

BIG SKY

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TEMPER TANTRUM

Officers responded to a reported domestic disturbance. After an investigation, the officers determined the disturbance involved a toddler who was throwing a temper tantrum. **POLICE REPORTS, PAGE A7**



MSU team practices balloon launch for solar eclipse

BY MARSHALL SWEARINGEN
MSU News Service

REXBURG, Idaho – When a half-dozen Montana State University engineering, computer science and physics students tromped off-trail in the foothills of the Teton Range last week, they were one step closer to providing millions of people a unique view of August's rare solar eclipse. They swatted mosquitoes as they searched for cameras, tracking devices and other equipment that had dangled beneath a parachute before landing on national forest land. Prior to that, the equipment had been hoisted by a helium balloon to an altitude

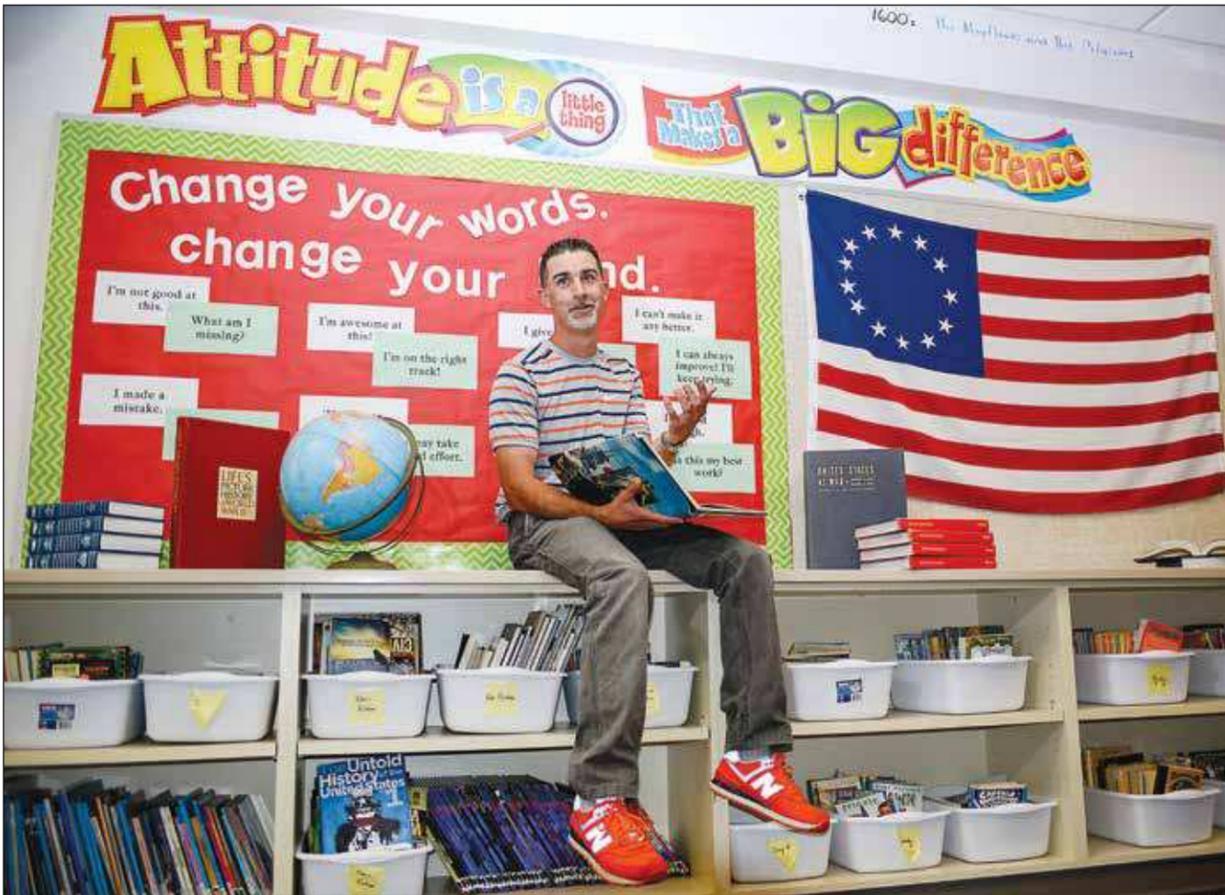
of more than 80,000 feet. The balloon launch was one of the final test flights for the MSU-led Eclipse Ballooning Project. During the Aug. 21 eclipse, 55 teams from across the country will live-stream video showing the moon's shadow crossing North America, the curvature of the Earth and the blackness of space. "The goal (with the test flight) is to get practice filling the balloons with helium and timing the launch so that the balloons reach altitude at the right time," said Randy Larimer, deputy director of the Montana Space Grant Consortium and an instructor in MSU's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. During the eclipse, timing will

be paramount because the period of totality, when the moon entirely blocks the sun, will last only about two minutes. That's when the balloon teams want to have their equipment at about 80,000 feet for the best view. Most of the 15-person team had risen before 4 a.m. to make the 180-mile drive from Bozeman. In Rexburg, half the team assembled dish-shaped radio receivers and other equipment for tracking the two balloons from a corner of a small airport. The others loaded tanks of helium in a pickup and drove about 20 miles west to launch the balloons from the Camas National Wildlife Refuge.



Montana State University students and staff with the Eclipse Ballooning Project perform a test launch of a high-altitude balloon on June 22 in Rexburg, Idaho.

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Fifth-grade social studies and language arts teacher Danny Waldo poses for a photo in his Hyalite Elementary School classroom Friday, June 30. Waldo was recently recognized as the best history teacher in the state with the Montana History Teacher of the Year award.

RACHEL LEATHE/CHRONICLE

City, county in 'holding pattern' while Marsy's Law is stayed pending lawsuit

BY WHITNEY BERMES
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Montana Supreme Court has stayed the state's new crime victims' rights law while a lawsuit challenges its validity, so law enforcement in Bozeman say they will wait until things play out in court to enact any changes.

For months, Bozeman and Gallatin County law enforcement, prosecutors and victims' advocates have geared up to comply with Marsy's Law, a constitutional amendment that added a "bill of rights" for crime victims to Montana's constitution. It was set to go into effect July 1.

Marsy's Law lays out a number of things crime victims have the right to, including:

- be given a "Marsy's card," a document that informs them of their constitutional rights, by law enforcement
- receive notice of all of an alleged offender's court proceedings
- be promptly notified if an alleged offender is released or escapes from jail
- provide input to prosecutors throughout the length of an alleged offender's case
- prevent disclosing information that could be used to locate or harass a victim, such as addresses, phone numbers or other "confidential or privileged" information
- receive restitution from offenders prior to them pay other court fees

It also broadens the definition of a victim to include victims of property crimes and family members, guardians or others with relationships to a victim.

The week before the law was to go into effect, however, the American Civil Liberties Union of Montana, joined by the Montana Association of Counties, the Montana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Lewis and Clark County Attorney Leo Gallagher and Billings attorney Adrian Miller filed a petition with the state's high court seeking to void the law.

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LIVING HISTORY

Montana history teacher of the year: Bringing American history to life for Bozeman kids

BY GAIL SCHONTZLER
Chronicle Staff Writer

On the first day of school, teacher Danny Waldo asks his Bozeman fifth-graders how many love history.

Less than half raise their hands.

"I tell them by the end of the year, every one of them is going to love history," Waldo says. "It's stories. It's real life. You can't make this stuff up."

Waldo's infectious enthusiasm for teaching American history helped him win the 2017 Montana History Teacher of the Year award.

"I was ecstatic," Waldo said, when he learned he'd

won. "Obviously I was humbled because there are a number of teachers as passionate as I am."

Schools today focus a lot of attention on teaching reading and math, he said. "I think history is equally important. I think it's important for us to know where we came from and where we're going, so we don't keep spinning our wheels."

Awarded by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the leading U.S. nonprofit dedicated to teaching American history in schools, in collaboration with the Montana Council for History and Civics Education, the honor comes

with a \$1,000 honorarium and an archive with new history books and materials for his school's library.

Waldo teaches history and English to both fifth-grade classes at Hyalite Elementary School, and makes history a hands-on, active, participatory experience for kids.

Every year he has students create a "wax museum" where each one picks a figure from American history, researches the person's life, writes a persuasive letter about their importance, dresses up as that figure and gives a speech in character. One student chose Betsy Ross and sewed a 13-star

American flag, which she gave him.

It's one of three American flags hanging in his classroom. The second is a standard-issue classroom flag, and the third was a birthday present from his brother, who with the Air Force in the Iraq War.

Waldo said he starts the year with some kind of disruption — like having another teacher walk in while he's talking and steal candy. Then all 30 students have to write down what they witnessed — some saw the whole thing, some saw nothing, and others have different ideas of what happened.

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Livingston couple breeds, trains guard dogs — for a price

BY LIZ KEARNEY
Livingston Enterprise

LIVINGSTON — A specialty dog breeding and training operation located northwest of Livingston recently opened its doors for a small tour, displaying some of their dogs-in-training, their teaching techniques, and reasons why highly trained protective dogs are needed in today's world.

"We don't sell fear," Kim Greene, co-owner of Svalinn with her husband, Jeff, and self-described on her business cards as the "Alpha Female," said. "We sell peace of mind."

The Greens are experts in the

world of dogs — what motivates them and how to train them. The word Svalinn comes from Norse mythology, Kim explained. Svalinn is the name of the sword that stands before the sun.

Svalinn dogs are a mixture of the German shepherd, Dutch shepherd and Belgian Malinois breeds, Kim said during a tour of the facility offered to members of the Bozeman-based Prospera Business Network. About 20 people braved an unseasonably cool day in late May to hear about the company, meet some dogs and observe some of the protective behaviors the dogs are taught.

Svalinn dogs are known for being good family dogs, but also capable

of defense if called for. Svalinn got its start in Kenya, where the Greens moved after meeting in Afghanistan. Kim was fresh out of graduate school from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs when she landed a position in President Hamid Karzai's office. Jeff was in the military serving as a Green Beret.

They began training dogs in Kenya — first for Kim's protection when Jeff was away for work — and later for people with real security needs where firearms weren't always the best line of defense.



Hank Williams Jr., the dog at right, takes a moment to look around during a training demonstration at Svalinn, a company that breeds protection dogs, on May 25, in Livingston.

HUNTER D'ANTUONO

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