

# THE STRAIGHT SHOOTER

## NEWS of ENNIS and the MADISON VALLEY, MONTANA for JUNE 2016



*Trout live in nice neighborhoods*



➤ **MADISON VALLEY “HAPPENINGS”** → Ennis is in summer mode, with lots of traffic and few parking places on Main Street. But the tourists bring a lot of happy energy. June is the beginning of the fun summer events and there were lots of happenings! The **Lewis and Clark Caverns** opened up, there was a **Poker Ride** in Pony, **Banditos** at the Gravel Bar reopened, the Madison Valley Medical Center held their **Health Fair**, mountain bikers pedaled for the “**Gears for Beers**” **Poker Ride** in Virginia City and the rowdy ones participated in **Brothel Days** in VC. There was a **Senior Pro Rodeo** and a **Senior Fishing Derby** for the elder crowd, a **Pony Trot, 5K & 10K Fun Run** in Pony, a **Salmonfly Festival** in West Yellowstone at the Campfire Lodge Resort and the **Wells Fargo Steak House, Brewery Follies** and **Virginia City Playhouse** all opened up in Virginia City. And if you did all those things you would be tired BEFORE summer! A team of 7 AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps members worked with the Montana Heritage Committee in Virginia City during the month of June, helping spruce it up for summer. <http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ Americorps/ Americorps-nccc>. Varney Bridge is still closed and the culvert work on Main Street continued. Busy, busy, busy!

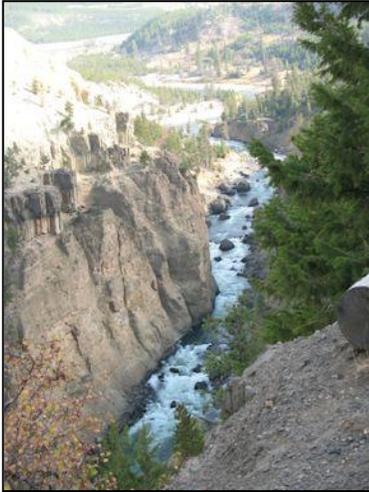


➤ **COMING JULY HAPPENINGS** → It is that time again! Remember, Ennis was voted **THE** place to be on the Fourth of July! On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, check out **Moods Brew and Spirit Festival** from 4 to 8, then take in the evening **Rodeo** at 8 PM. Then on the 4<sup>th</sup>, plan to attend the annual **Pancake Breakfast** to support the Madison Valley Fire Department, then hurry down to Main Street to claim your spot for watching the **Rodeo Parade** that starts at 10 AM. Immediately following the Parade is **the July 4th Brick Dedication**



**Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial.** Be sure to catch the Car Show and Swap Meet at the Sportsman’s Lodge lawn from 9 to 12:30. Enjoy a barbeque lunch in the park and then catch a nap before the **NRA-Sanctioned Rodeo** at the Ennis Rodeo grounds at the later hour of 6 pm. You will still have time to get to Virginia City for the **Fireworks** at dusk. In between those events, be sure to buy your Rodeo T-shirt at the Chamber office, visit the Main Street shops, local saloons and restaurants. **You can always fish another day.** → One of the Northwest’s largest FREE outdoor music festivals, the **Montana Folk Festival**, will be held in Butte, July 8 – 10. → The **Ennis Air Fair** will be offering a free pancake breakfast and lots more entertainment, at the Ennis “Big Sky” Airport, sponsored by Choice Aviation, on July 16<sup>th</sup>. → Head for Virginia City for the **Dog and Grog Montana Microbrew Festival** with music on July 18<sup>th</sup>. → And enjoy the **Brewery Follies** and the **Virginia City Playhouse** all summer long! → **Fire season** is beginning, so please be careful and be safe!

➤ **MONTANA NEWS** → On June 30<sup>th</sup> the first **JetSuiteX** flight arrived at Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport from San Jose California. This service is different from the other airlines service provided at the airport. JetSuiteX is actually a charter airline that's selling tickets to the public. The airline will not use the main terminal at the airport -- instead they'll fly out of the Yellowstone Jet Center on the east side of the airport. The planes have only 30 seats and it is really more of a first class service designed for the business person that wants to travel between the Bozeman area and Silicon Valley. JetSuiteX says they offer a luxury flying experience at an affordable price. Check it out at: <http://www.jetsuite.com/>. → The summer tourist season is just now getting into full swing, and already there have been two fatal accidents at **Yellowstone National Park**. There's also been at least one severe burn in one of the park's geyser basins, and people around the world have heard about the tourists who put a baby bison calf in the back of their car in May. → **Glacier National Park** has a new ranger. Gracie is a two-year-old border collie. Starting in mid-July, Gracie will herd mountain goats and bighorn sheep out of popular areas, like the parking lot and trails at Logan Pass, to keep humans and wildlife a safe distance from each other.



➤ **FISHING REPORT** → *as of* July 1, 2016. Fishing restrictions on the lower Madison and upper Big Hole started on Wednesday and additional restrictions went into effect on July 1 for the Big Hole, the lower Ruby, lower Beaverhead, lower Gallatin, and Jefferson rivers. Local fishing guides believe it is the right thing to do for the fish. When water temperatures rise to 73 degrees for more three days in a row, Fish & Game puts restrictions on the rivers so as not to stress the fish. There are plenty of other fishing rivers open, including the upper Madison, the Yellowstone, and the Missouri, so even if the new regulations are a nuisance, it is worth protecting the fish on some of the **best fishing waters in the world!**

**Fishing Report from The Tackle Shop.** If you are here in Ennis now on the first of July and fishing the Madison River, you are seeing the old fickle girl at her best. Flows are in good shape, bugs of every kind are everywhere, water is cool, and fish are happy. The salmon flies are still hanging around and it has been a great hatch and feels longer than normal. Is this prolonged hatch a result of cold water being released from Hebgen for the first time in 7 years? Larger fish in the upper portion of the river are still looking for the big bug and will for another week or so. Caddis of all sizes are river wide. Golden stones and Yellow Sallies are from top to bottom and May flies are coming on strong as of late. The world is right on the Madison.

If you're looking to dry fly fish into July there will be lots of options. As the month rolls along caddis and may flies will take over the lead from the stone flies and our offerings will get smaller. Also the best dry fly fishing will move to the shoulders meaning morning and evening. If you want to get bent with a dry fly and are planning on being here midmonth or later start thinking about early and late.

Nymphing is still strong and will continue to be all month. Right now stone fly and caddis are the main stays of our sub surface offerings. As the month rolls along the bugs will get smaller but the fish will stay into them. Nymphing as always is the best way to stay bent consistently. The bobber lobbbers rack up more fish but chasing a bobber is less fun. With all the great dry fly and nymph fishing we have been having of late, not many are throwing the meat. If you want to throw meat by all means get out and chuck

and duck. As normal the sculpins class of streamer will serve you best. Don't forget about the minnow class the famous sparkle minnow family. They just catch fish.

The Madison River is busy right now. Partly due to the great fishing and long salmon fly hatch. I expect it to stay busy for the next month or so for a few reasons. Other rivers like the Big Hole and even Lower Madison are already going to Hoot Owl hours. This drives people to the cooler water of the Madison like moths to a flame. Lots of boat traffic and wade fisherman are going to be the norm. If you're out on the river just keep others in mind. There are lots of people trying to escape life for a few hours of bliss just like you. Great products and daily specials as well as the most up to the second river reports at the store. Stop in for a few bugs and get the best info around. *John Way.* <http://www.thetackleshop.com/>

### Check out other fishing reports at:

- ✚ Madison River Fishing Company at: <http://www.mrfc.com/MadisonRiverMontanaFishing/MadisonRiverReport.aspx>.
- ✚ Dan Delekta at <http://beartoothflyfishing.com/flyfishingreports/uppermadisonriver.htm>.
- ✚ The Madison Valley Ranch at <http://www.madisonvalleyranch.com/blog/>
- ✚ Joe Dilschneider's Montana Trout Stalkers at <http://www.montanatrout.com/>
- ✚ Yellowstone Fly Fishing at <http://www.yellowstoneflyfishing.com/madisonreport.htm>.

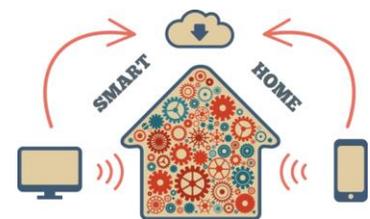
➤ **WEATHER** → June weather was spectacular in the Madison Valley! Absolutely no complaints. But with just .88" of precipitation, we are below normal for June and for the year. The recorded **June** high in Ennis was 88° and the low was 35°.

➤ **REAL ESTATE TIPS** → **HOW SMART IS YOUR HOME?** A January survey of 4,000 adults found that interest and adoption of smart home technologies is going mainstream even faster than experts originally expected. Among the survey's findings: **It's popular.** Almost half of all Americans either own smart home technology or plan to invest in it in 2016. **It's addictive.** Seventy percent of people with smart home technology said buying their first smart home product made them more likely to buy another one. **Interest crosses generations.** Older generations are adopting certain types of smart home technology faster than younger ones. For instance, 40 percent of those over 65 who own smart home products currently have smart temperature products, compared to only 25 percent of Millennials (ages 18 to 34). **Interest crosses income levels.** Americans with a household income of \$50k to \$75k and those with a household income of \$75k to \$100k are adopting smart home technology at nearly identical paces.

Smart home technologies come in a pairing—a device connects to the Internet and conveys information to the user through an app or remote. For example, homeowners can install a video doorbell in their home and download a corresponding application for their phone to monitor activity of who is coming and going. The combination of a device and an app or some controller helps manage the device. More devices can lead to more connected homes, providing homeowners with benefits like security, performance tracking, and lower utility bills. More than three quarters of consumers surveyed think that having just one category of smart technology in a home isn't enough for it to be considered smart. To meet that label, 60 percent of respondents think a home needs to have at least three categories of smart products.

### Top choices were:

- #1 - Security (locks and alarm systems) - 63%
- #2 - Temperature (thermostats and fans) - 63%
- #3 - Lighting (light bulbs and lighting systems) - 58%
- #4 - Safety (fire/carbon monoxide detectors and nightlights) - 56%



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These findings were echoed by a realtor.com® survey that explored the importance of various features, as well as the presence of these features in respondents' homes: Most Popular Smart Home Features: #1 - Security systems, #2 - Smart thermostat, #3 - Smart automation, #4 - Electronic locks, #5 - Audio/video/cameras, #6 - Automated water-shutoff valves, #7 - Home theater & entertainment.  
**So how smart is your home?**

➤ **FIND A HOME FOR YOUR SOUL ... *Featured Property of the Month* → FISHING CABIN ON THE MADISON RIVER.** Spend your next vacation in this wonderful, **FURNISHED, LOG CABIN ON 16+ ACRES**, close to Yellowstone Nat. Park, 3 mountain ranges and 6 major fisheries.



This cozy, 750 SF cabin has 1 BR, 1 ½ BA, screened-in porch and large carport. Located right across the road from great fishing access on the Madison River. Property has spring & creek, no subdivision, no covenants!



**\$375,000.** MLS #212856.  
<http://www.arrowreal.com/propDisplay.php?mlsID=212856>

➤ **CURRENT REAL ESTATE NEWS** → WASHINGTON (June 29, 2016) — After steadily increasing for three straight months, pending home sales let up in May and declined year-over-year for the first time in almost two years, according to the National Association of Realtors®. All four major regions experienced a cutback in contract activity last month. The Pending Home Sales Index (PHSI) a forward-looking indicator based on contract signings, slid 3.7 % to 110.8 in May from a downwardly revised 115.0 in April and is now slightly lower (0.2 %) than May 2015 (111.0). With last month's decline, the index reading is still the third highest in the past year, but declined year-over-year for the first time since August 2014.

[Lawrence Yun](#), NAR chief economist, says pending sales slumped in May across most of the country. "With demand holding firm this spring and homes selling even faster than a year ago, the notable increase in closings in recent months took a dent out of what was available for sale in May and ultimately dragged down contract activity," he said. "Realtors® are acknowledging with increasing frequency lately that buyers continue to be frustrated by the tense competition and lack of affordable homes for sale in their market."

Despite mortgage rates hovering around three-year lows for most of the year, Yun says scant supply and swiftly rising home prices – which surpassed their all-time high last month– are creating an availability and affordability crunch that's preventing what should be a more robust pace of sales. "Total housing inventory at the end of each month has remarkably decreased year-over-year now for an entire year<sup>3</sup>," adds Yun. "There are simply not enough homes coming onto the market to catch up with demand and to keep prices more in line with inflation and wage growth." Looking ahead to the second half of the year, Yun says the fallout from the U.K.'s decision to leave the European Union breeds both immediate opportunity as well as potential headwinds for the U.S. housing market. "In the short term, volatility in the financial markets could very likely lead to even lower mortgage rates and increased demand from foreign buyers looking for a safer place to invest their cash," he said. "On the other hand, any prolonged market angst and further economic uncertainty overseas could negatively impact our economy and end up tempering the overall appetite for home buying."

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In spite of last month's step back in contract signings, existing-home sales this year are still expected to be around 5.44 million, a 3.7 % boost from 2015. After accelerating to 6.8 percent a year ago, national median existing-home price growth is forecast to slightly moderate to between 4 and 5 %. The PHSI in the Northeast dropped 5.3 % to 93.0 in May, and is now unchanged from a year ago. In the Midwest the index slipped 4.2 % to 108.0 in May, and is now 1.8% below May 2015. Pending home sales in the South declined 3.1 % to an index of 126.6 in May but are still 0.6 % higher than last May. The index in the West decreased 3.4 % in May to 102.6, and is now 0.1 % below a year ago.

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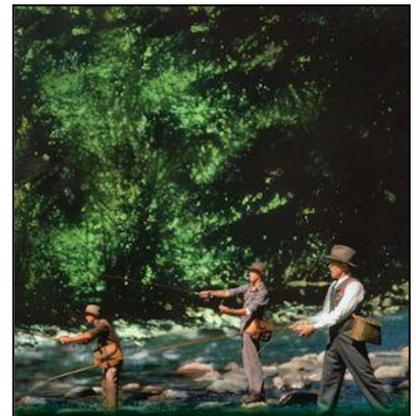
*The National Association of Realtors®, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest trade association, representing 1.1 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.*

➤ **LOCAL REAL ESTATE MARKET STATISTICS** → **June** continued as summer began in earnest. New listings, more showings and more closings. The market is definitely heating up. **The Southwest Montana Multiple Listing statistics** for the Madison Valley area (including Ennis, Cameron, McAllister, Norris, Virginia City, Harrison, Pony, Whitehall, and Cardwell), for the month of **June 2016** are as follows:

- **HOMES:** 123↑ homes are listed (\$65,000 to \$5,600,000); 22 pending sales (\$65,000 to \$459,000); and 29 homes sold in 2016 (\$18,000 to \$900,000), totaling \$9,697,500, which was 93% of asking prices.
- **LAND:** 332↑ vacant lots are listed (\$1,500 to \$925,000); 17 pending sales (\$2,750 to \$450,000); and 29 lots sold in 2016 (\$600 to \$250,000), totaling \$1,322,350, which was 88% of asking prices.
- **RANCHES:** 5↓ listed (\$698,500 to \$6,750,000); 0 pending sales, and 0 ranches sold in 2016.
- **COMMERCIAL:** 24 listed (\$56,000 - \$1,295,000); 1 pending sale (\$595,000); and 1 commercial property sold in 2016 (\$585,000), which was 98% of asking price.

*"The best investment on Earth is earth."* Louis J. Glickman, real estate mogul/philanthropist

➤ **MONTANA TRIVIA** → *Did you know that over 45 movies have been shot in Montana?* The 20 top-rated movies made in Montana were: **Alien Abduction, The Horse Whisperer, The Missouri Breaks, Clay Pigeons, Don't Come Knocking, Sweetgrass, Twilights Last Gleaming, Last of the Dogmen, Thunderbolt and Lightfoot, Dog Pound, Shooter, The Sisters, A River Runs Through It, Pow Wow Highway, I will Fight No More Forever, Legends of the Fall, Big Eden, Open Range, Little Big Men, and Taking Chance** (which was filmed right here in Ennis!) Then who can forget **The Patriot** that Steven Segal made here in the valley, filming on the Sun Ranch (that he owned at the time) and taking over Ennis! The film has some beautiful scenes of the valley but hardly a winner. Other films that included some great Montana scenes were **The Untouchables, Chronicles of Narnia, Forrest Gump, Hidalgo, What Dreams May Come and Dumb and Dumber**. So queue up some of these films for a tour through Montana!



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➤ **YOU KNOW YOU'RE FROM MONTANA** when...you'd rather go to a rodeo than a rock concert! Check out the pro rodeo schedule at: <http://montanaprorodeo.com/>. There are 33 pro rodeos on the schedule for 2016, all over Montana. But summertime in the Madison Valley really gets into high gear when the rodeo hits town on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July! Red, white and blue bunting, flags and flowers hang from the shops on Main Street. Rough stock arrives and grazes on the pasture by the rodeo grounds. Cowboys roll through town with their rigs and also head for the rodeo grounds, hoping this week brings a good draw and a great ride. This popular rodeo has been held on the Ennis Rodeo Grounds since the early 1950s. In the mid-1900s, the first rodeos were held on Main Street which was then a dirt road. The Parade was started to promote the rodeo. So grab the family and head on down to the rodeo grounds for the night rodeo on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and come on back on July 4<sup>th</sup> for the finals. There's plenty of food and beer being served up by local non-profit groups who work hard to help the community with the money earned at the rodeo. The VFW and Lion's Club sell beer and water, sponsored by Budweiser. Popcorn, burgers, hot dogs and more to keep everyone satisfied. Details at: <http://backroadtoyellowstone.com/event/4th-of-july-rodeo/>



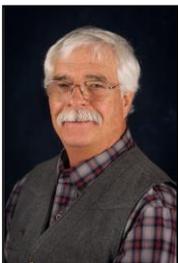
## SEE YOU IN MONTANA!

**Don & Toni Bowen**, Broker Associates and Accredited Buyer Representatives, with over 75 years of real estate experience, between them - covering residential, commercial, vacant land & ranch properties in the Madison Valley. *We are in the business of "match making."*



Office manager,

**Debbie Reilly-Richardson**



**Ron Gay**, Sales Associate with ERA Landmark Arrow Real Estate

*Thank you in advance for your personal referrals.  
They are the lifeblood of our business and the greatest compliment you can give us.*

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## USEFUL WEBSITES TO REMEMBER→

### ENNIS AND THE MADISON VALLEY:

<http://www.ennismontana.org/> - for community and local government information  
<http://www.ennischamber.com/> - The Ennis Chamber of Commerce website  
<http://www.madisonvalleyhistoryassociation.org> – The Madison Valley History Association website  
<http://www.mvmedcenter.org> – for information about the Madison Valley Medical Center  
<http://www.mvmcf.org> – the Madison Valley Medical Center Foundation website  
<http://www.mvvetsmemorial.org> – The Madison Valley Veterans Memorial website  
<http://www.madisonvalleyexpeditions.com/> - a source for experiencing *authentic* Montana in our area  
<http://www.backroadtoyellowstone.com> – information for travelers about the route through our valley

### MADISON COUNTY:

<http://madison.homestead.com/index.html> - for Madison County emergency news  
<http://www.madison.mt.gov/> - Madison County Government website  
<http://virginiacity.com> – Virginia City Chamber of Commerce

### NEWS:

<http://www.madisoniannews.com/> - the latest news from the Madisonian newspaper for Madison Co.  
<http://bozemandailychronicle.com/> - news from the big city of Bozeman, an hour northeast of Ennis  
<http://www.mtstandard.com/> - news from historic Butte, an hour & ½ northwest of Ennis

### MONTANA:

[www.fwp.mt.gov/](http://www.fwp.mt.gov/) - Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks website – for hunting and fishing regulations  
<http://fwp.mt.gov/education/bow/> - “Becoming an Outdoors Woman” – a must for female newcomers!  
<http://www.visitmt.com/> - Official website Montana Vacations, Recreation, Accommodations and Travel  
<http://www.montanapictures.net> – for people homesick for Montana – a great visual connection  
[http://mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/weather/rwis\\_list.shtml](http://mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/weather/rwis_list.shtml) - State Highway Web Cams  
<http://montanakids.com/> - State website for all things KIDS in Montana  
<https://www.facebook.com/Ennisrealestate?ref=hl> – Facebook page for ERA Landmark Arrow R. E.

### SKIING:

<http://bigskyresort.com/> – Check out latest snow conditions & things to do at Big Sky  
<http://www.lmranch.com/winter/> - Lone Mountain Ranch in Big Sky for cross country trails  
[http://www.westyellowstonenet.com/skiing/cross\\_country\\_skiing.php](http://www.westyellowstonenet.com/skiing/cross_country_skiing.php) - Skiing Yellowstone Park Trails

### HORSEBACK RIDING:

[www.wolfpackoutfitters.com](http://www.wolfpackoutfitters.com) – trail riding guides for the Madison Valley  
<http://www.sphinxmountainoutfitting.com> – trail riding and outfitting guides in the Madison Valley

### RANCHING:

<http://www.madisonvalleyranchlands.org/> - working to keep the ranching way of life alive

### FISHING:

<http://www.madisonriverfoundation.org> - The Madison River Foundation  
<http://www.montanatu.org/> - Montana Trout Unlimited

### GOLFING:

<http://www.madisonmeadowsgolfcourse.com> – Madison Meadows Golf Course in Ennis

### REAL ESTATE:

[www.arrowreal.com](http://www.arrowreal.com) – A wealth of resource information, local listings and a portal to the SW MT MLS  
<http://www.realtor.com/> - The world’s #1 Real Estate website. The source for all properties on MLS  
[www.houselogic.com](http://www.houselogic.com) – Helpful information from the National Association of Realtors  
[www.trulia.com](http://www.trulia.com) – Search for homes for sale and sold, local information, and research  
[www.zillow.com](http://www.zillow.com) – Search for homes for sale and rent, home values and mortgage rates  
[www.homesandland.com](http://www.homesandland.com) – Search for homes for sale and rent, home values and mortgage rates

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