

Golden Roundup

August 2013

**Garden
Oasis**

See page 8

Published monthly by

**The
Roundup**

PO Box 1207

Sidney, MT 59270

1-406-433-3306

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MT Endowment Tax Credit

Reprinted from MT Non Profit Assoc. & MT Community Foundation. Submitted by Staci Miller
Foundation for Community Care

Established in 1997 to encourage individuals, businesses and organizations to make lasting investments in their communities, the MT Endowment Tax Credit creates an incentive for residents to give to endowments. Through this unique tax credit incentive, a Montana taxpayer receives a reduction on the taxes owed, up to \$10,000 per year, by making a qualified charitable contribution to a qualified endowment.

If you would like to see a personalized, no cost or obligation example of how the MT Endowment Tax Credit can deliver immediate tax benefits, and make a dramatic philanthropic statement, please call or write the Foundation for Community Care, Attention Staci Miller, 221 2nd St. NW, Sidney, MT 59270, 406-488-2273 or send us an email at smiller@foundationforcommunitycare.org.

1. The tax credit makes it possible for people to give more than they might otherwise. By offsetting a portion of Montana income tax, the tax credit means that every \$5,000 gift really only costs \$3,000. (That's before the benefits of the federal deduction.)

2. The tax credit works. The Montana Department of Revenue estimates that at least \$123 million in gifts to charitable endowments have been used to claim the charitable endowment credit since its inception in 1997. Assuming a standard endowment distribution rate of 5%, these gifts create at least \$6 million in distributions to Montana nonprofits every year.

3. In a state where the economy is defined by the extraction and exportation of natural resources from the earliest days of fur trappers, Silver Barons and Copper Kings, to today's mining, coal, and oil industries the Endowment Tax Credit provides a vehicle for Montanans to leave part of their wealth to their hometowns in perpetuity and be rewarded for that good behavior. It encourages Montana-made wealth to stay in our state.

4. The MT Endowment Tax Credit is an effective public-private partnership that promotes philanthropy without endorsing a specific cause. It's a tool that incentives giving but allows donors and local communities to decide how to invest their donations and how the earnings should be used.

5. The tax credit is an important tool for building permanent endowments. Endowments make nonprofit operations sustainable. A recent study showed that demand for "life-line services" provided by nonprofit health centers, homeless shelters, and food banks has increased for the third year in a row. Nonprofits across the nation are being asked to do more with less. Endowment distributions take pressure off of nonprofit staff trying to find new sources of income by providing a predictable stream of revenue each year.

6. Endowments perpetuate the values and priorities of donors. An endowment created and restricted for a specific purpose can ensure that vital programs outlast changes in staffing, board and mission that all nonprofits undergo over time. Through endowment giving, donors can make sure that what they care about will last.

7. Endowments create legacies. Because an endowment gift is invested permanently, it acts as a permanent tribute for a donor's loved ones. Endowment gifts given to memorialize a loved one keep giving in their name forever.

8. Endowment gifts afford donors the option to perpetuate their annual gifts. Montana's population is aging. At retirement, annual donors may feel the need to cut back. With fewer young people to step into the shoes of long-time supporters it might become more challenging to raise annual operating support. Donors who add \$2,500 to the permanent endowment of their favorite charities will forever continue to give their \$100 annual gift.

9. Montana faces a lack of philanthropic wealth. Although Montanans are generous in many ways, among the 50 states, Montana ranks at or near the bottom with regard to per capita charitable giving, number of foundations, size of foundations, and value of foundation gifts granted and received. Montana is home to less than .03 of 1% of all U.S. foundations. It ranks 48th in the nation in foundation assets and 47th in foundation giving.

10. Endowments provide independence from economic, governmental and political forces for nonprofits, creating programs that stand the test of time. Many nonprofits rely on yearly grants from government and private foundations to fund operations, but this type of income is not guaranteed. An endowment distribution is.



Staci Miller

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Garden Oasis

By Jody Wells

Three years ago Dale and Holly Washburn inherited and purchased land from relatives near Watford City. Ever since that time they have been planting & tending to amazing gardens in several designated areas around their home.

Near the front door of the home is a beautiful flower garden filled with many varieties of perennial flowers and ribbon grass. They have also incorporated a wagon wheel, whiskey barrel and a stump from the Big Horn Canyon in Montana. Honey and bumble bees can be seen hovering around the flowers doing their pollination work. The Washburns contract with a beekeeper nearby to keep a steady supply of pollinators close at hand.

On the north end of the property is a good sized garden with many varieties of vegetables. Eggplant, beets, carrots, radishes, lettuce, broccoli, okra, cabbage, hot peppers, butternut squash and decorative gourds are growing in this organic garden. "The gourds have been used in place settings for several fall weddings," said Holly.

The west end of the property is the "berry" garden. This area includes many smaller boxed in garden areas containing various fruits and berries. There is also a row of apricot, plum and pear trees. The Washburns began working on this

area last year and they hope to plant perennials that will return each year. The garden areas fit in with the fire pit forming beautiful landscaping. "We haven't had one yet but we could have a heck of a party out here," stated Holly.

The largest garden is at the back of the home. Growing in this area are pumpkins, zucchini, peppers, peas, beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, corn and potatoes among many other vegetables. At the top of the hill is a long row of healthy Concord grape plants.

The Washburns have used minimal chemicals in all of the gardens. "We have only had problems with rabbits and deer," stated Holly. They also provide feed for many pheasants. "We are kind of like retired conservationists," Holly continued.

The Washburns have also used the garden to benefit others in the community. Due to surgeries they have enlisted the help of local 4-Hers to tend to the garden. As part of a junior gardener program, the kids have helped harvest the fruits and vegetables to sell at the local farmers market. "Two years ago the 4-H kids donated a portion of the proceeds to help the Minot flood relief effort," said Holly.

The Washburns also enjoy providing their Yukon potatoes for lefsa and canning their varieties of fruits and vegetables.

From the looks of it, gardening will be Dale and Holly's passion for many years to come.



The Washburn's large back yard garden is full of many varieties of healthy vegetables. For more pictures go to roundupweb.com.



Holly Washburn plans to make jelly out of these Concord grapes.

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Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Submitted by Ludmila Keller

Richland County Extension and the Family Resource Center will be offering a new program: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. This program will provide support and education for grandparents (and other relatives) who have taken the responsibility for raising their grandchildren.



In Montana, there is a growing population of grandparents who are called upon to be the part-time or primary caregivers to their grandchildren. Today, more than 6,600 grandparents in Montana are raising their grandchildren. Becoming a parent again can be an overwhelming and challenging task. Grandparents who act as caregivers face many challenges, such as financial burdens, emotional stress or isolation. They may also feel as though they cannot keep up with the child due to health concerns or simply because children are so active. They may feel out of touch with what is happening in today's schools and with child care methods that have changed since they first were parents.

However, it can also be a rewarding and memorable time if resources and support are available. Grandparents who take on the responsibility of their grandchildren have an opportunity to develop a close relationship with their grandchildren. They have the opportunity to pass on their wisdom, stories and memories directly to their grandchild. By sharing this special experience, with its rewards and challenges, grandparents are able to benefit from each other. Support from other peers encourages grandparents to take care of their own physical and emotional needs.

The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren project acts as a support group for grandparents, and offers educational workshops on a variety of topics, such as stress reduction, discipline, child development and community resources. This program will not only be a great educational resource, but will also allow participants to network with other grandparents, and find respite from the daily challenges of parenting a second time around.

If you are interested in this program that will meet monthly, come join us for an informational meeting on September 11 at noon. The meeting will take place at Richland County Extension (1499 N Central Ave, Sidney) and we will provide snacks and beverages. Relatives other than grandparents are welcome to attend. To RSVP or for any other questions, call Extension Agent Ludmila at 406-433-1206 or email ludmila.keller@montana.edu.

Fairview Memories

THE FAIRVIEW NEWS
THURSDAY, OCT 22, 1953
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Fairview News Thursday, Oct. 22, 1953

Lutherans Send Carload Wheat to Germany

A carload of wheat was shipped from Sidney to Germany the early part of October to help feed the more than 8,000,000 refugees west of the Iron Curtain. The 15,000 bushels represent a major part of the donations made by Lutherans of Richland County in The Lutheran World appeal.

Cash donations are still coming in from various parts of the county and will be sent to the Montana treasurer of the project.

Leaders of the state and county projects are: The Rev. Alfred Jenson, member of the Montana Steering committee; Nels Bach, county co-chairman; The Rev. John Chambers, county chairman; and Rex Smelser, co-chairman.

The Fairview News Thursday, Oct. 15, 1953

Construction of Post For Ground Observers Is Started This Week

Sgt. Peterson, Billings, representative of the Ground Observer Corp in this area, was in Fairview

Tuesday and announced that a Ground Observer Post will be built in Fairview with construction getting underway this week.

Cost of the post will be close to \$800 and the building will be used for equipment and the volunteer observers necessary in the operation of the post. Site of the post will be at the northeast corner of the baseball diamond. Construction work will be under the supervision of May or Sam Patterson and two carpenters will be employed.

The post will be operated 24 hours a day when completed and volunteers are in great need. Anyone wishing to donate their services are asked to contact Joe Thomas, local Chairman, and hours will be assigned. It is hoped that a large number of volunteers will sign up for a few hours each day or any time convenient to them.

Editor's Note: Dubbed "Operation SKYWATCH", The Ground Observer Corps was resurrected in 1952 to combat the perceived threat of a Soviet invasion during the Korean War. The original GOC was in operation during World War II with observation posts primarily along the nation's coasts to warn of enemy aircraft. It was disbanded in 1944.

The Fairview News Thursday, Oct. 22, 1953

Cartwright Wild Life Predatory War Closed Last Thursday Night

The Predatory battle between two teams of the Cartwright Wild Life club came to a close last Thursday night with 53 active members out of a total membership of 89 present at the meeting, according to Mrs. William Scrivner, Cartwright Correspondent.

Group one enjoyed top place for the last three weeks—in fact up to almost the closing hour when group two turned in reserve credits to place them in the lead by a generous margin. Final score—Group one, 2633 points; Group two, 3321 points..

During the contest a total of 532 predatories were killed. There were 231 magpies, 33 crows, 11 badgers, 57 raccoons and 200 skunks killed by the two teams.

The Fairview News Thursday, Oct. 22, 1953

Valley School District Buys Land For New Consolidated Structure

Yellowstone School district no. 14 completed a transaction Tuesday for 2½ acres of land adjacent to their site in East Fairview where the new consolidated school will be built.

The purchase was made by Axel Danielson for the school district, from A.O. Bjella of Williston. It constituted the acreage and site of the old Grant Allen root cellar.

Mr. Bjella has had a crew unearthing the root cellar and salvaging material the past week. The reclamation project has purchased much of the lumber and the remainder will be taken to Williston.

All of the land was not needed for the Yellowstone school system according to Mr. Danielson but it was necessary to purchase it intact to get the required amount. He stated that the school district would be willing to sell the large excavated pit and it would be ideal for a municipal swimming pool, and with a twinkle in his eyes, he asked the News if we thought Fairview might be interested. The News believes that Richland county should purchase the hole and move it to Second Hay creek which is a central spot for a swimming pool and recreational development.

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