



# The CityLink

Official News and Information  
from the City of Billings

Billings



Spring 2013

## Doug Beringer Retires after 36 Years

Doug Beringer retired from the Solid Waste Division of Public Works in December. He dedicated 36 years to the City, all in the Solid Waste Division. Prior to retirement, he spent an afternoon with the Career Vista class of West High School speaking about his experiences. These are just some of the letters he received in appreciation for his time that day.

### Congratulations Doug!



Dear Doug,  
Thank you for coming in and tell us what you do. I learned so much stuff about trucks that i did not know. And i like how you told us stories that happened to you when you started. THANK YOU for coming in and telling us what you do  
Thank you.  
Sincerely, Alex

Dear Doug,

Thank you for coming in and talking to us. You are the coolest garbage truck driver that I know. One thing that I learned is that you have to be 18 years old to work for the solid waste division for the city. Another thing that I learned is that there are a lot of dangers in the garbage truck department. Thank you again for talking to us.

Your Friend,

Trystan Miller

Dear Doug Beringer  
Thank you for showing us what it's like to be a solid waste employee. It was fun learning about where the waste goes after it's been picked up from dumpsters. It was cool having you as an influence on our class. I hope you enjoy retirement for the rest of your life. You've made us all look forward in life.

Sincerely,  
Dawn [Signature]

Dear, Doug

Thank you for talking to us about the solid waste division for the city. Thank you for telling us how long you work for the solid waste division and how you learned it. Thank you for telling us how the garbage trucks work and how they change when you first started to work there. Thank for telling us how the difference between the garbage and recycle can . Thank for telling us how much the garbage trucks weigh.

Thanks again, Riley

Dear Doug,

We really enjoyed having you visit our 5th period class. Being a solid waste truck driver sounds fun after the stories you told and what goes on daily at your job. My favorite part was first your laugh, and second your great stories. Before you came I thought that the solid waste business was just driving a truck around but it is a dangerous job because you can get hurt easily. 36 years at one job would be tough but that just shows that if you love your job and love what you do then stick with it. Thank you for coming.

Sincerely, [Signature]

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Visit the City's website: <http://www.ci.billings.mt.us>



# Police Department 2012 Medal and Annual Award Recipients



## Distinguished Service Medal:

### Mark Balter

Mark Balter has served as the Internal Services Specialist (also known as the “Quartermaster”) for the Police Department since September of 2009. His performance is consistently and significantly beyond established standards. Mark has been the Department’s point man for the radio systems upgrades. He has been dealing directly with the radio equipment manufacturer to resolve a number of radio system problems and upgrades. Without Mark’s tenacity to demand the most from vendors and watch out for the Department’s interests, the Department would be technologically years behind and thousands of dollars would have been wasted.

## Meritorious Service Medal:

### Todd McCrohan

Todd McCrohan has been with the BPD for nearly seven years working as a Forensics Examiner. Todd saw the need and took it upon himself to become a forensic shoe and tire track examiner for the Department. Since there was not one within the State, tire track impressions had to be sent to the FBI. During the last year, the State of Montana requested Todd’s assistance, which he gladly gave, to fill the void when their Forensic Examiner in Missoula left. Todd has also implemented many new programs, techniques, and procedures within evidence. His exemplary service has set a high standard for others to follow.

## Meritorious Service Medal:

### Mike Yarina

On April 18, 2012, Officer Mike Yarina was approached by a transient wanting to confess to a homicide from 1987. Officer Yarina’s initiative and follow-up resurrected this 25 year-old cold case from another state and resulted in a successful prosecution.

## Medal of Honor:

### Sergeant Shawn Mayo, Sergeant Shawn Finnegan, Officer Steve Hallam, Officer Marc Snider, and Officer Mike Yarina

The Medal of Honor is awarded for an act which involves extreme risk to the life of the officer and which is performed above and beyond the call of duty. These officers performed selflessly and bravely while facing deadly gunfire in two downtown businesses on May 24, 2012.

## Officer of the Year:

### Brandon Ihde

Officer Brandon Ihde is a five year veteran of the BPD. Officer Ihde currently serves as a S.T.E.P. (Selective Traffic Enforcement Patrol) Officer and has excelled beyond anyone’s expectations. By December of 2012, he had written 818 moving violations; 906 non-moving violations; 2,318 warnings; 283 City ordinance violations; and, made 89 DUI arrests. Officer Ihde dedicates his time to addressing traffic complaints and taking action on high accident locations. When complaints from citizens regarding traffic issues are assigned to Officer Ihde, he will spend time in that area and follow-up with the citizens. In addition to his busy schedule, Officer Ihde is a member of the Bike Program and serves as a firearms instructor. He is Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement (ARIDE) Certified and has been involved with Special Olympics for several years.

## Employee of the Year:

### Denise Hice

Denise Hice began her career with the City of Billings in 2007 and moved to the Police Department in March of

2010 as an Administrative Secretary. As one of the Department’s primary trustees, Denise took it upon herself to painstakingly ensure that all Department transactions and practices are within compliance of all City’s policies. In fact, Denise has been commended by the City’s Finance Department for her attention to detail and organizational abilities. Denise appreciates efficiency and performance and expects the same from everyone else. This has resulted in a significant improvement in many of the Department’s administrative practices.

## Respect for Law: Officer Tom Keightley

Officer Tom Keightley has been nominated by the Billings Optimist Club for its Respect for Law Community Award. Officer Keightley is a seven year veteran of the Police Department and is currently assigned to the Crime Prevention Center as a Public Relations Officer. Officer Keightley has begun the process of revitalizing the Adopt-A-Cop Program in area schools. At this time, Officer Keightley has 14 officers participating in this program and is working to double the size of the program in the future. Officer Keightley’s efforts in the Adopt-A-Cop program will have a lasting and positive influence on the youth in the Billings community for many years to come.

## Team Award: Animal Control

Nancy Lindstrom, Kristal Ward, Jeremy Kehrer, and Chase Blaylock served the family of a deceased co-worker with honor and distinction. The family of Travis Murray arrived from another state and was cared for by these individuals during their stay in Billings. This team also came together to perform the day-to-day operations of Animal Control while being staffed at just 60 percent.

*Congratulations to these Police Department employees for their accomplishments in 2012.*

## Summer 2013 Seasonal Employment

The City is gearing up to fill seasonal positions and expects to employ approximately 200 people for the summer season. Some positions begin as early as April, and most will end in late summer or early fall. Positions will be available in the following divisions/departments: Airport, Cemetery, Engineering, Library, Parks, Recreation, Solid Waste, Streets, Water, and Wastewater. Check the City’s website at [www.ci.billings.mt.us](http://www.ci.billings.mt.us) to view those employment opportunities and to submit an online application.

Please note: If you’re applying for more than one position, a separate application is required for each seasonal position.

The list of jobs will be open and posted approximately March 15. Applications can be submitted through the online application process, which is the preferred method, or in person at the Human Resources Office located at City Hall, 210 N. 27th Street.



# News from The City of Billings Parks and Recreation Department

Are you ready to get out and get active after the long cold spell? Check out what Parks and Recreation has to offer!

- Men's and Women's Spring Soccer – Deadline to register is March 8
- Girl's 5th & 6th Grade Volleyball – Begins March 13 - 14
- Tag & Tumble – K-2nd grade and 3rd-5th grade – Begins March 3
- Fly Fishing – Session 1: 4/8/13 - 4/20/13 & Session 2: 5/6/13 - 5/18/13
- Digital Photography – Session goes from 3/7/13 – 4/11/13
- Strength and Stretch Pilates – Wednesday evenings: 3/20/13 – 5/8/13  
Saturday mornings: 3/23/13 – 5/11/13
- Yogafit – Monday evenings: 3/18/13 – 5/6/13
- Zumba – Tuesday evenings: 4/9/13 – 5/14/13
- Nia – Wednesday evenings: 3/6/13 – 4/17/13
- Slow and Gentle Yoga(55+) – Session 2: Monday mornings 3/4/13 – 4/8/13  
Session 3: Monday mornings 4/15/13 – 5/20/13  
Session 3: Thursday mornings 4/4/13 – 5/9/13

- Strong Woman Strong Bones (55+) – Monday and Wednesday mornings  
4/1/13 – 5/22/13
- American Red Cross Classes :
  - Babysitter's Training (ages 11-15) – 4/1/13
  - First Aid/Child CPR and AED Training – Session 3: 3/7/13 and  
Session 4: 4/11/13
  - First Aid/Child CPR and AED Training for Companies and Organizations: \*\*Call the Parks and Recreation office to schedule a time and date\*\*
  - Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) Certification Class – May 2 and 3

All information and complete class listings may be found on the PRPL website until April 15 at [www.prpl.info](http://www.prpl.info) and after April 15 at [www.billingsparks.org](http://www.billingsparks.org). You may register for all classes online, by mailing in a registration form (this can be downloaded off the Parks and Recreation website), or by visiting the office located at 390 N. 23rd Street.

## 2013 Summer Adventures – Summer Activities Brochure

The summer 2013 activity brochure “Summer Adventures” is currently being planned and designed by the Parks and Recreation staff. Summer registration begins on April 15. The release of the brochure will be as follows:

- Brochures will be delivered to children in elementary schools within the Billings area;
- Brochures will be inserted in the May issue of Simply Family Magazine; and,
- Brochures will be mailed directly to our loyal customers from the last two years.

## Parks and Recreation Website (New Design Coming in April 2013)

The Parks and Recreation website is currently being redesigned and upgraded to the current web standards. The new website, [www.billingsparks.org](http://www.billingsparks.org), is anticipated to go “LIVE” on April 15 – just in time for summer registration to begin. Please remember to bookmark the new site.

Once the website is updated, visitors will once again be able to:

- Download and view the new summer activities brochure for 2103 “Summer Adventures.”
- Register for summer programs on-line.
- Reserve a picnic shelter on-line.

## Swords Rimrock Trailhead

The Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with Billings Chamber of Commerce Trail Committee, has been working on a fundraising campaign to make improvements at Swords Rimrock Park. The top identified priority is to develop the trailhead at Swords Rimrock Park, located at the intersection of Airport Road and Hilltop Road, which will be the first of several trailheads to be established along the Heritage Trail system. A major milestone in this effort has been accomplished; over \$40,000 has been raised to purchase a vault restroom facility, which will be a major amenity at the trailhead.

Park Board Member Margy Bonner has been instrumental in working with the Parks and Recreation Department to coordinate the fundraising for the restroom facility. A special thanks goes out to all those who have donated and assisted to secure funding through grants to accomplish this milestone: the Parks, Recreation and Preservation Foundation, \$6,000; the Rim Runners, \$6,500; the Saint Vincent Healthcare Heart and Sole Run, \$13,000 donated through Bike Net; Gary Hafer Memorial, \$1,350 donated through Bike Net; a Montana-Dakota Utilities grant, \$2,000 and a Recreational Trails Program grant, \$14,000, both secured by Darlene Tussing, Alternate Modes Coordinator for the City. It is anticipated the Parks and Recreation Department will install the restroom facility in late spring of this year.



## South Park Gazebo

The new Gazebo in South Park is now complete. The official grand opening of the Gazebo will be held early this spring. This multi-use structure is a large asset to the community, and the Parks and Recreation Department staff looks forward to hosting many future events at the new Gazebo.

Continued on page 4

# Parks and Recreation Dept

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## Remember Your Loved One Through A Memorial Tree

A Memorial Tree is a great way to celebrate the life of a loved one, or maybe celebrate the birth of a new child. Businesses may plant a tree to honor an employees accomplishment or a group may plant a tree for a special event.

Your tax deductible gift will be used to purchase trees to be planted in the Billings Parks system. The trees will be cared for by the Forestry Division personnel.

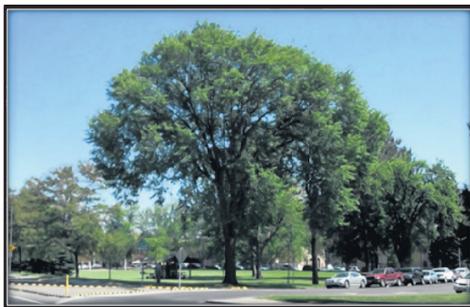
How it works:

- ⇒ Choose a Park from the list
- ⇒ Choose a Tree species from the desired list
- ⇒ Choose Plaque size (if you choose to have a plaque)

The Billings Parks Urban Forestry Staff will find the perfect place in your desired park, they will acquire and plant the tree of your choosing and guarantee its survival for up to 10 years.

### Desired Billings Park

Arrowhead	Evergreen	Optimist	Stewart
Boulder	Gorham	Pioneer	Terry
Burg	Grandview	Poly vista	Veterans
Burlington	Hawthorne	Ponderosa	Walsh
Castle Rock	Highland	Riverfront	Yellowstone
Centennial	Kiwanis	Rose	Family
Central	Lillis	Sacajawea	Mountview
Comanche	Millice	South	Cemetery
Eaton	North	Spring Creek	



### Desired Species List



- Deciduous trees will be approximately 2" in diameter and conifer trees will be 6' tall.
- Trees can be purchased any time, however, planting will only take place in the spring or fall.



### Plaque

A plaque is optional with tree planting. Plaques take approximately 4-6 weeks to create. The bronze plaque will be set in cement and placed flush with the ground adjacent to your tree.

- 5 x 3 = \$135.00
- 6 x 5 = \$159.00
- 8 x 6 = \$210.00
- (subject to change, due to the bronze market)

Forestry staff will work with you to help design and order your plaque. Plaques are an additional cost to the cost of the tree.

## Billings Memorial Tree Program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Tree Species Desired: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Desired: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be present at planting?

Yes  No

Would you like to order a Plaque:  Yes  No

If you would like a plaque with your tree purchase please include plaque price in payment.

Size of Plaque:

5 x 3 = \$135.00  6 x 5 = \$159.00

8 x 6 = \$210.00

Cost of Tree: \$425.00

Cost of Plaque: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check (payable to City of Billings)

Credit Card  MasterCard  Visa

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Send form and payment to:

Billings Parks and Recreation  
Attn: Forestry Division  
390 North 23rd Street  
Billings, MT 59101



## We Want to Hear From You

Please provide us with input for our next newsletter.

### What did you like most about the newsletter?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### What would you like to see in upcoming newsletters?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Mail or e-mail your comments to us at:

[citylink@ci.billings.mt.us](mailto:citylink@ci.billings.mt.us)

OR

The City Link  
P.O. Box 1178  
Billings, MT 59103

# 2013 PAVER Street Maintenance Programs

As asphalt pavement progresses through its performance lifecycle, its appearance and function diminish over time. Fine hairline cracks spread and deepen within the asphalt. Without ongoing maintenance, water may enter through cracks and holes may form, undermining the road base. In this case, the most effective form of repair is to remove and replace the deteriorated area.

As soon as freshly laid hot asphalt pavement mix begins to cool, the aging process begins. When oxygen in the air and water combine with the asphaltic binder of the pavement, a chemical change takes place. At first, this process is necessary for the pavement to become hard and firm. Later, if this process is not arrested, a complete deterioration of the asphaltic binder will take place and reduce the pavement to a layer of loose stone.

The City utilizes three preventative maintenance procedures each year. They consist of a crack seal, an overlay and a chip seal. Each of these processes helps to mitigate the deterioration of our City streets.

## Crack Seal:

Crack sealing is used as a first defense against pavement deterioration because it offers several important benefits. Effective crack sealing keeps water from

entering and weakening the base or sub-base. It helps preserve the pavement adjacent to the cracks; prevents sand, stone, and dirt from making its way into open cracks causing compressive stresses; and extends pavement life by minimizing crack growth.

Proper attention to cracks will prevent problems from spreading and extend the life of the pavement. Pavement repair in the early stages of deterioration will pay big dividends later by delaying costly resurfacing.

28.2 miles of City streets are being crack sealed this year. This includes streets in the Heights, West End and elsewhere in the City.

## Overlay:

The overlay process replaces existing deteriorated asphalt surfaces with new asphalt. Generally, the top two inches are milled off as a first step. Once this layer has been removed any exposed problem areas are removed and replaced in a dig-out process. The surface is then prepared and a new two inches of asphalt is put in place.

Streets being overlaid this year are portions of Monad Road, Broadwater Avenue, 19th Street West and Aronson Avenue. Knife River was the successful bidder for the overlay and will start when weather permits in the spring.

## Chip Seal:

Chip seals are basically a two-step process. First, the road surface needs to be properly cleaned of debris and any holes patched. Next, an asphalt distributor truck starts by spraying each lane with hot liquid asphalt to assure an even application. The asphalt is applied at a temperature between 150 and 185 degrees Fahrenheit. A chip spreader follows as rapidly as possible with a rock application, preferably within one minute. The asphalt must be fluid, so the rock will be embedded by the displacement of the asphalt. The rocks are an aggregate crushed to a special specification for size and cleanliness. Finally, a rubber-tire roller is used to set the rock into the liquid asphalt. Rolling orients the flat sides of the rock down and produces a tighter chip seal. It takes two to four passes of the roller to set the rock.

## Why Use Chip Seals?

- Chip seals provide the opportunity to maintain the roads for very low cost.
- A chip seal is about one tenth the cost of a conventional asphalt overlay.
- By extending the time between asphalt overlays, chip seals result in lower costs over the long term.

- By placing a chip seal sooner than overlay would be placed, the traveling public benefits from roads maintained in better condition.
- Chip seals enhance safety by providing good skid resistance.
- Chip seals provide an effective moisture barrier for the underlying pavement against water intrusion by sealing cracks in the pavement.
- Chip seals prevent deterioration of the asphalt surface from the effects of aging and oxidation due to water and sun.

Approximately 21 miles of City streets will be chip sealed this summer. The contract for the chip seal will be put out to bid in March, and the work usually takes place in the summer months.



## Refinance Now & Save

Are you unwilling to refinance your mortgage to a lower interest rate because of excessive closing costs? Do you have a low loan to value ratio and short-term payoff horizon?

If so, we encourage you to consider our Mortgage Accelerator Loan. It offers a competitive rate and minimal closing costs, which allows you to payoff your mortgage debt fast and save cash along the way.\*

Contact our Home Loan Consultant today

\*Annual Percentage Rate is accurate as of publication date and subject to credit approval. Maximum loan term is 120 months. Maximum loan amount is \$250,000. Maximum loan to value is 60% of market value or up to 80% if existing second mortgage is subordinated. Eligible candidates must fall within A or B pricing categories. \$699 in closing costs may affect APR. Certain restrictions apply. Limited time offer.

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Spring 2013



# Hazardous Waste Collection Events

On **Friday, May 31**, the City's Solid Waste Division is sponsoring a hazardous waste collection event for small businesses. To qualify, businesses must not produce more than 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month and must not have accumulated more than 2,200 pounds of hazardous waste for disposal. Participants must be pre-approved and register for an appointment by calling (406) 247-8633.

On **Saturday, June 1**, the City is sponsoring its 19th annual Toxic Trash Round-Up, a household hazardous waste collection event for residents of Yellowstone, Treasure, Musselshell, Carbon and Stillwater counties. Residents may bring their unwanted, unused and leftover household chemicals to the Billings Operations Center, 4848 Midland Road, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Acceptable items include medications,

ammunition, paint, used oil, fluorescent bulbs, batteries and garden chemicals. Items not accepted include medical waste, agricultural chemicals, explosives and electronic waste. For more information, call (406) 247-8633.



## From Our Readers

### Question from an anonymous reader:

Can a person use their cell phone while stopped at a light?

### Answer:

The cell phone ordinance (24-360 (d) (3)) states:

"This provision shall not apply to passengers in a motor vehicle, or persons using a hand held electronic communications device while maintaining a motor vehicle in a stationary position, not in gear, while in a parking lane or space out of moving traffic lanes."

So, no, a person may not use a cell phone while temporarily stopped at a light because they are still "operating" the vehicle and the vehicle is not in a stationary position or in a parking space, and is in gear. The exception above was intended, among other reasons, to encourage people to park alongside a street, out of traffic and out of harm's way, to use their phone while parked.

### Question from Patricia Hilderman of Billings:

32nd Street West and Monad has a lot of traffic and a traffic light, but no left turn arrows. You take your life in your hands to turn. There are a lot of bad accidents at that intersection. You cannot see to turn. Why are there no left turn arrows at this intersection?

### Answer:

The usage of left turn arrows are determined by a variety of factors including traffic volumes, reported accident history, and vehicle delay. In terms of traffic volumes, the number of left turning vehicles in a given hour are multiplied by the number of opposing through and right turning vehicles. This product is then compared to standardized thresholds to determine if a turn arrow is warranted. The most recent analysis of this intersection was performed a little more than a year ago, and the qualifications were not met.

That being said, the City has plans to address the signal controllers and their timing plans along 32nd Street West from King Avenue to Grand Avenue in the near future. This project will include updating the analyses for left turn arrows at Monad Road.

### Comment from Marian Cooke of Billings:

I have some concerns near property in the downtown area. There are 34 streetlights not lit in the area and 4 are in front and on the east side of the Holliday Furniture building – 3301 1st Avenue North. This area is in "an area" that requires security, especially a light. Please guide whatever department to address the lights being on after dark. Thank you.

### Answer:

Thank you for taking the time to inform us of the malfunctioning street lights. The street lights throughout the

City are maintained by either City staff electricians or Northwestern Energy crew members. On the City's website ([www.ci.billings.mt.us](http://www.ci.billings.mt.us)), you can view maps that indicate which street light districts are maintained by which entity. Once you are at the website, in the search box simply type "street light map" and hit search. There you will find the street light district maps separated by areas of the City (<http://ci.billings.mt.us/?nid=1683>). The districts colored pink are maintained by Northwestern Energy crews (1-888-467-2669) and all others listed on the map are City-maintained light districts (406-657-8250).

If you are calling Northwestern Energy, it is helpful to give them the location of the pole along with the number listed on the pole.

*Thanks for reading the CityLink and for sending in your great questions, suggestions and comments!*

# Nonresident Travelers to Billings in 2012

As a main entry point for visitors to Montana, Billings Logan International Airport participates in a program conducted by the University of Montana's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research (ITRR) to survey arriving passengers.

The ITRR collects visitor data such as where they reside, how long they plan to stay, whether they have visited Billings before, and the reason for their trip to Billings. The ITRR released the following survey results for January – October 2012:

■ The average length of stay was 6.58 nights, compared to

6.21 nights in 2011.

■ 58 percent of the visitors were repeat visitors, compared to 57 percent in 2011.

■ 40 percent of the visitors came primarily for business reasons, while 29 percent came to visit friends, relatives or for a family event.

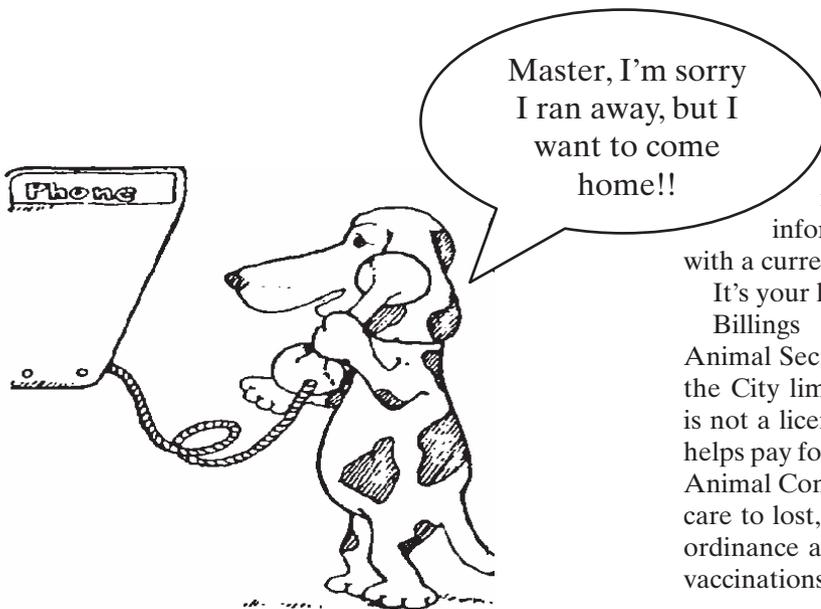
■ 26 percent came primarily for vacation, compared to 17 percent in 2011.

■ 54 percent came to visit Yellowstone National Park.

■ 40 percent of the visitors reported using Internet search engines for their trip planning.

The chart shows where the largest percentage of surveyed visitors resided:

RESIDENCE	PERCENTAGE
California	12%
Colorado	8%
Texas	7%
Florida	6%
Washington	5%
Utah & Virginia	4% each
<b>Canadian Provinces</b>	
British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan	
<b>Countries</b>	
Germany, Belize, England, Mexico, Switzerland, Brazil, Russia, New Zealand, Australia, United Kingdom	



## Register Your Pet!

Our pets can't learn our phone number or pull out an ID card. The main way your pet can carry readable information is around its neck. Keep a collar with a current registration tag on your pet.

It's your lost pet's phone call home!

Billings City Ordinance Unregistered Small Animal Sec: 4-438 requires all cats and dogs within the City limits to be registered with the City. This is not a license to run loose, but a registration that helps pay for the many services provided by Billings Animal Control. It assists with the cost of providing care to lost, unwanted, sick or injured animals. The ordinance also requires area pets to receive rabies vaccinations. Registration provides your pet with a

ride or phone call home, should they be found wearing their tag.

In 2012 Billings Animal Control received 3,100 calls involving loose, stray, and possibly lost animals; 1,766 of these complaints resulted in Officers handling the stray animals. Those animals wearing a current City Registration received a ride or, at the very least, a phone call home. Those without identification were transported to Yellowstone Valley Animal Shelter and required to wait and hope that their owner would arrive soon. 109 of these animals were injured. If they did not have identification, they may have waited at a veterinarian clinic or at the Animal Shelter for an owner to authorize treatment for injuries, other than life threatening or pain.

Owner: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional or Emergency # \_\_\_\_\_

Pets: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Sex M F  
 Color \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Current Rabies Vaccination Certificate, verification the pet has been spayed/neutered if this applies, and a self-addressed stamped envelope must be included.

Mail to: Yellowstone Valley Animal Shelter  
 1735 Monad Road  
 Billings, MT 59102

Prices: 1 Year Registration 3 Year Registration  
 Unaltered \$30.00 \$80.00  
 Spayed/Neutered \$ 7.50 \$15.00

Senior Owners 65 years or older pay ½ price.

Should you own a dog or cat that is not currently registered, the current penalties are:

- First Offense: \$110
- Second Offense: \$150
- Third Offense: \$545

As you can see from the form to the left, registration cost is substantially less expensive than a fine. Please be a responsible pet owner and provide your pet with a current pet registration.



## HAWK Pedestrian Signal

Most readers are aware that a new federal building will be opened this spring at the intersection of North 20th Street and 4th Avenue North. However, most probably do not know that most employees will park across 4th Avenue North from the building. This requires the employees to cross 4th Avenue North multiple times each day. In order to raise the safety of the crossing, the City will have the developer build Montana's first HAWK signal.

What is a HAWK signal? HAWK stands for High-intensity Activated crossWalk. The HAWK signal is a traffic signal that operates only when a pedestrian activates it. It allows traffic to move freely for most of the day, while

providing a safe crossing when needed. A pedestrian can push a button to turn the signal on as they wait to cross. The signal will then turn on yellow lights followed by red lights to stop traffic — much like a normal signal. After the pedestrians have started to cross, the red lights will begin flashing to let drivers know that, if pedestrians have crossed, they are safe to proceed through the intersection. After the red flashing lights, the signal will go dark again, and allow traffic to move freely until the next pedestrian activates the signal.

More information, including videos of other HAWK signals, can be found on the City's website at <http://www.ci.billings.mt.us/index.aspx?nid=2028>.

## Does Your Manufactured / Mobile Home Need Repairs?

The City of Billings has a 0% interest, deferred loan program that might help.

If you are a manufactured / mobile homeowner with limited income, you may be eligible for a 0% interest, deferred loan that would help you make needed improvements to your home including: electrical, plumbing, roofing,

heating, weatherization, and /or addressing handicap accessibility issues. Loans based on the unsecured value of your mobile are available for eligible repairs on a first-come, first-serve available funding basis.

- The manufactured / mobile home must be built after 1976.
- Applicant must have lived in & owned the home for at least a year, and the applicant's name must be on the title to the home.
- The home must be located within the city limits of Billings.
- Safety hazards and code issues must be addressed before other improvements can be made.
- The unit must be suitable for rehabilitation.
- Liquid assets (savings, stocks, bonds, etc.) must not exceed \$15,000.
- Other eligibility requirements and restrictions may apply.

<i>Household gross income must fall below these guidelines:</i>	
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Household Income Limit</i>
1	\$26,760
2	\$30,600
3	\$34,400
4	\$38,220
5	\$41,280
6	\$44,340
7	\$47,400
8+	\$50,460

## Need Home Repairs?

The City of Billings has a 0% interest, deferred loan program that might help.

If you are a homeowner with limited income, you may be eligible for a 0% interest, deferred loan that would help you make needed improvements to your home including: substantial

repairs/upgrades to basic systems (heating, electrical, plumbing, roofing, foundation, etc), correct major code violations, weatherization, and other eligible activities. Loans up to \$20,000 are available for eligible repairs on a first-come, first-serve basis.

- Applicant must have lived in and owned the home for at least one year.
- The home must be located within the city limits of Billings
- Safety hazards and code issues must be addressed before other improvements can be made.
- Must be willing to bring the home to minimum code standards.
- Have gross household income not exceeding income guidelines
- Liquid assets (savings, stocks, bonds, etc.) must not exceed \$15,000.
- Other eligibility requirements and restrictions may apply.
- Program subject available funding.

<i>Household gross income must fall below these guidelines:</i>	
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Household Income Limit</i>
1	\$26,760
2	\$30,600
3	\$34,400
4	\$38,220
5	\$41,280
6	\$44,340
7	\$47,400
8+	\$50,460



Racial and ethnic minorities, non-English speaking persons, female-headed households, and disabled homeowners are encouraged to apply. An application and more information is available: in-person at the Community Development Division located at the Parnly Billings Library, 4th floor; by telephone at (406) 657-8284; or on-line at <http://ci.billings.mt.us/index.asp?nid=114>.

