed in a nursing home. <b><i>See also Govt. Spending and Politics.</i></b>	01/13/11 0:30 VO/SOT
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Changing the way you react to stress could have a major impact on your heart. A group of heart disease patients in Sweden underwent a program that teaches stress management.	01/25/11 0:28 VO

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>Another group of patients went through traditional care. Patients who went through the behavioral therapy were more than forty percent less likely to have a heart attack or fatal heart event. Experts say stressful situations account for thirty percent of heart attack risk.</p>	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>The FDA has approved over the counter sales of Allegra. The popular antihistamine treats allergy symptoms. Up until now Allegra required a prescription. The OTC version is expected to hit the shelves March 4<sup>th</sup> for allergy season. Children's Allegra will also be sold over the counter.</p>	01/26/11 0:18 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>A federal judge in Florida has ruled the Obama Administration's health care overhaul is unconstitutional. The ruling sides with 26 states that have sued to block it. President Obama signed the overhaul last march. Today, U.S. District judge Roger Vinson accepted Florida's argument that the new law violates people's rights by forcing them to purchase health insurance by 2014 or face penalties. Two other federal judges have "upheld" the law. <i>See also Politics.</i></p>	01/31/11 0:27 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>The Federal Government has released new guidelines on what Americans should and should not be eating. The main message is cutting back on salt. Most of the salt we eat is hidden in packaged and restaurant foods, especially breads, cookies and cakes. Things we don't normally think of as being salty. Most Americans eat 34-hundred milligrams of salt a day. The Federal Government is recommending many Americans eat less than half that. Advisors state that "one of the most important things we can do is to get people information based on the latest science and research and we're updating that information all the time, so they can make the best choices for themselves and their families."</p>	01/31/11 0:41 VO/SOT
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>It's important to keep active in the winter, but cold weather workouts pose special problems. Experts emphasize dressing in layers, using a hat and avoiding cotton clothing because it absorbs moisture and can make you colder. Also, make sure to stay hydrated even though you don't feel as thirsty in winter</p>	01.31.11 0:22 VO

**News at 5**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

---

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	months. <i>See also Safety.</i>	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Ravalli County received a \$425,000 grant to finish building a Crisis Stabilization Center in Hamilton. The money comes from the Montana Health Settlement Trust. The Center will accept involuntarily committed patients who've suffered mental breaks. Mental Health Advocate Kathleen Driscoll says the trust money will save the county from taking out a loan to finish the Center. The former Commissioner says until now, most people suffering mental breakdowns, or who were a danger to themselves or others had few alternatives. They'd end up at the state hospital, or in jail, which is more expensive. Through the years, several mentally compromised jail inmates committed suicide in Ravalli County. At the secured center, professionals will evaluate the patient's mental health, and then determine what the next step should be. The stabilization center should be completed by March. <i>See also Govt. Spending.</i>	02/01/11 0:37 VO/SOT
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Last minute federal funding will also keep the Flathead Community Health Center from closing its doors. The Center serves people without insurance. Last week the Center thought it would have to turn away patients without additional funding. Now a short-term federal grant will keep the clinic open for the next few months. Conversely, Kalispell Regional Medical center is kicking off a \$43 million expansion this week. Workers will add four more stories above the ground floor and an E.R. wing for 120,000 square feet of new space. <i>See also Govt. Spending.</i>	03/1/11 0:38 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Latest information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that we're hitting the peak of flu season. CDC officials say cases will likely increase in the Northwest because our area that hasn't seen much flu yet. Experts say this year's flu vaccine appears to be a good match for the season's most common strain.	03/03/11 0:24 VO
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	The FDA is warning consumers about a possible link between California hazelnuts and ecoli. Seven people in three states have been sickened from eating products with in-shell hazelnuts from	03/07/11 0:23 VO

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>Defranco and Sons. Three of them ended up in the hospital. Defranco has issued a voluntary recall for products with the hazelnuts, including one, two and four pound bags of trail mix. <b>See also Safety.</b></p>	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>Montanans could see another tax on tobacco products. A bill is being drafted that would hike the price of a pack of cigarettes by a dollar and a half. Other products like chewing tobacco would see a comparable increase. Supporters say the money would pay for many social programs slated to be cut come July first. Supporters of the proposed legislation say the tax would prevent 9,400 Montana kids from starting a tobacco habit. The current tax on a pack of cigarettes in Montana is a dollar seventy. Many young smokers at the University of Montana took the news in stride, although some tobacco users say the government's reaching too far. The advocacy group for the American cancer society says the tax would raise \$37 million dollars. It would pay for many social programs slated to be cut come July first. Programs like meals on wheels, senior companions, and the tobacco use prevention program. Some health organizations have stepped forward and again have provided new revenue so they can fund these programs. <b>See also Taxes.</b></p>	03/09/11 1:50 PKG
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>Governor Schweitzer blasted Republicans for turning away millions of dollars in federal money to upgrade hospital medical records. The governor says the \$35 million would create jobs and make health care more efficient by creating electronic medical records that he says would reduce duplicative procedures and speed up service, but opponents say the technology could put patients' private information at risk. <b>See also Politics and Govt. Spending.</b></p>	03/16/11 0:32 VO/SOT
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	<p>A drug that prevents 10,000 preterm deliveries a year has been recently approved by the FDA, but that approval will make it 150 times more expensive. Shots of "Makena" used to be available at pharmacies for about \$10, but the FDA gave exclusive rights to KV Pharmaceuticals, which plans to charge \$1,500 dollars a dose. The March of Dimes originally supported the contract, but didn't know about the price.</p>	03/16/11 0:39 VO/SOT

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	<p>We've been in the midst of some pretty cold temperatures since November and unfortunately some people in Bozeman don't have anywhere to go to stay warm. Tonight city commissioners are discussing whether to kick in up to 6 thousand dollars toward a temporary solution. Over the new year's weekend the Human Resources Development Council set up a temporary "warming shelter" at the Gallatin county fairgrounds which runs from 7pm to 7am. The money from the commission would ensure that the warming shelter will stay open through the end of the winter. Commissioner Chris Mehl says it's a minimal amount when you consider lives could be saved this winter. People from the Bozeman community have raised several thousand dollars to match the city's contribution.</p>	01/03/11 0:41 VO/SOT
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	<p>The Bozeman City Commission voted 5 to 0 to give \$6,000 to help fund a warming shelter for the city's homeless. After a meeting that stretched into the early morning, the commission voted to give the Human Resource Development council the money. HRDC opened a warming shelter at the Gallatin county fairgrounds over new year's weekend. The new funding will help keep a warming center open all winter. The community is still looking for a more permanent location to house the homeless.</p>	01/04/11 0:31 VO/SOT
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	<p>Hundreds of people in need came out to this year's fifth Project Homeless Connect Event in Missoula. The goal of this one-stop event is to improve services and housing for the homeless population in Missoula. Services offered consisted of everything from haircuts and getting warm clothing, to employment counseling and much more. Organizers think it's a great way to bring about awareness about homelessness and helps the community see how many homeless individuals there are in town. Workers estimated they easily helped out more than 400 people.</p>	01/26/11 0:50 VO/SOT
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	<p>020111 0:30 vo/sot/tag          Folks in Butte are taking shelter from the cold in a structure that has protected Montanans for hundreds of years. Mark Gibbons</p>	02/01/11 0:30 VO/SOT/TAG

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	owns a tee-pee, located right next to his medical marijuana shop. When the weather turned dangerously cold, he began letting dozens of homeless people stay in it. He states that it has always been in his heart to help those in need: "Some days its 20 or 30 below zero and they're very sick, unable to get around and so we wanted a place for them to be able to go and feel safe."	
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	Missoula County has the 2011 housing status survey on the area's homeless. The survey shows that the average Missoula homeless person is 42 and has some college. They earn on average, 480 dollars a month and have been homeless for almost a year. The County will use the study to help find the next step in helping the City's homeless.	02/01/11 0:36 VO/SOT
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	Missoula churches are stepping forward to help the rising number of homeless families. Family Promise is based off a national non-profit that has chapters in 41 states. A group of about 12 religious chapters provide places for families to eat and sleep. They trade off throughout the year. Billings and Bozeman already have chapters. Missoula organizers want to hit the ground running this fall.	03/24/11 0:27 VO
<b>Politics</b>	For the first time in years, republicans also head up Montana's public service commission... The group that regulates utilities. The decision ends a two-day deadlock that started when a Commissioner from great falls refused to vote for Republican Brad Molnar, claiming he didn't have the right temperament for the job. Commissioners argued and claimed back room deals and lobbyists had too much influence on the selection process. Finally, they voted in Bill Gallagher as chair and Molnar as the first ever Vice Chair.	01/03/11 0:23 VO
<b>Politics</b>	A federal judge in Florida has ruled the Obama administration's health care overhaul is unconstitutional. The ruling sides with 26 states that have sued to block it. President Obama signed the overhaul last march. Today U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson accepted Florida's argument that the new law violates people's rights by forcing them to purchase health insurance by 2014 or face penalties. Two other federal judges have upheld the law.	01/13/11 0:27 VO

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b><i>See also Healthcare.</i></b>		
<b>Politics</b>	A group that helps Montana seniors and persons with disabilities is rallying the legislature to re-instate cuts made to services. The state chopped 3-million dollars from Montana's area agencies on aging. It could affect meals on wheels, transportation and respite services for caregivers. Also cut was Big Sky Rx, supplemental program to help seniors pay for prescriptions, and at least 60 slots to help the very poor receive home health care instead of being placed in a nursing home. <b><i>See also Govt. Spending and Healthcare.</i></b>	01/13/11 0:30 VO/SOT
<b>Politics</b>	The U.S Military announced steps they'll take to repeal don't ask don't tell. Training for the entire military will start in February. There will still be no medical, travel or housing benefits for same sex partners. It's expected to take months before the repeal is fully in place. The repeal won't take effect until 60 days after the President and Joint Chiefs Chairman decide the Military is ready, stating that "when you're dealing with 2.5 million people and a new policy, you're probably going to have discovery as we go."	01/28/11 0:25 VO
<b>Politics</b>	A federal judge in Florida has ruled the Obama Administration's health care overhaul is unconstitutional. The ruling sides with 26 states that have sued to block it. President Obama signed the overhaul last march. Today, U.S. District judge Roger Vinson accepted Florida's argument that the new law violates people's rights by forcing them to purchase health insurance by 2014 or face penalties. Two other federal judges have "upheld" the law. <b><i>See also Healthcare.</i></b>	01/31/11 0:27 VO
<b>Politics</b>	The U.S. Senate has approved Jon Tester's plan to prevent members of Congress, and the President from getting paid if the government shuts down. Congress and the President must agree on a budget for the remainder of the year by midnight this Friday to avoid a Republican shutdown. If that happens, Tester's legislation would cancel pay for Congress and the President.	03/01/11 0:22 VO
<b>Politics</b>	Another push in Helena today to keep alcohol from drivers who keep driving drunk even after being convicted. Standing room	03/03/01 1:06 VO/SOT

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>only today as the senators heard about what's called the "24/7" program: Daily breath tests for people with repeated DUIs. The program's been running in Lewis and Clark County, Helena's the County seat, for just about a year and that Sheriff told the senate judiciary committee today it's been an incredible success. Every 12 hours an offender must provide a breath sample. If they fail, they're taken to jail. If an offender can't come into an office for a breath test, they're fitted with a special "scram" bracelet that tests them up to 40 times a day. <b>See also DUI.</b></p>	
<b>Politics</b>	<p>Opponents think a Montana bill to nullify the Federal Endangered Species Act could cost the state hundreds of millions of dollars in federal money. Top state agency heads testified before the House Appropriations Committee, stating that lawmakers nullifying that federal law could cost Montana 800 jobs and that the state transportation department could lose \$400 million from the feds for highway construction projects. The bill's sponsor, Republican Representative Krayton Kerns of Laurel argues the state is too dependent on federal money... And that the Federal Government is bribing the state with debt.</p>	<p>03/09/11 0:50 VO/SOT/TAG</p>
<b>Politics</b>	<p>Governor Schweitzer blasted Republicans for turning away millions of dollars in federal money to upgrade hospital medical records. The governor says the \$35 million would create jobs and make health care more efficient by creating electronic medical records that he says would reduce duplicative procedures and speed up service, but opponents say the technology could put patients' private information at risk. <b>See also Healthcare and Govt. Spending.</b></p>	<p>03/16/11 0:32 VO/SOT</p>
<b>Politics</b>	<p>Here are some facts involved with a proposed wolf settlement. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would withdraw an opinion on the gray wolf's "signifigant range" as defined by federal law. Ten of the fourteen plaintiffs will join the feds in petitioning for reinstatement of Management Plans in Montana and Idaho on an interim basis. If Wyoming comes up with an acceptable plan, the feds will consider de-listing wolves. The feds will continue to monitor wolf populations and study the effectiveness of</p>	<p>03/18/11 0:33 VO/SOT/TAG</p>

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	management plans for at least five years.	
<b>Politics</b>	About fifty students from colleges across Montana traveled to Helena today to talk with lawmakers about funding. Students spent their lunch with lawmakers after legislators announced 32 million dollars in higher education cuts. That has some students worried about tuition hikes. A lobbyist for students at the University of Montana says for every million dollars lost, students can expect a 1 percent increase in tuition. Republicans have said there needs to be cuts across the board. A senate committee gets ready to work on the budget tomorrow. <i>See Education and Govt. Spending.</i>	03/18/11 0:35 VO
<b>Politics</b>	About fifty students from colleges across Montana traveled to Helena today to talk with lawmakers about funding. Students spent their lunch with lawmakers after legislators announced 32 million dollars in higher education cuts. That has some students worried about tuition hikes. A lobbyist for students at the University of Montana says for every million dollars lost, students can expect a 1 percent increase in tuition. Republicans have said there needs to be cuts across the board. A senate committee gets ready to work on the budget tomorrow. <i>See Education and Govt. Spending.</i>	03/18/11 0:35 VO
<b>Politics</b>	This week Ravalli County Commissioners appointed the chairman of the Republican Central Committee to the County's top planning post. Republican Terry Nelson is an electrical engineer with his own surveying company. Commissioners had considered three other candidates for the job, but because the public was given less than 48 hours notice on the vote, the appointment will be rescinded on Monday.	03/31/11 0:27 VO
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	The Montana Highway Patrol reports alcohol related car crashes were down almost 45 percent from last year and fatalities were down 43 percent. Public education seems to be working and Montanans may be more wary about drinking and driving. The Montana Highway Patrol reports a total of 13 DUIs in Montana over the holiday weekend and there were 4 alcohol related crashes in Montana. MHP believes that tavern owners are being	010311 1:36 PKG

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	<p>more responsible and providing services such as transportation. This year's legislature will tackle whether tougher laws might make an even bigger impact. The city of Missoula recorded six DUIs over the holiday. The city of Bozeman had 7 DUIs. The Montana Highway patrol in Kalispell, its City Police and the Flathead County Sheriff's Department reported 2 DUIs on New Year's Eve. <b><i>See also Crime and Safety.</i></b></p>	
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	<p>Flathead county police and judges will get an extra \$160,000 dollars to prevent drunk driving. The money comes from the State Transportation Department and will be spent on court programs aimed at treating people with drinking problems as well as paying police overtime for DUI patrols. Judges and police think the money will make a big difference, being visible on the streets with marked units and pulling over people that are committing violations. However, defense attorneys think the special money does little more than encourage police to pull over drivers that wouldn't normally end up in trouble. <b><i>See also Govt. Spending.</i></b></p>	01/04/11 0:58 VO/SOT
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	<p>A taxi owner in the Flathead is upset over what is billed as a free taxi service for drinkers called "The Ride Guy", a ride service in whitefish. It's not a licensed business, and the founder says they don't charge or take tips. He calls it a free service he started because he was sick of seeing people drive home from bars drunk, stating, "At night time people were driving because they didn't have options or money. We just felt like we could make a difference". But not everyone is fan. One taxi driver told NBC Montana the Ride Guy is hurting the Taxi business and is unfair competition.</p>	01/06/11 0:20 VO
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	<p>Today in Helena another DUI program goes before the senate. Attorney general Steve Bullock's "24/7" Sobriety Program passed the house on a 96-to-three vote. The program would require repeat offenders to submit breath tests daily at their own expense. Supporters say it's been effective in other states and doesn't cost the state any money.</p>	01/25/11 1:43 PKG
<b>Substance</b>	<p>A plan to issue DUIs for those under the influence of drugs was</p>	01/25/11

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Abuse/DUIs</b>	shot down over concerns about testing. Members of the house judiciary committee opposed the plan because there is no valid test for determining impairment. Opponents argue this could lead to costly court appeals.	0:17 VO
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	The newly elected Flathead County Sheriff is reworking rules for off-duty cops after one of his Deputies got a DUI. Bruce Parish was fined \$850 after pleading no contest to driving under the influence. The only action the Department took under former Sheriff Mike Meehan was a two-day work suspension. New Sheriff Chuck Curry says consistency is what's missing. He's working to standardize the way officers are disciplined when they get in trouble off duty. <i>See also Crime.</i>	02/02/11 0:37 VO/SOT
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Another push in Helena today to keep alcohol from drivers who keep driving drunk even after being convicted. Standing room only today as the senators heard about what's called the "24/7" program: Daily breath tests for people with repeated DUIs. The program's been running in Lewis and Clark County, Helena's the County seat., for just about a year and that Sheriff told the senate judiciary committee today it's been an incredible success. Every 12 hours an offender must provide a breath sample. If they fail, they're taken to jail. If an offender can't come into an office for a breath test, they're fitted with a special "scram" bracelet that tests them up to 40 times a day. <i>See also Politics.</i>	03/03/01 1:06 VO/SOT
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Flathead county police and judges will get an extra \$160,000 dollars to prevent drunk driving. The money comes from the State Transportation Department and will be spent on court programs aimed at treating people with drinking problems as well as paying police overtime for DUI patrols. Judges and police think the money will make a big difference, being visible on the streets with marked units and pulling over people that are committing violations. However, defense attorneys think the special money does little more than encourage police to pull over drivers that wouldn't normally end up in trouble. <i>See also DUIs.</i>	01/04/11 0:58 VO/SOT
<b>Taxes/Govt.</b>	A new study indicates that Montana State University brings in	01/05/11

**News at 5**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Spending</b>	about a billion dollars to Montana's economy. Research also shows the school's four campuses contributed almost 14,000 jobs to Montana's economy. The report was done by the University of Montana's Business Administration. It also explains a college graduate makes more money over their lifetime. About \$816,000 more for a man and \$569,000 more for a woman. Experts explain the school generates more tax revenue than it spends. For every dollar the state is investing in the Montana State University campuses and agencies, MSU returns almost \$3 back to the pockets of households in Montana. This is the first complete study ever done on the University. <i>See also Education.</i>	0:50 VO/SOT
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	You have a little extra time to file your income taxes this year. Taxpayers will have until April 18th... And it's because of the "emancipation day" holiday. In Washington, Friday April 15th is a paid day off. That means the IRS is giving taxpayers until the following Monday to get their returns in.	01/05/11 0:18 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	A group that helps Montana seniors and persons with disabilities is rallying the legislature to re-instate cuts made to services. The state chopped 3-million dollars from Montana's area agencies on aging. It could affect meals on wheels, transportation and respite services for caregivers. Also cut was Big Sky Rx, supplemental program to help seniors pay for prescriptions, and at least 60 slots to help the very poor receive home health care instead of being placed in a nursing home. <i>See also Politics and Healthcare.</i>	01/13/11 0:30 VO/SOT
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	The Flathead County Sheriff's Department already has their order in. Sheriff Chuck Curry says it's part of an effort to bring the Department up to speed with technology. Because of a government contract with Verizon, Curry says the cost won't be much more than they currently pay, which he says will be paid for with the efficiency the phones will bring. He stated that it is crucial to have immediate access to both the internet and to the criminal justice system from the field to makes enforcement more efficient, and provide s better service. At this point, only administrative staff will get the phones. They're still deciding if	01/25/11 0:49 VO/SOT

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	they'll buy them for all the patrol officers. <i>See also Crime and Safety.</i>	
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Ravalli County received a \$425,000 grant to finish building a Crisis Stabilization Center in Hamilton. The money comes from the Montana Health Settlement Trust. The Center will accept involuntarily committed patients who've suffered mental breaks. Mental Health Advocate Kathleen Driscoll says the trust money will save the county from taking out a loan to finish the Center. The former Commissioner says until now, most people suffering mental breakdowns, or who were a danger to themselves or others had few alternatives. They'd end up at the state hospital, or in jail, which is more expensive. Through the years, several mentally compromised jail inmates committed suicide in Ravalli County. At the secured center, professionals will evaluate the patient's mental health, then determine what the next step should be. The stabilization center should be completed by March. <i>See also Healthcare.</i>	02/01/11 0:37 VO/SOT
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	The Smurfit plant provided 20 percent of the school's tax base when it was in operation and 10 percent after it closed. But since the closure, enrollment for the school has dropped as families move away. The District recently passed a \$20 million bond to help build a new school in Frenchtown. Administrators promise they won't default on the bond, .but they're looking at trimming \$200,000 from their budget. The paper mill was a huge financial contributor to the School District. Last year Frenchtown schools got \$817,000 of Smurfit's property tax money. When the mill was operating it provided more than 20 percent of the school's tax base. After Smurfit closed, the tax amount the company owed dropped to \$369,000, or roughly 10 percent of the school's tax base. The new owner will continue to pay property taxes, but as the buildings and equipment disappear, .so do the dollars. Frenchtown is paying for a new junior high school, additions to the high school, and a remodel to its elementary school. Superintendent Cline says the school district will not default on its \$20 million worth of bonds. But he says local taxpayers will probably see an increase in their bills. Since the mill closed, the school recorded its first significant	02/28/11 1:23 VO/SOT/TAG

**News at 5**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	drop in enrollment in 20 years. <b><i>See also Education, and Economic Recovery.</i></b>	
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Last minute federal funding will also keep the Flathead Community Health Center from closing its doors. The Center serves people without insurance. Last week the Center thought it would have to turn away patients without additional funding. Now a short-term federal grant will keep the clinic open for the next few months. Conversely, Kalispell Regional Medical center is kicking off a \$43 million expansion this week. Workers will add four more stories above the ground floor and an E.R. wing for 120,000 square feet of new space. <b><i>See also Healthcare.</i></b>	03/1/11 0:38 VO
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Montanans could see another tax on tobacco products. A bill is being drafted that would hike the price of a pack of cigarettes by a dollar and a half. Other products like chewing tobacco would see a comparable increase. Supporters say the money would pay for many social programs slated to be cut come July first. Supporters of the proposed legislation say the tax would prevent 9,400 Montana kids from starting a tobacco habit. The current tax on a pack of cigarettes in Montana is a dollar seventy. Many young smokers at the University of Montana took the news in stride, although some tobacco users say the government's reaching too far. The advocacy group for the American cancer society says the tax would raise \$37 million dollars. It would pay for many social programs slated to be cut come July first. Programs like meals on wheels, senior companions, and the tobacco use prevention program. Some health organizations have stepped forward and again have provided new revenue so they can fund these programs. <b><i>See also Health.</i></b>	03/09/11 1:50 PKG
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Governor Schweitzer blasted Republicans for turning away millions of dollars in federal money to upgrade hospital medical records. The governor says the \$35 million would create jobs and make health care more efficient by creating electronic medical records that he says would reduce duplicative procedures and speed up service, but opponents say the technology could put patients' private information at risk. <b><i>See also Healthcare and Politics.</i></b>	03/16/11 0:32 VO/SOT

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Weather</b>	Amtrak trains are back on track after freezing weather and snow stopped trains in Montana and North Dakota. The empire builder will return to its normal schedule in both directions between Chicago and Portland and Seattle. Burlington Northern Santa Fe stopped passenger traffic on its tracks because of snow and freezing temperatures and freight trains ran at reduced speeds.	01/03/11 0:23 VO
<b>Weather</b>	The postal service wants to make sure people keep the path to their mailbox clear. Ice and snow make delivering the mail tricky. Mail carriers are also asking homeowners not to park in front of their mail boxes. The postal service warns that if the path to your mailbox isn't clear, you may not get your mail. Carriers are instructed to pass up any boxes that don't have safe access. <i>See also Safety.</i>	01/04/11 0:22 VO
<b>Weather</b>	There is a weather alert tonight: Brutal cold is headed our way again and snow on top of it. People in southwest Montana are already facing danger from severe weather. Ice jams are sparking flood warnings for rivers in southwest Montana. In twin bridges, the river is filled with ice and the water's rising. Emergency workers sandbagged, pumped water and dumped more dirt on a dike. No houses are flooded so far but the water is spreading to the Madison County Fairgrounds. Crews are struggling to protect historic buildings. Ice jams are dangerous, so folks in Twin Bridges be aware that the river level can change at any time. In addition to that flood warning... There's another one out for another ice jam... This one in Logan, Gallatin County. <i>See also Safety.</i>	01/05/11 0:56 VO
<b>Weather</b>	Emergency crews are keeping a close eye on ice jams and flooding in Madison County in southwest Montana. The Beaverhead river is flowing through twin bridges, but slowly. Last week NBC Montana told you about flooding in parts of town. The water level is only two feet below highway 41. Also flash flooding in Ennis is keeping crews busy. Roads are open but dangerous for small cars. Officials say they hope to get through the next several hours without a weather related	01/11/11 0:21 VO

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	problem.	
<b>Weather</b>	Western Montanans brace against the cold as wind and snow slam into the state. Roads are slick and could be even more dangerous tonight. We have a winter storm warning for northwest Montana, a winter weather advisory for west central areas and a flood warning for the Madison River near Ennis. There will be snow area wide tonight, with the heaviest west of the Divide. Lows of 15 in Kalispell with 20s elsewhere. Up to 7 inches of snow are expected in the Flathead by the end of the night. Warming temperatures in the 30s combined with today's snow fall will likely increase the avalanche danger. Folks need to be aware of that and use precautions.	01/12/11 2:04 PKG
<b>Weather</b>	Recent weather conditions have pushed avalanche danger to "high" in Central Montana. Folks headed into the back country are encouraged to plan ahead and test their equipment. The Flathead National Forest created a park where you can test your avalanche beacon. It's located at Whitefish Mountain Resort. When you come to the park you can turn on beacons under the snow. Beacons would typically be strapped on someone's body. Once you locate the beacon you use the probe to find it. <b><i>See also Safety.</i></b>	01/14/11 0:21 VO
<b>Weather</b>	Raging flood waters hit Libby early this morning, closing down parts of Highway 2 and side streets. Rescue crews and volunteers all jumped into lend a hand to fellow residents who say the flooding is the worst they've seen it in over a decade. Volunteers from across the City donated their time and resources to help stop the water from breaking bridges and ruining property. Libby officials say the flood conditions are much improved and, the parts of Hwy 2 that had been shut down are now operating.	01/17/11 1:12 PKG
<b>Weather</b>	A winter storm watch is posted for the Kalispell area with winter weather advisory posted for Missoula, Bozeman and Butte this weekend. Tonight, a few rain and snow showers, mainly west of the divide. Lows in the 20s. Accumulating snow likely by late Saturday and Sunday.	01/28/11 0"23 VO

**News at 5**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

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Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Weather</b>	<p>A winter storm stretching more than two-thousand miles is bearing down on a huge portion of the country. It's dumping heavy snow and ice and bringing 60 mile an hour winds. The storm is moving into Chicago right now. Officials are telling people to not even try and get around in their cars. Grocery store shelves are stripped as people hunker down. With no one wanting to risk travel, airports are looking like ghost towns. The monster storm is expected to bring up to 20 inches of snow before it heads to the east coast.</p>	02/01/11 0:47 PKG
<b>Weather</b>	<p>Jefferson Acres, an area just outside of Twin Bridges . Is dealing with the worst flooding they've seen in over 30 years. An ice jam forced the Jefferson River to begin swelling on Sunday. Roads are shutdown and some houses are threatened but so far no houses are flooded. Officials are giving out sandbags and pumps to residents who need them, but advise it may be a good idea to leave if the situation gets any worse. According to Christopher Mumme, Emergency Management Director, if you have a place to go, you might think about packing your personal items and your insurance forms, pictures, anything that you're going to need for identification. <b><i>See also Safety.</i></b></p>	02/21/11 0:37 VO
<b>Weather</b>	<p>A winter storm has created some treacherous road conditions in southwest Montana. Troopers say they've responded to around thirty crashes from about midnight to 1:30 this afternoon. Most of those were just slide-offs, although a few of them involved multiple wrecked cars. This storm left a slushy mess all-over the area. Troopers offered up some basic advice for keeping yourself safe on the roads. They said do things like make sure your windshield wipers are in working order, and clean your headlights off. A highway patrol dispatch person told us no one was injured in any of those crashes today. But with that thick slush everywhere, it's still important to keep in mind how slick things can get out there. <b><i>See also Safety and Weather.</i></b></p>	03/22/11 0:55 PKG

# Community Issues Report

First Quarter 2011

News at 6 and 10

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## Topics of Focus:

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1. Crime and Safety
  2. Economy / Economic Recovery
  3. Education
  4. Health / Healthcare
  5. Housing / Homelessness
  6. Jobs / Employment
  7. Politics
  8. Taxes / Government Spending
  9. Substance Abuse / DUIs
  10. Weather
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**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A deadly day in the Flathead as one man died in an avalanche in the Flathead National Forest and two other died at the Whitefish Mountain Resort. One was found by Ski Patrol dead in a tree well and the other died in the middle of a run. Ski Patrol tried to revive the 68 year old man, but couldn't.	01/08/11 1:16 VO/RDR/RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	U. S. Marshals in Utah arrested a Missoula man for sexual assault and sexual abuse of children. An underage girl told Missoula Police that Kevin Michael McCarthy molested her over a number of years. The 53 year old was reportedly in Utah for a family medical emergency. McCarthy waived extradition and is in the process of being transported back to Montana to answer these charges.	01/10/11 :33 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Missoula man faces up to 200 years in prison for allegedly sexually molesting an underage girl every other week over a number of years. Noel Hans Fruechte faces one count of sexual intercourse without consent and one count of sexual assault.	01/11/11 :29 RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A propane leak gave students and teachers a scare at Frenchtown Junior High and High School today. The building had to be evacuated. Maintenance crews discovered an propane pipe on the roof had pulled apart.	01/11/11 :37 VO/RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A 24 year old convicted sex offender is accused of luring a 12 year old Wyoming girl to Missoula. Police say her parents found her naked on the bed of William Richard Nielson's apartment. He had contacted the girl through the internet. Court records claim he kept her locked in the	01/11/11 :27 RDR News at 6 & 10

## News at 6 and 10

Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	apartment, gave her alcohol and drugs and repeatedly assaulted her for four days.	
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Neighbors in one Missoula community think they should have been warned they had a sexual offender living next door. William Nielsen was a sexual predator convicted in 2004 of raping a 12 year old. Nielsen's now accused of luring a 12 year old girl from Wyoming to Missoula and repeatedly raping her in his apartment over four days.	01/13/11 1:07 VO/SOT/VOGFX News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	It was a tense courtroom in Missoula today as a Day Care Provider convicted of molesting a four year old girl is sentenced. Seventy-one year old Albert Gaub molested the four year old girl for about 14 months starting in 2008. The Defense Attorney asked for Gaub to be placed on probation instead of jail. The Judge, Dusty Deschamps thinks Gaub is a real danger to the community.	01/14/11 1:38 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Missoula Sheriff's Deputies arrested a 16 year old Big Sky student who's accused of stabbing a man yesterday. It happened at a home on Amity Lane, a few blocks from the school. Investigators say the 19 year old victim confronted a group of kids about loitering and smoking near his house. The 16 year old student allegedly stabbed the other man.	01/15/11 :24 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A 25 year old Libby woman died after an accidental shooting Thursday night. Investigators say Sarah Gudmundsen was in a car with three friends. They were drinking and shooting at road signs. A bullet went through the front passenger seat, hitting her. Prosecutors charged her friend 30 year old Jacob Stufflebeam with negligent homicide.	01/15/11 :21 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Avalanche danger is high in the Flathead and people headed into the Back Country are encouraged to plan ahead and know their equipment. The Flathead National Forest has created an Avalanche Beacon Park where you can test your avalanche beacon.	01/18/11 :40 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	It's fairly uncommon for a Judge to reject a plea deal but today a Judge from Malta made it perfectly clear that Greg Barkus committed a serious crime and needs to pay the price.	01/20/11 1:45 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Deputies arrested Edwin and Cheryl Criswell two weeks ago for suspected Animal Cruelty after Animal workers say they found 115 cats inside the couple's trailer home.	1/20/11 :45 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Polson's Rural Fire Department will start charging for going out to serious automobile accidents. Money collected will go to training and maintenance of equipment. They join Ronan, Arlee and Kalispell as just a few communities in Western Montana who currently charge similar fees.	01/20/11 :44 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	After more than a month, Mineral County Detectives are calling a fatal shooting Self-Defense. Jack Finley died after being shot in the chest by his stepson, David Streeter.	01/21/11 :51 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A former Kalispell man has plead guilty to reduced charges from a December 2009 confrontation with a suspected Drug Dealer. He pleads guilty to Accountability and Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs.	01/22/11 :22 RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Witnesses say a shed blew up and then burned to the ground at a residence near Smith Lake, west of Kalispell. Icy roads gave firefighters from several firehouses trouble getting to the fire. No one was injured.	01/22/11 :50 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A case of mistaken identity has Police warning Internet users to make sure their connections are secure. Missoulian Shannon Adkins got a surprise visit from Law Enforcement this past November. Police traced illegal child porn to Adkins' home. Someone had been stealing internet access from her wireless connection.	01/24/11 :53 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Attorneys picked a jury today in the case of a teenage girl accused of purposefully driving into oncoming traffic and killing a pregnant woman and her 13 year old son.	01/24/11 :54 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Whitefish Mountain Resort is stepping up efforts to control ski deaths and injuries after two skiers died in tree wells. New tree well signs are up and posted in visible locations throughout the resort.	01/24/11 :42 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Flathead man, Justin Calbick, accused in a double murder may not be getting the Plea Deal he expected. He was expected to change his plea today but the hearing was suddenly cancelled. He is scheduled to appear in Court tomorrow when we'll know if this case is headed to trial.	01/27/11 1:16 VO/VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Montana's Transportation Director told Lawmakers a Seatbelt Bill needs to pas the Legislature. Police want the change but Civil Liberties Activists are outraged.	01/27/11 :48 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Flathead County Sheriff's Dive Team practiced in 40 degree water today at Flathead Lake. The Team is On Call year-round. They have to be ready at any time to gear up and dive in to recover ditched evidence, investigate a boat crash, or search for a missing person.	01/29/11 1:31 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Judge fined Deputy Bruce Parish 850 dollars for driving drunk last year. He was suspended without pay for two days. The new Sheriff, Chuck Curry wants every Deputy to know what'll happen if they break the law while off the clock. He's making a written Policy so everyone, Deputies and the Public will clearly understand the consequences.	02/02/11 1:54 VO/PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Flathead County Jury found Justine Winter guilty of two counts of Deliberate Homicide for intentionally slamming her car into oncoming traffic two years ago, killing Erin Thompson and her 15 year old son Caden O'Dell.	02/03/11 1:55 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Kalispell man, Justin Calbick, admits he killed his Father and Brother last year then held his wife and children hostage. In return for his guilty pleas, he agreed to serve no less than 50 years behind bars.	02/03/11 1:07 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and</b>	A propane leak leveled a home outside of Whitefish, just off	02/04/11 :40

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Safety</b>	Beaver Lake Road. Fortunately, no one was home at the time. Firefighters can't imagine there would have been any survivors. Officials say if you do smell gas in your home, call emergency services right away and follow instructions from 911 and they'll come out and hopefully mitigate before something like this happens.	VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Flathead County Fire Officials want to alert homeowners to potential problems with propane or natural gas leaks. After a Whitefish home leveled by a propane explosion, Investigators explain its proof why homeowners should regularly get their propane or natural gas systems inspected.	02/09/11 :39 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Missoula Judge threw out a Plea Agreement for a 19 year old Native American man and said it should have been more like the one given to former State Senator Greg Barkus.	02/16/11 1:01 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	An International Agency is recognizing the Montana State Crime Lab in Missoula as one of the most Elite in the World.	02/16/11 :42 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Flathead County Judge ruled a Kalispell liquor store can stay open while the owner fights a State push to close her store.	02/23/11 1:02 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	An early morning fire in a home in downtown Kalispell was extinguished before too much damage was done thanks to a working smoke detector. Officials say a wood burning stove appeared to have ignited a nearby wall.	02/26/11 :43 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Gallatin County Deputy resigned over allegations he grabbed a teenage girl by the throat, and pushed her against the wall, while she was in custody. Now, Deputy Thomas Madsen faces a felony charge of Mistreating a Prisoner.	03/09/11 1:19 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Flathead Prosecutors say they'll ask for the death penalty for accused murderer Tyler Miller. Prosecutors say the	03/10/11 :43 VO/SOT

**News at 6 and 10**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	extent of his premeditation is an aggravating circumstance that makes him eligible for the death penalty.	News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Jeffrey Nixon is accused of killing Wesley Collins last April, Prosecutors added a fourth charge a few days ago after he turned down a plea offer. He pled not guilty to the new charge of burglary as well.	03/10/11 :22 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Jeffrey Nixon's lawyers filed a brief claiming the State vindictively filed the additional charge. Other defense attorneys are saying this isn't the first time they've seen 'surprise' charges filed right before a case is set for Jury.	03/10/11 1:46 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The Flathead County Sheriff's Office needs help in finding a suspect in an armed robbery. The picture was taken from surveillance video at the Evergreen Pharmacy.	03/12/11 :44 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The Flathead County Sheriff's Department is still looking for the suspect in Saturday's burglary and kidnapping at the Evergreen Pharmacy.	03/13/11 1:02 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Missoula Police Chief Mark Muir wants stiffer penalties for speeders. He says that's because the current fines aren't lowering the number of people killed each year due to high speeds.	03/13/11 :35 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Federal Agents storm Medical Marijuana facilities across the State. According to the Medical Marijuana Advocacy Group "Americans For Safe Access" Agents hit at least 10 businesses in six Montana cities.	03/14/11 2:58 VO/PKG/VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Federal and Local Officials executed 26 Search Warrants raiding businesses from Columbia Falls to Billings. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Montana says the businesses are allegedly involved in a criminal enterprise to manufacture and distribute marijuana.	03/15/11 2:25 VO/PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Flathead murder suspect, Robert Lake, tried to take back his guilty plea in court today, claiming he misread his plea	03/16/11 :43 VO/SOT

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	deal.	News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Missoula Police need your help finding the suspect who tried to rob a gas station on Russell. Authorities say the suspect used a tire iron but the clerk fought back, throwing him to the ground.	03/16/11 :44 VO/VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A propane leak sent people running for cover South of Kalispell this morning. Responders say the leak happened when frost caused concrete under the tank to shift, breaking a connection.	03/17/11 :44 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Montana's U.S. Attorney, Mike Cotter says the operations of marijuana across Montana that were raided by Federal Agents were part of an investigation into large scale trafficking and tax evasion.	3/19/11 :29 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The Senate Local Government heard arguments today over whether a City should be able to decide what crimes should be priority.	03/21/11 :49 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The Flathead County Sheriff says he thinks many people have a misconception about the raids by Federal Agents of Marijuana growers. He says they are not an attack on legitimate Medical Marijuana businesses or users, and that people following State Law have nothing to worry about.	03/22/11 :34 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Missoula woman, Tara Couture, confessed that she bilked her ex-boyfriend's parents out of hundreds of thousands of dollars won't be going to prison.	03/23/11 :47 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Flathead County Attorneys are preparing for a murder trial where a conviction could result in the death penalty. It's the first death penalty case in 30 years for Flathead County.	03/25/11 1:49 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	One couple in Kalispell says they're tired of the bad rap law abiding Medical Marijuana dispensaries like theirs are getting.	03/26/11 1:49 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Fire crews evacuated a Missoula apartment building early this morning after the lobby was found in flames. A	03/27/11 1:45 PKG

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	neighboring Bridal Shop is being restored as Investigators try to find a cause.	News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Montana State Officials blame wolves for decimating Elk herds in the West Fork of the Bitterroot and that's why the State's proposing killing up to 18 wolves in that area.	03/28/11 1:43 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	A Medical Marijuana Advocacy Group is suing Flathead County's Attorney to clarify laws dealing with what Medical Marijuana caregivers can sell other caregivers.	03/28/11 :43 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	Missoula Police say they're looking for a man who stole thousands of dollars from a Casino. The man in the pictures is claimed to have opened up video poker machines and stole the money.	03/29/11 :50 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Crime and Safety</b>	The man accused of raping a 12 year old girl is scheduled to plead guilty. Court documents say Federal Prosecutors and William Richard Nielsen have reached a plea deal.	03/30/11 :32 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	A Virginia Company, Octagon Partners, is the new owner of Missoula's old Macy's building. Octagon is already looking for office and retails companies to lease space once the project is finished. Octagon specializes in restoring historic buildings in college towns.	01/10/11 :57 VO/SOT/HSC News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	A new owner could take over the Smurfit-Stone Mill site West of Missoula by the end of the month. A spokesperson for Smurfit Stone Container says it has signed a letter of intent with a company to purchase the Mill site.	01/17/11 :24 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	A Flathead Radio Station, KGEZ, is seeing new life. KGEZ went quiet after its former owner lost his FCC license. The Gardeners, who acquired the station, cut a deal with a local radio man, John Hendricks and KGEZ is now back on the air.	01/19/11 :38 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	The Smurfit Stone Corporation is sold. The Rock-Tenn Company is the new owner but today's announcement makes no mention of the future of the Frenchtown Mill.	01/23/11 :51 VO News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	A Georgia Packaging Company wants to buy Smurfit Stone, but Smurfit's closed Frenchtown plant is not part of the deal. Smurfit Stone's Attorney says the Mill is "separate and apart" from the proposed Rock-Tenn merger.	01/25/11 :45 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Business Leaders in the Flathead predict the local economy has reached its bottom. The experts believe Health Care is one of the Valley's best bets for the future.	01/26/11 :30 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	One Kalispell Clinic reports it's an example of the growing Health Industry. The "Montana Center for Wellness and Pain Management" quadrupled in size since it joined Northwest Healthcare 5 years ago.	01/26/11 :34 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy / Economic Recovery</b>	Any company buying Frenchtown's Smurfit Stone Mill will not need new Environmental permits. Smurfit kept all it Air and Water Permits active and that makes the mothballed facility more attractive to potential buyers.	01/27/11 1:53 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	Missoula's the only major Urban area in Montana to see three straight years of Economic decline. Economists gave statewide forecasts at Missoula's Annual Economic Outlook Seminar.	01/28/11 :48 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	In a struggling economy some things never change. Pizza Parlors in Missoula count on Super Bowl Sunday where they can sell double or triple the amount of pizzas.	02/06/11 1:29 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	A high tech upgrade is helping Missoula County plan snow removal. Global Positioning Systems give real-time information on which roads are being plowed. The information helps reduce idling time and that saves on fuel.	02/07/11 :34 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	In Missoula's State of the City, May Engen focused on Missoula's Economic Recovery. The Mayor hopes his "Best Place Project" can give the City the economic shot in the arm.	02/08/11 1:49 VO/SOT/VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
Community Issues Report  
First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	A new study had Kalispell Leaders looking to increase sewer and water rates by 400 percent. Residents would have to pay an extra 11 dollars every two months for sewer. In three years residents will pay another 11 dollars every two months for water.	02/16/11 :57 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	For the fifth month in a row, Glacier National Airport reports increased passengers coming through its terminal. Almost twelve thousand passengers traveled through the airport this January. That's 500 more than in January 2010.	02/22/11 :19 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	Smurfit Stone Container Corporation has signed a purchase agreement with an Oregon based investment company. That company plans to demolish the Mill.	02/26/11 2:42 VO/VO/SOT/SOT/HS News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	Energy Exploration on 138 thousand acres in Northwest Montana may come to an end. Devon Energy Corporation of Oklahoma owns 74 leases on the land, which contains the primary water source for Whitefish.	02/27/11 :18 HSC News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	The Smurfit Plant provided 20 percent of the School's tax base when it was in operation and 10 percent after it closed. The new owner will continue to pay property taxes but as the building and equipment disappear so will the tax dollars.	02/28/11 :57 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	Alvin Benitz a resident of Libby for nearly ten years is tired of seeing his town struggle. A new mining project could finally change that.	03/03/11 1:41 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	The Missoula Family Violence Council is collecting items at several sites in an effort for people in crisis to make use of your old cell phones and printer cartridges.	03/04/11 :47 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/ Economic Recovery</b>	Missoula's "Best Place" project is closing in on its 3.2 million dollar fund raising goal. Organizers announced plans to wrap up fundraising by the end of May.	03/14/11 :47 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Economy/</b>	People in Missoula will pay more for water next month. The	03/25/11 :39

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Economic Recovery</b>	Public Service Commission okayed an almost 9 percent rate hike for Mountain Water Co.	VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Fire Inspectors in Kalispell found Flathead High School's not up to code. Now Administrators are warning they might have to shut down schools if voters don't approve a special Levy.	01/13/11 :53 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Some University of Montana students think a Financial Company partnered with the school is ripping them off. Administrators wanted to get rid of paper checks for Financial Aid. But some worry students will fall victim to hidden fees with the cards.	02/03/11 1:15 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	School Administrators in Kalispell are asking taxpayers to vote online about possible budget cuts. The School System already cut close to a million dollars from this year's budget and it's scheduled to ask voters to approve a 5 million dollar Levy in March.	02/07/11 :38 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	School Leaders in Missoula want to give community members an up-close look at next year's budget and Levies. Voters will decide whether to renew the High School and Elementary School Levies.	02/14/11 :53 VO/SOT/VOGFX News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	In the Flathead, Marion School Administrators plan to keep working toward school improvements in spite of a failed 2.2 million dollar bond. School Leaders say the money was essential to get kids out of temporary buildings.	02/17/11 :40 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Four bus loads of students are set to converge on the State Legislature protesting 32 million dollars of proposed Education cuts. Students from the University of Montana in Missoula are going to Helena to make their case for preserving Education Funds.	02/18/11 :45 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The Libby School Board voted to close its Asa Wood Elementary School. Under the new plan, Kindergarten through Sixth Grade will be in the Middle School and 7 <sup>th</sup>	02/23/11 :19 RDR News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	through 12 <sup>th</sup> will be in the high school.	
<b>Education</b>	Hellgate High wants to make improvements to the track and field at Missoula's Toole Park. The school currently uses the Park for Gym classes, sports and band practices, but it's one of the City's Public Parks. Hellgate's Principal and Track Coach pitched ideas to Missoula City Council tonight.	02/28/11 1:35 VO/SOT/SOT/RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The Flathead School District has a big mess on its hands. But, the Superintendent says the cleanup of a burst pipe is going much faster than anticipated.	02/28/11 :49 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Eight Hundred High School students crowded into Flathead Valley Community College to experience "College for a Day".	03/01/11 :37 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The Flathead Valley Community College is widely praised for offering numerous programs of study, but one they're missing is dance. A group of students took matters into their own hands and made a dance program.	03/05/11 3:37 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The Whitefish School Board approved a pay freeze for teachers this year. The freeze was actually proposed by the Teachers Education Association.	03/12/11 :44 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Kalispell Administrators think they've got a better take on what parents and educators think should be cut to trim a million dollars from the budget.	03/15/11 1:00 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Kalispell Teachers elected not to ask for raises because of a projected budget deficit. Teachers also made a deal last night with the School Board agreeing to pay any insurance increases.	03/16/11 :37 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	School Officials in Kalispell say teaching jobs will be in jeopardy if a 6 million dollar levy doesn't pass. Officials say the money for the levy will pay for needed repairs to Kalispell High Schools, and bring them up to code.	03/18/11 :46 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Students lined up outside of Congressman Denny Rehberg's	03/22/11 :37

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	office to protest cuts to Financial Aid. Congress' Spending Bill cut Pell Grants by 15 percent.	VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The cuts for Pell Grants come on top of 32 million dollars in Higher Education cuts planned by the State Legislature.	03/22/11 :53 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The President of the University of Montana sees a good marriage between University research and local jobs. Engstrom says University Research forges important economic bonds in communities.	03/22/11 :34 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The Montana Science Fair wrapped up today at the University of Montana. Most of these Junior High and High School students put in months of work to show off their science exhibits.	03/22/11 1:27 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	Sixty-one percent of voters said no to the 5.9 million dollar Levy last night in Kalispell. The Kalispell District High Schools began discussions today to cope with the financial loss.	03/23/11 1:54 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Education</b>	The University of Montana will have its first Sustainable Garden for their Dining Services. For students who will help maintain the garden, it will raise a lot of awareness about sustainability and where our food comes from as well as health and diets and nutrition.	03/31/11 1:52 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	The Missoula Valley is back under a Stage One Air Alert that means the air is unhealthy for some people. When Officials issue an Alert, people with wood burning stoves or fireplaces can't use them without the proper permits.	01/03/11 1:55 PKG/HSC News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Hundreds turned up in Missoula today for free tests, screenings and health advice. It wasn't just the uninsured who showed up for the deals.	01/09/11 :26 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	A Flathead Valley Elderly Home will start offering services for Dementia and Alzheimer's patients in February. Special locks were put on all the doors so memory loss patients	01/16/11 :37 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	won't wander out of the Center.	
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Western Montanans got a tour of a new Trauma Care Center in Missoula. The Red Willow Learning Center provides healing services for people in trauma. It's a non-profit Center. Organizers say it's different from your normal care provider.	01/16/11 :32 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	One of the Whistle Blowers responsible for bringing down major Tobacco Companies in the 90s is hitting five Montana Cities in five days. Doctor Victor DeNoble was at an Awareness Lecture in Kalispell.	02/20/11 1:54 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	The Flathead Community Health Center says they are in danger of having to close their doors. A Federal Grant from the Stimulus package helped them make low cost health care a reality in 2008. But the money's almost gone. On Tuesday, they will have to start limiting their services.	02/25/11 :55 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	A last minute Short-term Federal Grant will keep the Flathead Community Health Center from closing its doors. The Center serves patients without insurance.	03/01/11 :32 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	The Flathead Community Health Center is still in trouble because of Federal cuts which could mean saying goodbye to jobs and programs.	03/02/11 :33 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Health workers are on alert as Whooping Cough is spreading along a busy Western Montana Highway. Health Officials are saying if you or your children have not been vaccinated, you should do it now.	03/08/11 1:43 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/ Healthcare</b>	Victims of Asbestos contamination in Libby could be getting close to a settlement. More than 11 hundred victims are considering the deal. The Supreme Court ruled the State should have warned miners about hazards first identified in the fifties.	03/08/11 :30 HSC News at 6 & 10
<b>Health/</b>	Potassium Iodide is prescribed to people directly after	03/18/11 :40

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Healthcare</b>	radiation exposure. Health workers say it should only be taken on doctors orders. There are risks to taking potassium iodide inappropriately and should only be taken when prescribed by your doctor.	VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	A new home means a new life for a deserving Missoula family. A house built through Habitat for Humanity with help from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is more than just a new home to the Halland family it's an easier life. Stephanie's son is in a wheelchair and this home was specifically built for him.	01/22/11 1:03 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	Missoula organizations gathered under one roof today to help those in need. The Fifth Annual "Project Homeless Connect Event" aims to bring critical service to those in need and at the same time give people helping a better picture of who they're helping.	01/26/11 2:08 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	The United Way has its boots on the ground trying to count the Nation's homeless population. Sherry Stevens coordinates Homeless Survey Centers in the Flathead Valley.	01/30/11 1:46 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	Tomorrow the Youth Homes Organization will celebrate its Forty Year Anniversary. The Non-Profit takes in kids from troubled backgrounds. Youth Homes has nine groups across Western Montana and currently serve 145 kids.	01/30/11 1:57 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	Missoula County has the latest survey results on the area's homeless population. The County will use this study to help find the next step in helping the City's homeless.	02/01/11 :38 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	A debate over housing issues is centering on a plot of land near Missoula's Good Food Store. The owner is asking to increase zoning from 16 housing units per acre to 43.	02/15/11 1:01 VO/VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	The Flathead Valley Community Action Partnership is holding its breath with budget cuts looming. One of the programs, The Mutual Self Help Housing Program which	03/06/11 1:40 PKG News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	helped a local family be able get a loan and build their own home, is in jeopardy.	
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	The Missoula YWCA lost two major funding sources for their Emergency Housing Program. That leaves the non-profit about 100 thousand dollars in the hole.	03/23/11 :49 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Housing/ Homelessness</b>	The cost of housing in Missoula dropped for the third year in a row last year but experts say the market is bottoming out. It's a good report for buyers but a bad report for sellers.	03/31/11 :42 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	People making minimum wage in Montana are getting a ten cent raise. Over eleven thousand Montanans saw their wages increase January first. The increase is more of a response to economic inflation rather than a raise.	01/01/11 2:01 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	A few of those high paying jobs will soon be showing up at Rivertop Renewables. The State just awarded the Missoula based Company a 200 thousand dollar grant.	03/14/11 :39 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Ninety teachers in Missoula found out today that they could lose their jobs. The District mailed letters telling non-tenured teachers Officials plan to not renew their contracts at the end of the school year.	03/28/11 :44 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Just weeks ago an Arbitrator decided in the Firefighters favor saying the City has to honor the new contract and increase their pay. The City is saying they will have to make job cuts.	03/30/11 1:52 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Libby residents plan to Rally tomorrow for a mining project that could translate into lots of jobs for Northwest Montana. The Mon-Tin-Ore Mine Project has been in limbo for years, held up by Federal and State Environmental Laws.	03/30/11 :23 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Jobs/ Employment</b>	Kalispell Firefighters are headed back to the bargaining table after the City promises lay-offs to meet their	03/31/11 1:01 VO/SOT

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	demands.	News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	The State's Legislators go back to work tomorrow. The lawmakers officially start the 2011 session at noon tomorrow. There are a host of hot-button issues in the upcoming session. The first up is House Bill 161 which calls for the repeal of the Medical Marijuana Act.	01/02/11 1:30 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	The new Flathead Sheriff shuffled the deck today replacing most of the Department's Top Brass. For now the Sheriff has frozen their pay. But his plans aren't stopping with leadership changes. Deputies are moving to a five day work week.	01/03/11 1:07 VO/SOT/VOGFX News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Karen Townsend was sworn in as the Fourth District Court's newest Judge. She was Missoula's first female prosecutor and now Missoula's first female Judge.	01/03/11 :41 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Lake County Commissioners face another hurdle as they work to fill a State Senate vacancy. Lake County makes up most of the District and Commissioners admit they're stymied on who to select. They've asked Republicans to submit three more candidates.	01/05/11 :43 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	There's a new Sheriff in charge in Lake County, Jay Doyle. He takes office after a rough and bitter election. All three candidates came from the Department and still must work together. He says his first priority will be to lift morale.	01/05/11 1:14 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	A Medical Marijuana Provider criticized for using teleconference exams says it is following the Law. The Montana Board of Medical Examiners banned the use of video for Medical Marijuana exams in November.	01/06/11 1:02 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Ken Miller, a Republican candidate for Montana's Governor in 2012 wants to see wolves hunted again and he thinks the State should be responsible for Wolf Management.	01/11/11 :28 SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Montana's Senate Judiciary Committee is considering a Bill	01/12/11 :39

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	that would force the State Attorney General to challenge President Obama's Healthcare overhaul. If the Bill passes, Montana would join 20 other states in appealing the reforms. Montana's Attorney General's office questions whether the proposed Bill is Constitutional.	VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	New Political faces keep popping up in Northwestern Montana. They are neither Republicans nor Democrats following an increasing National trend. The Constitution Party, the Tea Party, Oathkeepers and several other 3 <sup>rd</sup> Parties are developing a presence in Montana.	01/16/11 1:52 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Healthcare was on the State Lawmakers minds in Helena today. Legislators were told if they don't review Health Insurance rate increases, the Federal Government will step in and do it.	01/18/11 :33 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Montana's Department of Transportation says roads are ready for oversized shipments from Idaho. Director Jim Lynch says the State just needs to finalize the times that the massive loads will move on their way to Billings.	01/19/11 :43 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	State Senator Jim Shockley from Victor stepped down today as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, just days after being busted for driving with an open container. The Judiciary Committee had just gotten started reviewing four DUI Bills.	01/20/11 :38 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Governor Schweitzer called for a slight increase in the higher education budget. Educators stand by it but Republicans want it slashed. Lawmakers say it doesn't have to be across the board cuts, but hope to reduce the General Budget by 5 percent.	01/20/11 1:06 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	A Public Hearing was held in Helena over a Bill that would remove many of the gray areas with the State's Medical Marijuana Initiative. There were over a hundred people who were at the Capitol.	01/21/11 1:59 PKG News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Politics</b>	A Bill being drafted in the State Legislature could void Missoula's Anti-Discrimination Ordinance. Reports of the Bill say it would stop local governments from enacting anti-discrimination statutes based on sexual orientation.	01/21/11 1:10 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	A Bill that would force Montana Attorney General Steve Bullock to join other states suing the Government over Health Care has moved out of committee.	01/21/11 :28 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	President Obama is calling abortion a constitutional right he is committed to protect. Some people in Western Montana want to see the Supreme Court decision of 1973, Roe vs. Wade overturned. Flathead Pro Life rallied at an Elementary school then marched down Main Street. The group's leader says they want to support those who decide against abortion, but also women who have already undergone the procedure.	01/22/11 1:02 VO/VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Missoula City Council picked a person to fill the vacant Ward 2 Seat tonight. Cynthia Wolken was chosen from nine candidates that were vying for the position. She replaces Roy Houseman who resigned his position to take a job with the United Steel Workers Union in Washington D.C.	01/24/10 1:13 VO/VO/RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	A Bill to let Micro-Brewery Tap Rooms serve beer until 10pm has some calling foul. Whitefish Republican Senator Ryan Zinke is proposing to shift Tap Room serving hours from Ten in the morning until Eight at night to Noon through Ten pm instead. Bar owners think they should be required to pay for a liquor license as is required for competing bars and restaurants.	01/28/11 :41 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Denny Rehberg announced his decision tonight to leave his Seat in the House of Representatives for a chance at the United States Senate.	02/05/11 :48 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	State Senator Dave Wanzenried of Missoula sponsored the Bill that would abolish the Death Penalty in Montana. It drew emotional testimony at the Senate Judiciary	02/08/11 1:00 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	Committee today.	
<b>Politics</b>	Swan Mountain Outfitters is one of many Guides around the State claiming a steep decline in business since the new Law, Initiative 161, went into effect. Guides say hunters are going to other States for hunting.	02/08/11 1:13 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Legislators believe a Workers' Comp Bill will come out of the 2011 Session. Senator Ryan Zinke of Whitefish is the Sponsor of the Bill.	02/09/11 :51 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	There is still controversy over the Big Rigs hauling equipment across Montana to the Alberta Tar Sands. One group, "All Against The Haul", say they don't see any benefits for our State.	02/10/11 1:34 VO/VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	State Senators looked at a Bill that would heavily regulate Medical Marijuana this morning. Sources say they expect the Governor to Veto a Bill that would Repeal Medical Marijuana.	02/11/11 1:48 VO/SOT/VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Nearly 100 protestors surrounded a Conoco Phillips Mega load this afternoon trying to make a statement about what's to come. The Big Rig is the first of four shipments headed to Billings. Protestors say they're worried about hundreds more that are scheduled to go to Canada.	02/13/11 2:12 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Governor Brian Schweitzer announced Conservation Groups will pay more than 9 million dollars to stop mining in the Flathead River drainage.	02/14/11 :56 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Governor Schweitzer says the State will defy Federal Protection for Wolves and kill the wolves that have been depleting Elk herds.	02/16/11 1:13 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Legislators in Helena are looking at a Bill that would 'dismantle' a Missoula Ordinance protecting Lesbian, Gay and Transgendered people.	02/16/11 2:10 VO/VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Politics</b>	State Representative Jerry O'Neil, from Columbia Falls, wants to change a law that forces schools to expel a student who left a firearm locked inside their car or truck. He's sponsoring House Bill 558.	02/17/11 2:13 VO/PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	The Senate Judiciary Committee listened to a proposal that would make it a crime to refuse a breath or blood sample if you're accused of driving under the influence. The Bill was introduced by Senator Cliff Larson of Missoula.	02/17/11 :45 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Amendments to the State Budget Bill would cut funding for the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. If passed the home would have to Privatize or shut down.	02/18/11 :37 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	A House Committee killed a Bill that would have allowed students to keep a gun in their locked car on school grounds.	02/18/11 :25 HSC News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	The Montana House Judiciary Committee approved a Bill that would do away with Missoula's Anti-Discrimination Ordinance. The news came as a surprise to some Conservatives.	02/21/11 1:10 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	The House passed House Bill 161, a Bill to repeal Montana's Montana Medical Marijuana Law. A Missoula Representative slammed today's vote. She's helped draft three Bills that would increase regulation of Medical Marijuana.	02/21/11 :57 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	The Mega Loads for Conoco won't be alone traveling through Missoula. Opponents of the haul will be following.	03/09/11 1:49 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Montana's Governor promised to hold Smurfit Stone accountable for any environmental contamination left behind at the closed paper-mill.	03/09/11 1:35 VO/VO/SOT/HSC News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Fans and Protestors met Conoco Philips oversized loads last night as they made their way down Missoula's Reserve Street. Four Protestors were arrested for disorderly	03/10/11 :49 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	conduct.	
<b>Politics</b>	Montana's Democrats say House Republicans will hurt the State if they refuse to take Federal Funds for Social Programs.	03/17/11 1:03 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Amendments to restore funding to Higher Education failed to pass the Senate Finance and Claims Committee today.	03/19/11 :25 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	A newspaper poll that came out this weekend says Montanans are still on the fence about whether to repeal Montana's Medical Marijuana Law but clearly want stricter regulations on the industry.	03/20/11 2:15 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	The Missoula City Council made it clear tonight, they do not support a repeal of Montana's Medical Marijuana Law.	03/21/11 1:39 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	One Senator, Terry Murphy of Cardwell, is looking to restart Gold Mining in the Treasure State by reviving Cyanide Leach Mining. But not everyone likes the idea.	03/23/11 1:24 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Missoula County Superintendent, Alex Apostle worries lawmakers are dragging their feet on School Funding. He thinks the Legislature will cut Education Funds and wonders how deeply.	03/24/11 :51 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Politics</b>	Senate Bill 306, a measure to allow Cyanide Leach Mining, passed a second reading in the House today. If the Bill passes its final reading, it will go to the Governor's desk for a signature.	03/31/11 :40 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Law enforcement officers stepped up DUI patrol across Western Montana last night. The Flathead Sheriff's Department said it was a relatively quiet night with 11 arrests and only two of those were DUIs. Bozeman Police arrested 5 people for DUIs.	01/01/11 :30 GFX News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	More than 150 thousand dollars is going toward DUI prevention in Kalispell. The money will be spread between	01/04/11 1:38 PKG

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	everything from the Police Department to the City Courts.	News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	A Taxi owner in the Flathead is upset over what is billed as a free Taxi Service for drinkers. It's called "The Ride Guy", a ride service in Whitefish. It's not a licensed business and the founder says they don't charge or take tips. He was sick of seeing people drive home from bars drunk.	01/06/11 :41 VO/SOT/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	One proposal yet to be introduced is already being tested in the State. Several communities, including Missoula, have made it a crime to refuse to give a breath or blood sample if an Officer thinks you're driving under the influence.	01/17/11 1:51 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Montana ranks third in the nation in Teen Prescription Drug Abuse. A Missoula Committee tried to curb that statistic today.	02/12/11 :41 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Flathead Drug Officers say changing drug prices have more people using cocaine and heroin. These are just some of the drugs seized and booked into evidence. The Northwest Drug Task Force says the price of Meth is way up and that has users turning to other similarly priced drugs like heroin and cocaine.	02/15/11 :53 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	A 22 year old Missoula woman died after another car T-boned her as she crossed Brooks St. Police blame speed, alcohol and maybe drugs.	02/21/11 :25 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Mineral County's Drug and DUI Treatment Court is having a positive effect. Court workers know the Treatment Court isn't the answer for everyone but they hope it can turn around the lives of at least some of the people involved.	03/02/11 2:14 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Attorney General Steve Bullocks' "24/7" Sobriety Program passed the House on a 96 to 3 vote. The Program would require repeat offenders to submit breath tests daily at their own expense.	03/02/11 :21 VO News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	The Lake County Flathead Reservation Alcohol Reservation Enforcement Team is trying to stop adults from supplying alcohol to minors. They plan to work with kids over 18 years of age to help the Team catch them in the act.	03/04/11 1:35 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	In the Flathead, Police arrested four students at Glacier High School for dealing prescription drugs on campus. They face felony charges and charges are pending against two other students.	03/10/11 :24 RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	After the arrest of 4 students at Glacier High School in Kalispell for dealing drugs, Officials now say these are only the latest in a surge of drug-connected arrests at the school this year.	03/11/11 1:32 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	A Frenchtown mother is charged with hosting an underage drinking party on Senior Skip Day. Sheriff's Officers were tipped off to the party by school officials and raided the house.	03/11/11 :46 SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	The Missoula City Council sent the proposed Social Host Ordinance back to Committee tonight. The goal is to crack down on people who provide alcohol to minors.	03/14/11 :57 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	The Kalispell School Board expelled three of the four Glacier High students arrested for dealing prescription drugs.	03/16/11 1:01 VO/SOT/RDR News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Some marijuana growers found themselves hospitalized after a pot experiment blew up in their faces last night. Flathead Sheriff's Deputies say occupants of this mobile home in Evergreen were trying to turn homegrown marijuana into hashish.	03/17/11 :44 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Frenchtown students got to see firsthand the effects of drunk driving and not wearing your seat belt. Transportation Officials showed them a car mangled in a drunken driving accident and then they demonstrated what happens when a body is ejected from a moving car.	03/24/11 :45 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Substance Abuse/DUIs</b>	Thirty-six year old Daniel Rogers of Missoula pled guilty to killing his friend in a drunken driving crash in Sacajawea Park just off Orange Street.	03/24/11 :20 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Winter Weather is stressing the snow removal budget to the limit. As of Tuesday, the city reports snow removal crews have run through about 3 quarters of their de-icing budget. That's on top of already blowing through their over time budget for plow crews.	01/04/11 1:52 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Health Department Workers were floored when they found out 90 percent of the Budget for Montana's Tobacco Prevention Program was cut. More than 70 people could lose their jobs.	01/31/11 2:05 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Cuts in Helena could hit Seniors and people with disabilities hard too. Lawmakers chopped 3 million dollars from Montana's Area Agencies on Aging.	01/31/11 :40 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Thanks to a hefty increase in Resort Tax Revenue, Whitefish got an unexpected boon for their coffers. The City Manager says the money will go toward road repairs and reducing property taxes.	02/07/11 :45 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	The City of Whitefish will raise fees for Park use and Burials. The City says this comes after years without a cost adjustment.	02/13/11 :35 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Bigfork City Leaders broke ground today on a new Sewer Project that aims to clean up Bigfork Bay and Flathead Lake. The half million dollar project is meant to better clean water before it hits the lake.	02/21/11 :34 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Senator Jon Tester is praising a Northwestern Montana Community, Evergreen, for doing its part for the National Budget Crisis. They returned nearly 600 thousand dollars of Federal money.	03/03/11 :43 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Missoula Mayor John Engen opened the doors of the new Garlington building to Senator Jon Tester. The building was financed from a New Market Tax Credit designed to boost Economic Development in Missoula.	03/05/11 :54 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Missoula's persistent pothole problem has people dodging and swerving while driving down Garden City streets. Mayor Engen says they're already 150 to 200 thousand dollars over budget and they're working on a plan and a price tag for repairs.	03/07/11 1:35 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	The City of Whitefish approved an 800 thousand dollar plan to bury half a mile of power lines. The plan will be funded by the State Department of Transportation.	03/08/11 :28 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Kalispell City Leaders say they have no choice but to lay off up to 10 Firefighters after an arbitrator ordered the City to meet Union demands.	03/09/11 :40 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Advocates for Missoula Senior Citizens are worried about Meals on Wheels but a last minute budget amendment might just save the program from spending cuts.	03/24/11 1:46 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	The University of Montana College of Technology's one step closer to getting a new building. House Bill 439 passed its second reading in the House. The Bill is part of a 90 million dollar package.	03/24/11 1:27 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Taxes/Govt. Spending</b>	Lake County and the Salish and Kootenai Tribes approached Flathead County about creating a Water Quality District to fight the spread of aquatic invaders in Flathead Lake.	03/29/11 1:49 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	The Flathead National Forest will start a series of Avalanche Awareness Courses tomorrow. The fluffy new snow makes dream-like conditions for skiers and snowboarders but it also means heightened avalanche danger.	1/02/11 1:30 PKG News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
<b>Weather</b>	Farmers are keeping a close eye on the precipitation. Good snowpack means more water for crops longer into the growing season. Right now the numbers look but the experts say a lot can change and fast.	01/07/11 :32 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Avalanche Danger remains high in Northwest Montana. At least four avalanches hit the area North of Hungry Horse Dam over the weekend claiming one life.	01/10/11 :41 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Tree Wells are the blame for two deaths on Whitefish Mountain in the last two weeks. We wanted to know what they are exactly and how they are getting skiers and snow boarders into so much trouble. They are caused by solar radiation heating up a tree and melting the snow around it.	01/10/11 :57 VO/SOT/HSC News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	The Flathead expects up to 7 inches of snow by the end of the night. This combined with warmer weather has Flathead Forest Officials concerned. These conditions could increase avalanche danger in the surrounding mountains.	01/11/11 :30 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	A combination of rain and warm weather caused all the snow and ice we saw last week turn into a slushy mess in Western Montana. At a street in North Missoula the water is six inches deep and flooded the intersection on Turner Court.	01/16/11 :35 VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	The warm, wet weather is causing big problems for Northwest Montana. The Department of Transportation cleared a rock and mudslide on Highway 2, North of Troy this evening. Earlier today in Libby, rain, melting snow and icy conditions created a flash flood on Flower Creek.	01/17/11 :50 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	With the warmer weather and the snow melted away, pot holes are popping up. Pot holes this time of year are hard to avoid. Crews are working to make temporary fixes but until the weather clears, workers can't make permanent fixes.	01/18/11 1:38 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Ice jams have caused some flooding recently. There are three events that need to occur to kickoff an ice jam. A three or four day arctic outbreak, followed by a quick warm	01/19/11 :37 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	up, then quite a bit of rain.	
<b>Weather</b>	With high snow pack in the Mountains, Hydrologists are already watching the water. Most river basins are up between 5 and 15 percent, with Flathead Drainage having the highest potential for flooding. With enough snow and rain on it, that causes the biggest flooding in Western Montana.	02/09/11 :35 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	First Alert Meteorologist Adam Painter warned about high winds last night and North Central Montana got the worst of it. The Choteau Airport recorded a wind gust at 114 miles per hour just before the high winds destroyed the Wind Measuring equipment.	02/13/11 :33 RDR. News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Right now we are on the warm side of a storm system. Snowfall amounts are slowly stacking up. Up at Snowbowl, some are saying this is the best snow in 15 even possibly 25 years. But colder temperatures are coming as well.	02/22/11 1:11 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	An ice jam in the Jefferson River pushed the river over its banks. The high water near Twin Bridges in Southwest Montana is causing big problems. Some homeowners are being urged to evacuate.	02/22/11 1:52 PKG News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Bitterly cold wind gusts with temperatures dipping below zero overnight had people scurrying inside and already planning for how to deal with the cold in the morning. The National Weather service in Missoula was measuring its speed and direction at the Airport with its "Ice Free Wind Sensor".	02/24/11 :57 VO/VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	In the Flathead Valley, high winds and drifting snow and a wind chill close to 30 below kept busses of their routes and students at home.	02/24/11 :43 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Officials believe the cold winter weather froze a pipe in one of Glacier High School's conference rooms causing close to twenty-seven hundred gallons of water to flood five classrooms on the second floor and coming through the	02/27/11 :40 VO News at 6 & 10

**News at 6 and 10**  
 Community Issues Report  
 First Quarter 2011 (Chronological Order by Topic)

Issue	News Story	Date/TL/Format
	ceiling it damaged five Administrative offices and the Special Education quarters.	
<b>Weather</b>	Winter weather is keeping the second of four Conoco Phillips mega loads from making its way into Montana. They are waiting for better conditions before continuing to haul the load to a spot outside Lolo Pass.	02/28/11 :48 VO/VO News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Warmer temperatures this week could raise rivers across Western Montana. Early steps to prevent flooding of your home could prevent this problem.	03/07/10 :35 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Earthquake detectors right here in Montana picked up the Japan Quake. Mike Stickney of the Bureau of Mines and Geology at Montana Tech says their sensors track large-scale events.	03/11/11 :30 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10
<b>Weather</b>	Northern Rockies Fire Officials met in the Flathead today to start training for the upcoming fire season. Forecasters are predicting a slow start but if wet weather continues through Spring, fire crews know the forest will be filled with fuel.	03/24/11 :37 VO/SOT News at 6 & 10

## 1Q 2011 Community Issues

### NEWS at 6 & 10:

- 
1. Crime and Safety
  2. Economy / Economic Recovery
  3. Education
  4. Health / Healthcare
  5. Housing / Homelessness
  6. Jobs / Employment
  7. Politics
  8. Substance Abuse / DUIs
  9. Taxes / Government Spending
-

## 10. Weather

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010311 0:36 VO 6 &10

TODAY WAS THE FIRST DAY IN OFFICE FOR MANY ELECTED OFFICIALS AROUND THE STATE. UP IN THE FLATHEAD REGION, THE NEW SHERIFF MADE QUITE A STATEMENT.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*\*VO\*\*\*}

FLATHEAD COUNTY SHERIFF SHERIFF CHUCK CURRY CLEANED HOUSE... AND REPLACED MOST OF THE DEPARTMENT'S TOP BRASS.

HE SAYS IT'S JUST PART OF THE CHANGE THAT COMES WHEN A NEW SHERIFF MOVES IN.

SOME OF THOSE AFFECTED... THE HEAD OF PATROL... AND THE HEAD OF THE DETECTIVES DIVISION.

HE'S ALSO REQUIRING ALL DEPUTIES MOVE TO A FIVE DAY WORK WEEK... THEY USED TO PULL 4- TEN HOUR DAYS.

CURRY SAYS HIS OFFICE WILL ALSO TRY TO BETTER COMMUNICATE WITH THE PUBLIC.

010311 1:35 PKG 6 & 10

[Anchor:PATRICE]

{\*\*\*PATRICE\*\*\*}

[ReadRate:13]

[CG :OTS - 2 LINE WARMING\SHELTER]

WHILE WINTER OFFICIALLY STARTED ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO, WE'VE BEEN IN THE MIDST OF FRIGID TEMPERATURES SINCE NOVEMBER.

AND FOR SOME PEOPLE IN BOZEMAN, THEY HAVE NOWHERE TO GO EACH NIGHT TO STAY WARM.

TONIGHT, CITY COMMISSIONERS WILL DISCUSS IF THEY CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT. MIKE MESTAS HAS MORE.

[TAKE PKG

OUTCUE: SOC

DURATION:1:17]

{\*\*\*pkg\*\*\*}

<WITH ONLY THE COLD SURROUNDING THEM...

Nat sot - We do have a lot of people out there.

AND NO ROOF ABOVE THEIR HEAD...

Nat sot - I'm afraid there is a big need for it.

THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE IN BOZEMAN WHOSE LIVES ARE AT RISK EACH NIGHT, BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO WAY TO STAY WARM.

Sot - It's a large number of families, unfortunately. About 40% of them are kids.  
OVER THE NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND, THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL SET UP  
A TEMPORARY "WARMING SHELTER" AT THE GALLATIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS.  
A PLACE TO SLEEP, AND STAY OUT OF THE COLD.

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\CHRIS MEHL\BOZEMAN CITY COMMISSIONER]

Sot - The idea is to have a warehouse-type place that can be warmed in the Winter. Be open from 7 a.m.  
to 7 p.m.

BOZEMAN CITY COMMISSIONER, CHRIS MEHL WANTS TO SEE THAT SORT OF FACILITY  
CONTINUE THE REST OF THIS WINTER.

BOZEMAN DOESN'T HAVE A STANDING SHELTER.

MEHL SAYS HE'S NOT LOOKING TO START ANYTHING FANCY. JUST A PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO  
STAY SAFE.

sot - Just a straight forward cots only place, where people can go. Mostly so no one dies because of the  
cold weather this Winter.

IN THE MEAN TIME, HE SAYS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR CAN LOOK FOR WAYS TO BUILD A MORE  
PERMANENT FACILITY.

Sot - A homeless shelter, which the private sector would do is a longer term issue, that they need to deal  
with this Winter and Spring to decide what they're going to do long term.

AT MONDAY NIGHT'S CITY MEETING, COMMISSIONERS WILL DISCUSS KICKING IN UP TO 6-  
THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND FOR THE SHELTER.

MEHL CALLS IT A MINIMAL COST, COMPARED TO THE LIVES THAT COULD BE SAVED THIS  
WINTER.

Sot - If someone freezes to death...one is too many.

PEOPLE FROM THE BOZEMAN COMMUNITY HAVE ALREADY RAISED +SEVERAL THOUSAND  
DOLLARS TO MATCH THE CITY'S CONTRIBUTION.

THE CITY MEETING STARTED JUST A SHORT TIME AGO., WE'LL LET YOU KNOW WHAT  
HAPPENS TONIGHT ON THE NEWS AT TEN.

#### 010411 1:04 VO/SOT

[CG :OTS - 1 LINE\GOAL REACHED]

THE MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION HAS REACHED ITS +10-MILLION DOLLAR  
FUNDRAISING GOAL TOWARDS EXPANDING BOBCAT STADIUM.

[TAKE VO  
NAME: MSU STADIUM]

OFFICIALS WITH M-S-U MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT THIS AFTERNOON. IT WAS +LESS THAN  
3 MONTHS AGO THAT THE UNIVERSITY REVEALED PLANS TO +ADD END ZONE SEATING WHILE  
ALSO RENOVATING EXISITING AREAS.

THE FOUNDATION SAYS THE PROJECT WILL PROVIDE +SCHOLARSHIP AND +FINANCIAL  
SUPPORT AS WELL.

BUT THE MAIN EMPHASIS...ENHANCING FANS' GAME DAY EXPERIENCE.

THE NEXT STEPS: +FINALIZE CONSTRUCTION BIDS. A GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY IS  
PLANNED FOR THE END OF JANUARY, AND THE STADIUM +SHOULD BE COMPLETE IN TIME  
FOR THE 2011 SEASON OPENER.

010411 0:34 VO6 & 10

THE POSTAL SERVICE WANTS TO MAKE SURE PEOPLE CLEAR A PATH TO THEIR MAILBOX...

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*\*VO\*\*\*}

ICE AND SNOW CAN MAKE DELIVERING THE MAIL TRICKY.

MAIL CARRIERS ARE ALSO ASKING HOMEOWNERS NOT TO PARK IN FRONT OF MAIL BOXES.

THE POSTAL SERVICE WARNS...IF THE PATH TO YOUR MAILBOX ISN'T CLEAR... {LISTEN} YOU MAY NOT GET YOUR MAIL.

CARRIERS ARE TOLD TO \*PASS UP\* ANY BOXES THAT DON'T HAVE SAFE ACCESS. <"We've had a few minor accidents this winter, and we would really like to avoid that by asking customers to remove snow from around their mailboxes.">

010411 0:33 VO 6 & 10

[ReadRate:13]

THE BOZEMAN CITY COMMISSION VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GIVE +6-THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HELP FUND A WARMING SHELTER FOR THE CITY'S HOMELESS.

[TAKE VO]

NAME: BOZEMAN COMMISSION]

THEIR FIRST MEETING OF 2011 WENT EARLY INTO TUESDAY MORNING. IN THE END, THE COMMISSION VOTED TO GIVE THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL THE MONEY.

H-R-D-C OPENED A WARMING SHELTER AT THE GALLATIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS OVER NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND. THE MONEY FROM THE CITY WILL HELP KEEP A WARMING CENTER IN OPERATION THROUGHOUT THE WINTER.

A MORE PERMANENT LOCATION TO HOUSE THE HOMELESS IS STILL BEING SOUGHT.

010511 0:37 VO/SOT 6 & 10

ICE JAMS ARE SPARKING FLOOD WARNINGS FOR RIVERS IN SOUTHWEST MONTANA. GOOD EVENING EVERYONE I'M PATRICE PARKS GLAD TO HAVE YOU JOIN US FOR THE NEWS AT TEN.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*\*VO\*\*\*}

THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE IN TWIN BRIDGES.... ABOUT AN HOUR SOUTHEAST OF BUTTE. ICE IS CAUSING THE WATER LEVEL TO RISE...AND PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT.

EMERGENCY WORKERS ARE BUILDING DYKES, PUTTING DOWN SANDBAGS AND PUMPING WATER.

NO HOUSES HAVE FLOODED...BUT GAIL BANKS, THE PHOTOGRAPHER THAT SENT THESE PICTURES TELLS US THE WATER IS STILL RISING AND CREWS ARE STRUGGLING TO PROTECT HISTORIC BUILDINGS AT THE FAIRGROUNDS.

010511 1:53 pkg

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS RELEASED A NEW STUDY TODAY THAT SHOWS HOW MUCH M-S-U IS WORTH TO THE STATE'S ECONOMY. NBC MONTANA'S JESSICA DEBBAS HAS THE DETAILS ON THE NUMBERS.

< I think it's important for us to understand the value we add to the montana economy... THAT VALUE... ACCORDING TO RECENT REPORTS ON MSU... ADDS UP TO ONE BILLION DOLLARS...

AND 13 THOUSAND 500 NEW JOBS.

It's a great investment

AND THE STUDY SHOWS FOR EVERY DOLLAR INVESTED IN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BY THE STATE, ...THE SCHOOL GIVES BACK 2 DOLLARS AND 60 CENTS, MOSTLY THROUGH TAXES.

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\WADED CRUZADO\MSU PRESIDENT]

We are returning nearly three times as much to the pockets and the households of montana WADED CRUZADO SAT DOWN WITH A UNIVERSITY COUNCIL TO GO OVER THE NUMBERS. CRUZADO HOPES TO SHARES THE STATISTICS TO STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND EVEN LEGISLATURES.

So they can have a real idea of what happens to the money they invest in the ONE LOCAL ECONOMIST WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE NUMBERS

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\STUART LEIDNER\PROSPERA BUSINESS NETWORK EXEC. DIRECTOR]

Provides a great framework on how we can continue to leverage jobs

HE ESPECIALLY SAW THE SIGNIFICANCE IN THEIR FINDINGS ON MONEY COMING IN FROM VISITORS AND OUT STATE RESIDENTS.

demonstrates the great importance on the economy.

AND AGREES IT'S SOMETHING TO BE IN FRONT OF THE LEGISLATURE TO MAKE SURE EDUCATION, AND THE FUNDING THAT COMES WITH IT, CONTINUES TO BE A PRIORITY. REPORTING IN BOZEMAN, JESSICA DEBBAS NBC MONTANA. > THE REPORT ALSO EXPLAINS HOW MUCH MORE MONEY A COLLEGE GRADUATE MAKES OVER THEIR LIFETIME...ABOUT 816-THOUSAND DOLLARS MORE FOR A MAN... 569-THOUSAND MORE FOR A WOMAN.

010611 0:25 VO

A BOZEMAN STORE IS CLOSING ITS DOORS.. LOCAL STORE MANAGERS CONFIRMED..

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

JANUARY 26TH WILL BE OLD NAVY'S LAST DAY OF BUSINESS. ON 19TH AVENUE.. THEY DID NOTE THIS IS SITE SPECIFIC.. WE DON'T KNOW OF ANY OTHER OLD NAVY STORES CLOSING SHOP..LOCAL STORE MANAGERS COULD ONLY PROVIDE BASIC INFORMATION.. WE DO HAVE CALLS IN TO THE CORPORATE OFFICE TO FIND OUT HOW MANY JOBS WILL BE LOST.. AS OF NEWS TIME WE HADN'T RECEIVED A CALL BACK..

010611 1:38 PKG

AN UPDATE NOW ON THAT+ ICE JAM ALONG THE BEAVERHEAD RIVER... IN MADISON COUNTY.

[TAKE VO]  
{\*\*VO\*\*}

AN ICE JAM PUSHED THE RIVER CLOSE TO HOMES IN TWIN BRIDGES... JUST AN HOUR SOUTH OF BUTTE.

NBC MONTANA'S STEPHANIE BARISH TAKES US THERE AS FOLKS +BRACE FOR BIG PROBLEMS FROM THE FORECASTED... BIG CHILL. < CLYDE CARROLL WAS BORN AND RAISED IN TWIN BRIDGES.

HIS HOUSE SITS JUST FEET FROM THE BEAVERHEAD RIVER.

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\CLYDE CARROLL\RESIDENT]

"The water over here has dropped at least 16 inches...the ice jam has dropped at least three feet."

HIS BACKYARD WAS EASY TO NAVIGATE.  
BUT ON TUESDAY, IT WAS A DIFFERENT STORY.

"Around my house on the north side there was at least 18 inches of water flowing continually even though we were pumping all day."

CLYDE SET UP PUMPS TO GET RID OF THE EXCESS WATER.  
WHILE HIS NEIGHBOR DOWN THE STREET ALSO HOPPED INTO ACTION.

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\JOHN BOUCH\RESIDENT]

"I sandbagged the garage door that's my low point...we did get a pump point to get the water seeping under the dyke and coming up and just clearing snow."

LUCKILY THE WATER HASN'T DAMAGED THEIR PROPERTY SO FAR.  
COUNTY OFFICIALS BUILT DYKES TO PROTECT HOMES ALONG THE RIVER'S BANK.  
YESTERDAY, WATER SAT JUST INCHES BELOW THIS BRIDGE.

"It's concerning ... Anything can happen"

THE FLOODING -- CAUSED BY AN ICE JAM IN THE BEAVERHEAD RIVER -- HAD PARTS OF COMMUNITY UNDER WATER.

WATER EVEN SEEPED INTO THE HIGH SCHOOL'S WEIGHT ROOM.

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\CHAD JOHNSON\SUPERINTENDENT]

"We're nervous you're talking about a floor that's worth hundreds of dollars."

EMPLOYEES AT THE SCHOOL SET UP FANS AND PUMPED OUT WATER.  
THEY'RE HOPING MILD WEATHER WILL HOLD OUT AND MELT THE ICE JAM.

BUT SINCE FORECASTS ARE PREDICTING OTHERWISE -- THEY'RE DOING ALL THEY CAN TO BE READY.

"We're prepped .. We moved parking lots and now I guess we'll wait and see what happens."

AS FOR JOHN AND CLYDE, THEY'RE TAKING A REPEAT PERFORMANCE WITH A GRAIN OF SALT.

"not much you can do...just hope it doesn't flood."

"we'll all be watching this with shifts. There's really nothing you can do...weather happens."

010611 0:22 VO/SOT

FEDERAL OFFICIALS REPORT MONTANA'S SNOW PACK IS ABOVE AVERAGE... AND +WELL ABOVE LAST YEAR.

[TAKE: FULLSCREEN]

{\*\*FULLSCREEN\*\*}

[CG :FULL SCREEN CENTER 3\SNOWPACK\ABOVE AVERAGE\12 PERCENT HIGHER THAN JAN. AVERAGE\46 PERCENT HIGHER THAN LAST YR.\STREAMFLOW PROSPECTS APPEAR TO BE AVERAGE]

HERE ARE THE FACTS... BY JANUARY FIRST... WE'VE USUALLY SEEN ABOUT HALF OF THE EXPECTED SNOWFALL FOR THE SEASON.

THIS YEAR SNOWPACK IS 12 PERCENT ABOVE AVERAGE AND UP ALMOST 50 PERCENT FROM THIS TIME LAST YEAR.

STREAMFLOW PROSPECTS FOR THE SPRING AND SUMMER APPEAR TO BE NEAR AVERAGE.

010611 0:54 VO

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\TELECONFERENCE EXAMS\NEWSFILE]

THE MONTANA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS BANNED THE USE OF VIDEO FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA EXAMS IN NOVEMBER. NEWS REPORTS HAVE SURFACED THAT THE MONTANA CAREGIVERS NETWORK IN MISSOULA CONTINUES TO USE VIDEO EXAMS. THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS CONCLUDED IN NOVEMBER THAT INITIAL APPOINTMENTS MUST BE DONE IN PERSON. <"When it comes to a standard of care of physicians who are certifying individuals for medical marijuana, that requires a hands-on physical examination by a physician and they indicated that the exclusive use of teleconferencing methods to certify individuals does not meet this level of care.">

[ReadRate:13]

A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MONTANA CAREGIVERS NETWORK TOLD NBC MONTANA TONIGHT THAT THEIR PHYSICIANS ONLY USE TELECONFERENCE FOR FOLLOW UP APPOINTMENTS, NOT FOR INITIALLY ISSUING A MEDICAL MARIJUANA CARD. THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS TOLD US NO OFFICIAL POSITION HAS BEEN FILED ON THE USE OF VIDEO ON FOLLOW UP VISITS.

010611 0:30 VO/SOT\

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY WANTS TO HELP MORE WOMEN NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS BECOME SUCCESSFUL IN MATH, SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FIELDS.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR JESSI SMITH RECENTLY RECEIVED A 218-THOUSAND DOLLAR GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.

SMITH WILL STUDY HOW GENDER ROLES IMPACT NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS SUCCESS IN THOSE FIELDS.

SHE SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE MANY BACKGROUNDS REPRESENTED IN SCIENCE BECAUSE IT LEADS TO HIGHER QUALITY DECISION-MAKING.

011011 0:38 VO/SOT

TWO SKIERS IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS DIED AFTER BECOMING TRAPPED IN TREE WELLS AT WHITEFISH MOUNTAIN RESORT...

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

THE BOWL SHAPED OPENINGS UNDERNEATH SOME TREES ON SKI SLOPES ARE A HAZARD FOR SNOWBOARDERS IN PARTICULAR...BECAUSE SNOWBOARDERS CAN NOT EASILY CLIP OUT OF THEIR BOOTS LIKE SKIERS CAN.

AT HIGHER ELEVATIONS, SOME TREE WELLS CAN BE AS DEEP AS FOUR FEET.

SKI PATROL SAYS THE FIRST THING YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU FALL INTO A TREE WELL...DIG YOURSELF ENOUGH ROOM TO BREATHE. <"Skiing with competent friends and having someone know where you are is the best way to stay out of trouble on a mountain.">

011111 0:37 VO

EMERGENCY CREWS ARE KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON FLOODING CONDITIONS CAUSED BY ICE JAMS IN MADISON COUNTY.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

THE BEAVERHEAD RIVER IS FLOWING SLOWLY THROUGH TWIN BRIDGES DESPITE THE COLD TEMPERATURES.

OFFICIALS SAY THE WATER LEVEL SAT ABOUT TWO FEET BELOW HIGHWAY 41.

AND FLASH FLOODING IN ENNIS NEAR THE MADISON RIVER KEPT CREWS BUSY THIS MORNING.

HIGHWAY 287 IS OPEN BUT MADISON COUNTY OFFICIALS TELL N-B-C MONTANA IT COULD BE DANGEROUS FOR SMALL CARS TO PASS THROUGH.

THEY SAY THEY WILL CONSTANTLY MONITOR THE AREA AND ARE HOPEFUL THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS PASS WITHOUT A WEATHER RELATED INCIDENT.

011111 1:43 PKG

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY'S "GALLATIN COLLEGE PROGRAMS" IS HOPING TO EXPAND ITS CURRICULUM...THANKS TO A FINANCIAL BOOST FROM THE CITY OF BOZEMAN.

THE CITY PLANS ON DRAWING FROM ITS "RESERVE FUNDS" - - MONEY IT SETS ASIDE AS A "SAVINGS ACCOUNT.

N-B-C MONTANA'S MIKE MESTAS TOOK A LOOK AT HOW THE COLLEGE PLANS TO EXPAND.

[TAKE PKG

OUTCUE: SOC

DURATION:1:24]

{\*\*PKG\*\*}

<WHILE FOUR YEAR DEGREES ARE GOOD FOR SOME PEOPLE, OTHERS ARE LOOKING FOR DEGREES GEARED TOWARD FINDING WORK.

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\BOB HIETALA\DEAN, GALLATIN COLLEGE PROGRAMS]

Sot - As a two year college here locally, we've been looking at industry needs.

SO LAST YEAR, MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHED THE GALLATIN COLLEGE PROGRAM.

A 2-YEAR-DEGREE IN ONE OF SEVERAL FIELDS.

Sot - Another one would be an accounting assistant program, which we also hope to have out by Fall, 2007. So those are the kinds of programs, but there are many others.

AND MONDAY NIGHT, BOZEMAN CITY COMMISSIONERS TOOK A BIG STEP TOWARD EXPANDING THE SHOOL'S SERVICES.

Sot - Last night, the Bozeman City Commission made a very generous pledge of some additional funding.

COMMISSIONERS APPROVED USING MORE THAN 120-THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM CITY RESERVE FUNDS, TO DEVELOP NEW PROGRAMS WITHIN THE COLLEGE. COMMISSIONERS WILL LOOK AT GIVING THE SAME AMOUNT FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND NEXT YEAR.

THE CITY SAYS IT HELPS SOME PEOPLE IMPROVE THEIR LIVES.

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\CHRIS KUKULSKI\BOZEMAN CITY MANAGER]

Sot - By putting a mill and a half commitment to funding, were hopefully helping first and foremost to help get programs going so people can get into courses.

OTHER FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM COMES FROM STATE MONEY, AND TUITION DOLLARS. AND THE SCHOOL SAYS IT MEETS A BIG NEED IN THE COMMUNITY.

Sot - There are many different programs which the businesses need here locally, and the students will be interested in taking and attending those programs.

THE FUNDS HAVEN'T BEEN TRANSFERRED YET.

GALLATIN COLLEGE STILL HAS TO FORMALLY REQUEST FOR THE CITY TO UTILIZE THE FUNDS. THEN THE CITY WILL SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS AMENDING BUDGETS FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

011211 1:51 PKG

<SWIPE AND BEWARE.

IDENTITY THEFTS IN BUTTE ARE ON THE RISE.

A STAGGERING ONE-HUNDRED AND SEVENY-FIVE PEOPLE NOW PART OF THE SCAM.

[CG in 0:09 to 0:13:Two Line Lower 3rd\SHERIFF JOHN WALSH\BUTTE POLICE DEPARTMENT]

"we are cooperating with the Secret Service in investigating the process..."

BACK IN DECEMBER, COPS SAID 135-PEOPLE WERE AFFECTED.

THEIR INFORMATION \*STOLEN\* AFTER THEY SWIPED THEIR DEBIT AND CREDIT CARDS THROUGH ELECTRONIC READERS FOUND AT MOST STORES.

SHERIFF JOHN WALSH IS NO STRANGER TO WHAT HAPPENED.

CROOKS MADE OVER NINE-HUNDRED DOLLARS OF BOGUS PURCHASES ON HIS TAB.

"it's just whether or not to use the card or not .. Basically everything is being done by card anymore."

BUT THERE ARE WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF.

[CG in 0:45 to 0:49:Two Line Lower 3rd\SGT. JEFF WILLIAMS\BUTTE POLICE DEPARTMENT]

"people don't really have a lot of information or a real total understanding of how seriously id theft can be to them."

BUTTE POLICE ARE HOLDING TWO PUBLIC SEMINARS THIS MONTH ON CREDIT AND DEBIT CARD FRAUD.

"check your accounts, every other day, and when something suspicious goes up on your accounts...report it to your bank immediately and then file a police report."

WILLIAMS ALSO SAYS TAKE OUT THAT SOCIAL SECURITY CARD IN YOUR WALLET. AND SAFEGUARD OTHER PERSONAL PAPERS.

"when you discard your personal information .. Bank statements anything like that .. Shred it because criminals will go through your garbage."

---

K42BZ 1Q

AS FOR WALSH, HIS MAIN CONCERN: PROTECTING THE PEOPLE IN BUTTE.

"somewhere down the road we'll hopefully find out more information as to how this thing occurred and what we can do to rectify it." THE PUBLIC SEMINARS WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY TWENTY-FOURTH AT THE BUTTE ARCHIVES ON QUARTZ STREET.

THE SESSIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ABOUT AN HOUR. THERE IS ONE AT 1 P-M AND THEN AGAIN AT 6 P-M.

011211 0:24 VO

[ReadRate:13]

THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION IS RECOGNIZING M-S-U FOR ITS ACHEIVEMENTS IN VOLUNTEER SERVICE.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

THE FOUNDATION AWARDED THE UNIVERSITY WITH IT'S \*COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION\*

MSU SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION THAT HIGHLIGHTED 15 UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.

ONE PARTNERSHIP IS CALLED \*ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS\* WHICH BRINGS CLEAN DRINKING WATER TO REMOTE SCHOOLS IN KENYA.

011311 0:24 VO

WARMING TEMPERATURES ARE CAUSING AREA RIVERS TO RISE.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SAYS THE GALLATIN RIVER NEAR LOGAN IS SITTING +RIGHT AT FLOOD STAGE, WHICH IS 8 FEET FOR THAT AREA.

SINCE MIDNIGHT, THE WATER HAS CREEPED UP STEADILY TO WHERE IT'S AT NOW.

BUT IT'S STILL WELL BELOW WHAT'S CONSIDERED THE "MAJOR STAGE," WHICH IS 11-FEET, WHICH +COULD CAUSE SOME ISSUES FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN THAT AREA.

011311 0:24 VO

AND THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WANTS PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND THE DANGERS OF ICE JAMS ON MONTANA'S RIVERS.

TODAY IS "ICE JAM AWARENESS DAY."

THE WEATHER SERVICE SAYS MONTANA HAS THE +HIGHEST NUMBER OF ICE JAMS IN THE LOWER 48 STATES.

RIVERS BACK UP WHEN THEY FREEZE, AND IN JUST A FEW MONTHS, THEY'LL BREAK, POSSIBLY CAUSING FLOODING.

[CG :TWO LINE LOWER THIRD\HTTP://WATER.WEATHER.GOV\NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE]

YOU CAN KEEP TRACK OF FLOODING ON THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE'S WEBSITE.

011411 1:47 PKG

{\*\*JESSICA\*\*}

[ReadRate:12]

[CG :OTS - 2 LINE\CHANGES TO\THE MENU]

THE U-S-D-A CALLS THE OBESITY PROBLEM IN AMERICA AN "EPIDEMIC," ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO KIDS.

K42BZ 1Q

THAT'S WHY IT'S PROPOSING CHANGES TO SHOOOL MENUS AROUND THE COUNTRY.  
THE FIRST \*MAJOR\* CHANGES IN 15 YEARS.  
N-B-C MONTANA'S MIKE MESTAS TAKES A LOOK AT WHAT THOSE CHANGES WILL MEAN TO  
MONTANA SCHOOLS.

[TAKE PKG  
OUTCUE: SOC  
DURATION:1:28]

{\*\*\*PKG\*\*\*}

<nat sots - You got a lunch today? Thank you.

THE U-S-D-A ESTIMATES KIDS ARE GRABBING UP TO HALF OF THEIR DAILY CALORIES FROM  
THEIR MEALS AT SCHOOL.

Nat sot - Just a milk, huh?

THE PROBLEM IS...TOO MANY OF THOSE CALORIES ARE WASTED IN HIGH FATS AND SODIUM.

Nats - You got a lunch? Alright!

THE U-S-D-A ESTIMATES A STAGGERING 32-PERCENT OF CHILDREN, 6 TO 19 ARE OBESE OR  
OVERWEIGHT.

[CG in 0:20 to 0:28:Two Line Lower 3rd\CANDY LUBANSKY\SUPERINTENDENT]

Sot - I believe there is some research saying, that we are seeing hypertension in younger kids, and that's  
really alarming.

SO THE AGENCY IS LOOKING AT HOW TO FIX THE PROBLEM.

Sot - The guidelines...what they do is reflect our nation's concerns about the health of our children.

Specifically around healthy eating patterns that result in healthy weight.

Nat sot

NEW PROPOSED RULES WOULD REQUIRE MORE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, AND LESS HIGH  
FAT, HIGH CALORIE FOODS.

THE U-S-D-A HASN'T RAISED SCHOOL LUNCH STANDARDS IN 15-YEARS, BUT SOME SCHOOL  
DISTRICTS ARE ALREADY TAKING THE REIGNS, MAKING CHANGES ON THEIR OWN.

THE BELGRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT, FOR EXAMPLE, ALREADY MAKES VEGETABLES A PART OF  
THEIR DAILY MENU.

Sot - We have started, over the last few years, looking at our menus, and incrementally trying to increase  
the amounts of vegetables, and fresh fruits we use.

THE PROBLEM MEANS KIDS COULD FACE LONG-TERM HEALTH CONSEQUENCES, BUT  
OFFICIALS HOPE THE CHANGES WILL CUT DOWN ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY.

Sot - Healthy eating habits start really young. We have a responsibility to provide healthy food.

THE U-S-D-A WANTS PUBLIC INPUT ON ITS PLAN. YOU CAN CHECK IT OUT FOR YOURSELF BY  
HEADING TO "REGULATIONS DOT-GOV."

011411 0:32 VO/SOT

A STATE HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROVED A PLAN BANNING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM  
COLLECTING WORKER'S COMP.

BACKERS SAY IT WILL SEND A MESSAGE TO WRONGLY EMPLOYED ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS...

OPPONENTS ARGUE THE WORKER COULD STILL GET INJURED AND THAT WOULD FORCE  
HOSPITALS TO PICK UP THE TAB.

BUT SOME THINK THE MEASURE'S A WASTE OF TIME.

ACCORDING TO THE MONTANA STATE FUND, IN 2010, ONLY EIGHT CLAIMS OUT OF MORE  
THAN EIGHT THOUSAND COULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE ABUSE BY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

011711 0:36 VO/SOT

PEOPLE IN TWIN BRIDGES SPENT THEIR SATURDAY FILLING SANDBAGS, GETTING READY  
FOR WHEN THE BEAVERHEAD RIVER LEVEL RISES. THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO WAIT LONG.

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K42BZ 1Q

[TAKE VO  
NAME: TWIN BRIDGES]

MADISON COUNTY OFFICIALS SAY THE RIVER FORMED AN ICE JAM AT THE BRIDGE SATURDAY EVENING.

THE AMOUNT OF ICE CAUSED THE LEVEL OF THE RIVER TO RISE TO NEAR THE TOP OF THE PROTECTIVE DIKE THAT WAS CONSTRUCTED TWO WEEKS AGO.

WHEN THE ICE JAM BROKE UP, IT FLOWED DOWN RIVER AND CAUSED THE FLOODING OF ABOUT 100 ACRES OF GRAZING LAND.

OFFICIALS SAY THAT PARTICULAR AREA HASN'T FLOODED IN MORE THAN 30 YEARS.

011711 0:53 VO/SOT

{\*\*VO\*\*}

THE WARM, WET WEATHER IS CAUSING \*BIG\* PROBLEMS FOR \*NORTHWEST MONTANA....  
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CLEARED A \*\*ROCK AND MUDSLIDE ON HIGHWAY 2, NORTH OF TROY THIS EVENING.

EARLIER TODAY IN LIBBY... RAIN, MELTING SNOW, AND ICY CONDITIONS CREATED A FLASH FLOOD ON FLOWER CREEK.

RESCUE CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS FROM ACROSS THE CITY LAYED SANDBAGS TO PROTECT BRIDGES AND PROPERTY....

OFFICIALS CLOSED HIGHWAY 2 AND SEVERAL OTHER STREETS BECAUSE OF FLOODING.

CREWS WERE ABLE TO CLEAR OUT ENOUGH ICE IN THE CREEK BY THIS AFTERNOON...

AND THE CITY REOPENED STREETS SHORTLY AFTER THAT.

SOME PROPERTIES DID HAVE MINOR DAMAGE... [CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\DOUG ROLL\LIBBY MAYOR]  
<the flooding occurring in those homes over there had a fairly slow rise in water..it did get into basements that kind of thing...people got out , began to sandbag..we got sand bag crews out...everybody's going.>

011711 0:41

{\*\*JESSICA\*\*}

[ReadRate:12]

THE BUTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY IS SLATED TO REOPEN APRIL FIRST.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

IT WAS FORCED TO SHUT DOWN ON NOVEMBER TWENTY-NINTH AFTER A WATER PIPE BURST.....CAUSING MAJOR FLOODING.

THE LIBRARY IS CURRENTLY UNDERGOING FIFTY-THOUSAND DOLLARS IN REPAIRS.

CARPETS HAD TO BE RIPPED UP AND WALLS RE - REPAINTED.

BUT THE RESTORATION PROCESS IS ON TARGET.

EVERYONE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE LIBRARY REOPENING. <"we're still repairing some walls...that'll take some time because we have to mud and tape and do more dry wall where the water damaged the walls .. But other than that .. We've already ordered the books that were ruined...they're on their way">

011711 1:38 PKG

{\*\*JESSICA\*\*}

[ReadRate:12]

[CG :OTS - 2 LINE\YMCA\HEALTH PROGRAM]

THE BUTTE Y-M-C-A IS IN THE RUNNING TO MAKE A SPECIAL PROJECT COME TO LIFE.

MANAGERS WANT EVERY SIXTH GRADER IN THE AREA TO HIT THE GYM AND GET HEALTHY.

NBC MONTANA'S STEPHANIE BARISH HAS THE STORY.

[TAKE PKG]

K42BZ 1Q

DURATION:1:26]

{\*\*\*PKG\*\*\*}

<THE BUTTE Y-M-C-A WANTS KIDS TO PUT DOWN THAT REMOTE AND START GETTING ACTIVE.

[CG in 0:05 to 0:09:Two Line Lower 3rd\RAYE VINCENT\CEO, BUTTE FAMILY YMCA]

"we came up with an idea that we have been trying to find funding for..."

IT'S ALL PART OF A NEW FITNESS CHALLENGE IN THE WORKS.  
THEY WANT TO MAKE SURE EVERY SIXTH GRADER IN THE BUTTE-SILVER BOW AREA STAYS  
IN SHAPE.

((SOT RAYE VINCENT/CEO YMCA))

"we figure what a great time to hit 'em before they're having all those changes and figuring out how to  
make their lives healthier."

EMPLOYEES AT THE 'Y' CAME UP WITH THE IDEA AND ENTERED IT INTO A CONTEST  
SPONSORED BY PEPSI -- CALLED 'THE PEPSI REFRESH PROJECT.'  
NOW, THEIR ELIGIBLE TO WIN A WHOPPING 250-THOUSAND DOLLARS.  
AND MAKE THE FITNESS CHALLENGE COME TO LIFE.

((SOT RAYE VINCENT/CEO YMCA))

"we wanna get them used to yoga and maybe zumba...or how they can use swimming for the rest of their  
life and have fun with it."

ALSO CLASSES ON THINGS LIKE PEER PRESSURE AND HOW TO IMPROVE BODY IMAGE  
WILL BE OFFERED.  
KIDS WHO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM WILL GET A FREE Y MEMBERSHIP FOR ONE YEAR.  
MICHAEL RICK IS ON BOARD WITH THE IDEA.

[CG in 1:02 to 1:07:Two Line Lower 3rd\MICHAEL RICK\YMCA MEMBER]

"if people don't stay healthy and stuff..then they can like .. Then that's a good way for people to die."

HIS BROTHER ALSO GETS IT.

((SOT MATHEW RICK/YMCA MEMBER))

"it's good for their health"

THE 'Y' IS HOPING TO WIN THE COMPETITION.  
AND BRING FORWARD A NEW GENERATION OF HEALTHY PEOPLE.

((SOT RAYE VINCENT/CEO YMCA))

"kids are gonna be a lot more stronger and it's gonna help with their mind, body, spirit..."

011711 2:26 PKG

{\*\*\*VO\*\*\*}

BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES WILL GET TOGETHER TO LOOK  
OVER ABOUT 20 BILLS AIMING TO CRACK DOWN ON DRUNK DRIVING.  
ONE PROPOSAL ALLOWS JUVENILES TO BE TRIED AS ADULTS IF THEY'RE SUSPECTED OF  
KILLING A PERSON WHILE DRIVING DRUNK.

OTHER MEASURES STRENGTHEN PENALTIES OR MAKE IT EASIER FOR AUTHORITIES PROSECUTING THE CRIMES. ONE PROPOSAL YET TO BE INTRODUCED IS ALREADY BEING TESTED IN THE STATE.

SEVERAL COMMUNITIES HAVE MADE IT A CRIME TO REFUSE TO GIVE A BREATH OR BLOOD SAMPLE IF AN OFFICER THINKS YOU'RE DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE.

DARBY, SOUTH OF MISSOULA, WAS THE FIRST COMMUNITY IN THE STATE TO ENACT THE LAW...

NBC MONTANA'S CHRISTIAN HAUSER REPORTS.

[TAKE PKG

OUTCUE: SOC

DURATION:1:30]

{\*\*PKG\*\*}

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\JEFF HAYS\DARBY CITY PROSECUTOR]

<DARBY PROSECUTOR JEFF HAYS THINKS THE CITY'S ORDINANCE IS OFF TO A GOOD START.

HE SAYS NO ONE'S REFUSED SINCE IT WAS PASSED LAST FEBRUARY.

"So far it's worked according to its intent and as a result of that the town has saved countless hours and time and money in avoiding unnecessary trials."

HAYS KNOWS HAVING A BREATH OR BLOOD SAMPLE GOES A LONG WAY WHEN IT COMES TO GETTING A GUILTY VERDICT.

"Juries have become accustomed over the past couple years to seeing that type of evidence, an actual breath or blood sample in addition to the observation of the officer as far as a person's level of intoxication."

BUT OPPONENTS SAY ORDINANCES LIKE THIS FORCE A PERSON TO GIVE UP THEIR FOURTH AMENDMENT RIGHT PROTECTING THEM FROM UNREASONABLE SEARCHES.

THEY ALSO THINK IT DOESN'T DETER DRIVING DRUNK... IT ONLY WILL ADD A MISDEMEANOR TO YOUR RECORD AND LIGHTEN YOUR WALLET.

BUT HAYS BELIEVES IT'S A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION... AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AGREES.

HAYS HAS BEEN TALKING WITH THE A-G'S OFFICE ABOUT THE ORDINANCE...

"They wanted to find out what our experience had been. If it had been successful? Whether we'd had any challenges to the actual ordinance? And any suggestions we had that could make the ordinance better."

BUT THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING FOR THE PROPOSAL..

IT STILL HAS TO MAKE IT OUT OF COMMITTEE AND THEN PASS BOTH HOUSES... BEFORE IT COULD BE A STATEWIDE MANDATE.

IN DARBY, CHRISTIAN HAUSER, NBC MONTANA.>

011711 1:25 PKG

[CG :JESSICA KTVM]

REAL ESTATE EXPERTS THINK 2011 COULD BE A GOOD YEAR FOR HOME BUYERS \*AND\* SELLERS.

NBC MONTANA'S MATT LEACH SAT DOWN WITH THE MAN BEHIND ONE OF THE NATION'S LARGEST REAL ESTATE GROUPS...

[TAKE PKG

DURATION:1:13]

{\*\*PKG\*\*}

[CG in 0:20 to 0:25:Two Line Lower 3rd\CHARLIE YOUNG \PRESIDENT, ERA REAL ESTATE]

[CG :MATT LEACH L3\MISSOULA]

[CG in 0:53 to 0:58:Two Line Lower 3rd\BRUNO FRIIA\CEO, LAMBROS-ERA]

<

ERA REAL ESTATE EMPLOYEES 30-THOUSAND AGENTS IN 46 COUNTRIES AND ALL 50 STATES...

BUT PRESIDENT CHARLIE YOUNG HAS A SPECIAL PLACE IN HIS HEART FOR MONTANA.

"Montana is a very strong state for us."

ERA-LAMBROS...BASED IN MISSOULA...IS IT'S 13TH LARGEST COMPANY.

BUT COMING IN TO 2011...YOUNG ADMITS...SELLING HOMES IN MISSOULA RIGHT NOW IS A BIT OF AN UP HILL BATTLE.

"You've got a little more inventory than you need, it is a buyers market."

DESPITE THAT...HE THINKS THINGS WILL TURN AROUND IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS...

"National Association of Realtors says that 2011 is going to be a little bit better year than 2010, they are calling for a single digit increase."

THAT COULD MEAN GOOD THINGS FOR MISSOULA...A CITY EXPERTS BELIEVE IS GROWING.

TRADITIONALLY WHEN YOU THINK OF THE CENTER OF MISSOULA YOU THINK DOWNTOWN, BUT REAL ESTATE EXPERTS SAY THAT IDEA IS SHIFTING WEST TOWARD RESERVE STREET.

THE SHIFT COMES FROM GROWTH IN AREAS SURROUNDING RESERVE STREET LIKE THE PLEASANT VIEW SUB-DIVISION...

"In Missoula we have a stable market, prices have stabilized over the past several years, and we do not see the dip that other parts of the country are seeing."

EVEN THOUGH BUYERS HAVE BEEN WINNING THE BATTLE AGAINST SELLERS FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS...YOUNG THINKS THAT MAY BE SHIFTING.

REPORTING IN MISSOULA...MATT LEACH NBC MONTANA.>

011811 0:25 VO

{\*\*\*PATRICE\*\*\*}

[ReadRate:13]

[CG :OTS - 2 LINE\AVALANCHEWARNINGS]

NEW SNOW IN THE COOKE CITY AREA HAS PROMPTED GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST OFFICIALS TO +RAISE THE AVALANCHE ADVISORY LEVEL TO HIGH.

NEARLY 3 FEET OF SNOW HAS FALLEN DURING THE PAST 4 DAYS. WIND-LOADED SLOPES ARE RATED AS HIGH, WHILE ALL OTHER SLOPES IN THOSE MOUNTAINS ARE RATED AS CONSIDERABLE DANGER.

THE BRIDGER, MADISON AND GALLATIN RANGES ARE +ALL LISTED AS EITHER CONSIDERABLE OR MODERATE AVALANCHE DANGER.

011811 0:22 VO

[ReadRate:13]

WORK GOT UNDERWAY THIS MORNING ON THE FIRST PHASES OF THE BOBCAT STADIUM RENOVATION.

[TAKE VO  
NAME: MSU STADIUM]

WORKERS STARTED DISMANTLING AREAS BY THE SOUTH ENDZONE IN PREPARATION FOR THE RENOVATION WORK TO BEGIN.

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K42BZ 1Q

THE M-S-U FOUNDATION RAISED MORE THAN 10 MILLION DOLLARS TOWARDS RENOVATING THE SOUTH ENDZONE. THE OFFICIAL GROUNDBREAKING FOR THE PROJECT IS JANUARY 28TH.

012111 0:33 VO/SOT

[CG :OTS - 2 LINE\BEAR ATTACKS\INCREASE]

THE U-S FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE REPORTS BEAR ATTACKS ON LONG DISTANCE TRAIL RUNNERS ARE INCREASING...

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

GRIZZLY BEAR RECOVERY COORDINATOR CHRIS SERVHEEN TOLD THE INTERAGENCY GRIZZLY BEAR COMMITTEE THAT RUNNING AT DAWN OR DUSK IN GRIZZLY COUNTRY IS DANGEROUS.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXPRESSED CONCERN WITH ORGANIZED RACES IN THE BACK COUNTRY...IN PARTICULAR 100 MILE ULTRA MARATHONS THAT CAN LEAVE RUNNERS DISORIENTED AND FATIGUED.

THE GROUP MOST LIKELY TO BADLY HURT IN AN ANIMAL ENCOUNTER IS STILL WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHERS.

012111 0:37 VO

THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION IS INVESTIGATING REPORTS THAT LINK A PEDIATRIC FLU VACCINE TO INFANT SEIZURES.

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

THE REPORTS BY PARENTS AND DOCTORS WERE SUBMITTED TO THE VACCINE ADVERSE EVENT REPORTING SYSTEM -- AN EARLY WARNING PROGRAM DESIGNED TO FLAG POTENTIAL SAFETY ISSUES. THE REPORTS SUGGEST THERE HAVE BEEN MORE FEBRILE SEIZURES AMONG KIDS GETTING THE FLUZONE VACCINE THAN NORMAL. HOWEVER, EXPERTS SAY THESE REPORTS ARE PRELIMINARY AND DO NOT MEAN THE VACCINE IS UNSAFE. A FEBRILE SEIZURE IS A BRIEF, FEVER-RELATED CONVULSION THAT'S GENERALLY CONSIDERED HARMLESS IN THE LONG TERM.

012411 0:33

VO

[ReadRate:13]

MONTANA ATTORNEY GENERAL STEVE BULLOCK AND SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS DENISE JUNEAU WANT THE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL BULLYING...

HERE ARE THE FACTS...

[TAKE VO]

{\*\*VO\*\*}

SENATE BILL 141 DEFINES "BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION" AS "ANY THREATENING, INSULTING, OR DEMEANING" BEHAVIOR THAT COULD BE DONE FACE-TO-FACE OR ON THE INTERNET.

SUPPORTERS OF THE BILL SAY IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THE STATE SET STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

OPPONENTS THINK THAT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS KNOW HOW TO BEST HANDLE SPECIFIC BULLYING INSTANCES.

012411 1:32 PKG

THREE MISSOULIANS LEARNED A HARD LESSON AFTER POLICE AND SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES SHOWED UP LOOKING FOR A SEX PREDATOR.

OFFICERS GOT A HIT FOR SOMEONE DOWNLOADING CHILD PORN AT THE HOME... BUT RESIDENTS SAID IT WASN'T THEM.

NBC MONTANA'S CHRISTIAN HAUSER EXPLAINS...

[TAKE PKG

DURATION:1:16]

{\*\*PKG\*\*}

[CG :Two Line Lower 3rd\DETECTIVE CHRIS SHERMER\MISSOULA POLICE DEPARTMENT]

< DETECTIVE CHRIS SHERMER SPENDS HIS DAYS TRYING TO PUT PEOPLE IN JAIL WHO DOWNLOAD CHILD PORN OR TRY TO LURE KIDS FOR SEX.

"The internet has given these people that barrier to go into our house and be secretive and talk to our kids."

THIS PAST NOVEMBER SHERMER'S CREW GOT A HIT AT A MISSOULA HOUSE FOR SOMEONE DOWNLOADING IMAGES OF CHILD PORN.

"We're looking at your internet IP address, your phone number to your internet. So if that phone number is basically doing something wrong, it gives us probable cause to go into your house."

BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED AT THE ADDRESS SAID THEY DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT...

THEIR COMPUTERS WERE TAKEN TO BE CHECKED FOR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY.

"It's a part of our job that when we do get to that point of figuring out who it is, it's always a surprise, so you know, it is what it is and once we find out who it is, we have to deal with them just like that individual we pull over on the street."

SOMEONE HAD BEEN STEALING INTERNET SERVICE FROM THE HOUSE... BECAUSE IT DIDN'T HAVE ANY SAFEGUARDS ON THE INTERNET CONNECTION.

SHERMER SAYS IT'S RARE... BUT THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED.

"For the most part, when we explain how serious we take these kinds of cases, they're pretty cognizant of 'Yeah that's important. It sucks for me, but I see why you're doing your job.'"

HE SAYS THESE TYPES OF SITUATIONS CAN BE AVOIDED IF PEOPLE ENABLE PASSWORDS AND OTHER SECURITY MEASURES ON THEIR WIRELESS CONNECTIONS.

IN MISSOULA, CHRISTIAN HAUSER, NBC MONTANA.>