

**From:** [Candace Forrette](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Do not cooperate with ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 10:21:28 AM

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Dear BPD, Mayor Nelson, and Billings City Council:

Please do not agree to cooperate with ICE in any way.

BPD has worked hard for many years to build and maintain the community's trust and it has not been easy. I don't believe they can be effective if they do not maintain a certain level of trust. This can not be done if the City and the BPD are working with ICE. These folks have proven themselves to be out of control and have destabilized many communities. A case in point is in Minneapolis with the killing of Renee Good.

I am horrified at what I am seeing taking place. The additional gas lighting and makes it even worse. My friends and family in Minneapolis are horrified and frightened. Is this what we want for Billings? I think not.

I do not want local law enforcement put in the position of helping with violent and probably unlawful tactics. Why would we want to task our public servants to be put in that position? I don't think we do.

This whole thing is going to get worse before it gets better and many innocent people are in danger. I pray for peaceful resolutions. Please do all you can to ensure the safety of the public. This includes everyone in our community.

Thank you.  
Candace Forrette  
Billings

**From:** [Drew MacLeod](#)  
**To:** [Council; Nelson, Mike](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mentorship: Shaping The Future Of Billings Youth  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 2:08:11 PM

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Hello!

I'd like to personally invite you to our upcoming event, ***Lead and Inspire: Shaping the Future of Mentorship***. This dynamic gathering of business and community leaders will focus on shaping the future of mentorship for youth in Billings.

***Date: Thursday, January 29***

***Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM***

***Location: United Way of Yellowstone County***

Join fellow leaders for a meaningful, solutions-driven conversation on how mentorship can strengthen our community, support youth, and create a lasting impact. This facilitated discussion will provide opportunities for focused dialogue, shared learning, and collaborative vision-setting. Space is limited. Please sign up using the link, <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/z82e7r7>, to reserve your spot. Lunch will be provided.

Thank You

***Drew MacLeod***

Executive Director  
CASA of Yellowstone County  
P.O. Box 688  
Billings, MT 59103-0688

550 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite #240  
Billings, MT 59101  
(406) 259-1233

[drew@yellowstonecasa.org](mailto:drew@yellowstonecasa.org)

[www.yellowstonecasa.org](http://www.yellowstonecasa.org)

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**From:** [Jim Thomas-DeJongh](#)  
**To:** [Council; BPD.](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Protection from those foreign and domestic  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 12:04:46 PM

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Billings City Council and Billings Police,

Welcome to a new year. A year ago, I wrote to our congressional delegation. "Show courage and protect the future of every Montanan" was my message to our Montana congressional representatives on January 31, 2025. Their response in words and in deed has been at best disappointing and at worst complicity in an authoritarian power grab. Our congressional leaders have abdicated their responsibility to contain executive overreach and protect "We the People". That leaves our local city leaders as our last and best bulwark against federal bad behavior. We can expect complicity from county officials who offered the First Interstate Arena as an ICE detention facility. The current environment leaves an important role of the Billings City Council and Billings Police Department to keep all Montanans and visitors safe from displays of authoritarian power. When a secretive police force descends on Montana, we expect our local leaders and police to keep all people safe and reject masked, heavily armed, military style, untrained agents. Local protests have been peaceful and were done in cooperation with Billings' law and police, but this could be tested if secretive police are on the scene baiting concerned citizens with armed bravado. We trust our local city officials, we are wary of our county officials and we have a strong distrust of the current federal regime.

Please continue to support freedom of speech, civil rights, safety and health of all people, rule of law and democracy. We may be spared armed domination displays unlike our good neighbors because our congressional leaders are complicit and our population mostly white, but we should be supporting our neighboring cities and states and preparing for demands of obedience and more federal dysfunction.

Sincerely,

Jim and April Thomas-DeJongh

910 Nutter Blvd

Billings, Montana

January 31, 2025 to: Daines, Sheehy, Downing

Show courage and protect the future of every Montanan

As a member of the Montana delegation, you represent the people of Montana and our future in a distorted democracy. The unlawful purge at the Justice Department and FBI, and

the takeover at the U.S. Treasury payment systems by Musk must be stopped. Our democracy is barreling into dysfunction. Open your educated eyes and predict the fallout to the people you represent. Retribution to federal employees, the pardoning of criminals that injured police officers protecting Congress, incompetent cabinet nominees, threatened market disruptions and bullied allies in only two weeks. Our security, our safety, our health, our economy, our insurance costs, our environment, our retirement are all at risk as government and democracy melts down. Winning an election does not give anyone the license to ruin our democracy and its norms.

Congress has a central leadership role; do not abdicate your power to protect all Montanans.

**From:** [Chyrel Garding](#)  
**To:** [Lindley, Andrew](#); [Aguirre, Amy](#); [Shaw, Kendra](#); [Nelson, Mike](#); [Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Kukulski, Chris](#); [Iffland, Kevin](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Welcome and congratulations  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 7:52:35 AM

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Thank you for the quick response! How does 1/27, 1/28, or 1/29 from 11-1 work for everyone?

Respectfully,

Chyrel C. Garding  
Manager of Business Development and Community Outreach  
[cgarding@rimrock.org](mailto:cgarding@rimrock.org)  
Cell: (406) 598-4088

## #RimrockIsRecovery

### CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PATIENT RECORDS

#### Section 2.32. Prohibition on Re-disclosure of Confidential Information

This notice accompanies a disclosure of information concerning a client in alcohol/drug treatment, made to you with the consent of such client.

This information has been disclosed to you from records protected by Federal confidentiality rules (42 CFR Part 2). The Federal rules prohibit you from making any further disclosure of this information unless further disclosure is expressly permitted by the written consent of the person to whom it pertains or as otherwise permitted by 42 CFR part 2. A general authorization for the release of medical or other information is NOT sufficient for this purpose. The Federal rules restrict any use of the information to criminally investigate or prosecute any alcohol or drug abuse patient.

If you have received this information in error, please delete it and advise the sender of the error either by email or phone at [406-248-3175](tel:406-248-3175).

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**From:** Lindley, Andrew <[LindleyA@billingsmt.gov](mailto:LindleyA@billingsmt.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 10:18:54 PM  
**To:** Aguirre, Amy <[AguirreA@billingsmt.gov](mailto:AguirreA@billingsmt.gov)>; Shaw, Kendra <[shawk@billingsmt.gov](mailto:shawk@billingsmt.gov)>; Nelson, Mike <[NelsonM@billingsmt.gov](mailto:NelsonM@billingsmt.gov)>; Chyrel Garding <[cgarding@rimrock.org](mailto:cgarding@rimrock.org)>; Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kukulski, Chris <[kukulskic@billingsmt.gov](mailto:kukulskic@billingsmt.gov)>; Iffland, Kevin <[ifflandk@billingsmt.gov](mailto:ifflandk@billingsmt.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Welcome and congratulations

Cheryl,

I would love to be involved with a tour. Thanks for reaching out.

Andrew Lindley  
Councilmember - Ward 4



**Andrew Lindley**  
Council Member-Elect Ward 4  
[lindleya@billingsmt.gov](mailto:lindleya@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

P.O. Box 1178 • Billings, MT 59103  
P 406.534.0105

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**From:** Aguirre, Amy <AguirreA@billingsmt.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 9:15:44 PM  
**To:** Shaw, Kendra <shawk@billingsmt.gov>; Nelson, Mike <NelsonM@billingsmt.gov>; Chyrel Garding <cgarding@rimrock.org>; Council <Council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Cc:** Kukulski, Chris <kukulskic@billingsmt.gov>; Iffland, Kevin <ifflandk@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Welcome and congratulations

I would be delighted to have a tour, as I have lost my sister to addiction. Please let me know when you are available.

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**From:** Shaw, Kendra <shawk@billingsmt.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 6:45 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Mike <NelsonM@billingsmt.gov>; Chyrel Garding <cgarding@rimrock.org>; Council <Council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Cc:** Kukulski, Chris <kukulskic@billingsmt.gov>; Iffland, Kevin <ifflandk@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Welcome and congratulations

I'd love to join for a tour!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** Nelson, Mike <NelsonM@billingsmt.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 4:28:20 PM  
**To:** Chyrel Garding <cgarding@rimrock.org>; Council <Council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Cc:** Kukulski, Chris <kukulskic@billingsmt.gov>; Iffland, Kevin <ifflandk@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Welcome and congratulations

Thank you, Chyrel. I, for one am greatly interested in finding out more. Could we meet in the next few weeks?

Mike Nelson

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**From:** Chyrel Garding <[cgarding@rimrock.org](mailto:cgarding@rimrock.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 12:12 PM  
**To:** Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kukulski, Chris <[kukulskic@billingsmt.gov](mailto:kukulskic@billingsmt.gov)>; Iffland, Kevin <[ifflandk@billingsmt.gov](mailto:ifflandk@billingsmt.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Welcome and congratulations

Hello Mayor Nelson and City Council Members, first term and multi term members,

We are honored to have you serving our great city and welcome the opportunity to chat about Rimrock Foundation, who we are and what we do. I invite you all to a tour of our facility and an open chat about anything you would like to know. I can provide lunch! I look forward to hearing from you and again we are excited for new leadership and consistent leadership within our city government.

Chris and Kevin,

As always, you are welcome and included. Looking forward to 2026! Thank you for all that you do!

Respectfully,

*Chyrel Garding*

Chyrel Garding  
Manager of Business Development and Community Outreach  
[cgarding@rimrock.org](mailto:cgarding@rimrock.org)  
Cell: (406) 598-4088

**Upcoming out of office dates:**



**CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PATIENT RECORDS**

**Section 2.32. Prohibition on Re-disclosure of Confidential Information**

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If you have received this information in error, please delete it and advise the sender of the error either by email or phone

**at 406-248-3175.**

**From:** [Keehner, Toni](#)  
**To:** [.MayorAndCouncil](#)  
**Subject:** 1/12/2026 Regular Business Meeting REVISED  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 12:08:37 PM

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Good afternoon,

Please note that the staff memo for Regular Agenda Item 2 on the 1/12/2026 Council Meeting has been revised and additional attachments have been added. It has been re-published on the website.

[January 12, 2026 REVISED Agenda Packet](#)

Thank you,



Toni Keehner  
Deputy City Clerk  
[keehnert@billingsmt.gov](mailto:keehnert@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

316 North 26<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 1178 • Billings, MT 59103  
P 406.247.8605 F 406.657.8390

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**From:** [Maddox, Wynnette](#)  
**To:** [.MayorAndCouncil](#); [.Leadership Team](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Burns](#)  
**Subject:** CA Weekly Report  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 3:22:36 PM

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Good afternoon.

The January 9, 2026, Weekly Report is available at the following link:

<https://www.billingsmt.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/19220>

Thanks.



*wynnette Maddox*  
Executive Secretary  
[maddoxw@billingsmt.gov](mailto:maddoxw@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

P.O. Box 1178 • Billings, MT 59103  
P 406.657.8433 F 406.657.8390

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My hours are Monday – Thursday 7 AM – 5 PM

**From:** [Bohlman, Denise](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** DRAFT Minutes from 12.15.2025 Regular Business Meeting  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 1:43:30 PM

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Good afternoon, Mayor and Council,

The DRAFT Minutes from the December 15, 2025 Regular Business meeting are available for your review to approve during this Monday night's meeting.

Please click on the link below to review them.

[December 15, 2025 DRAFT Minutes](#)

I am still preparing the minutes from the November 24<sup>th</sup> regular business meeting and if I have those finished by day's end I will forward them.

Thank you and have a great weekend!



[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

**Denise R. Bohlman**  
City Clerk, CMC  
[bohlmand@billingsmt.gov](mailto:bohlmand@billingsmt.gov)

316 N. 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 1178 • Billings, MT 59103  
P 406.657.8210 F 406.657.8390

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**From:** [Ekblad, Andy](#)  
**To:** [Bentz, Kevin](#); [Biggins, Becky](#); [Council](#); [Card, Tanya](#); [Dan Paris - SO](#) ([dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov](mailto:dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov)); [Desroches, Kayla](#); [Fender, Jaime](#); [Fire1](#); [Fire2](#); [Fire3](#); [Fire4](#); [Fire5](#); [Fire6](#); [Fire7](#); [Frank Fritz](#); [Frost, Kietyn](#); [Gazette \(Brown, Mathew\)](#) ([mbrown@ap.org](mailto:mbrown@ap.org)); [Gazette \(Lutey, Tom\)](#) ([tlutey@billingsgazette.com](mailto:tlutey@billingsgazette.com)); [Gazette, Billings \(E-mail\)](#); [Green, Dave](#); [Hallam, Steven](#); [Harper, R D](#); [Haynie, Jessica](#); [Hoege, Tina](#); [Hofer, Mary](#); [Hoiness, Cassie](#); [Hoppel, Matt](#); [Hunt, Travis](#); [Iffland, Kevin](#); [Kent, Jay](#); [Krivitz, Brian](#); [KTVO \(Jay, David\)](#) ([djay@ktvq.com](mailto:djay@ktvq.com)); [KTVO \(news@ktvq.com\)](#); [KTVO \(Stepanek, John\)](#) ([jstepanek@ktvq.com](mailto:jstepanek@ktvq.com)); [KUBL-970 \(newsradio970@yahoo.com\)](#); [Kukulski, Chris](#); [KULR8 \(news@kulr.com\)](#); [Lennick, Matthew](#); [Love, Jeff](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Martinez, Priscilla](#); [Mitchell, Darrek](#); [Morgan, Tyrone](#); [MT News \(Cyphers, Donald\)](#) ([montananews@journalist.com](mailto:montananews@journalist.com)); [Naylor, Sara](#); [Nelson, Mike](#); [Robertus, Justin](#); [Seymour, J](#); [Swing, BC](#); [Tate, John](#); [O'Donnell, Tony](#); [Turner Fitzgerald, Lynn](#) ([turnerfitz@aol.com](mailto:turnerfitz@aol.com)); [Valdez, Pepper](#); [Wakeupmt](#); [Williams, Stephen ATF](#); [Yeager, Derek](#)  
**Subject:** Media Release 2026-0443  
**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2026 8:02:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [Media Release 2026-0443.pdf](#)  
[Outlook-A picture .png](#)

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Good Evening,

Please review the attached media release for the kitchen fire that occurred at 3900 Olympic Blvd. Thank You.

Sincerely,



**Andy Ekblad M.S., NRP**  
Deputy Fire Marshal  
[ekblada@billingsmt.gov](mailto:ekblada@billingsmt.gov)

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[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

2305 8th Ave N.  
Billings, MT 59101  
**P** 406.237.6193

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BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
**FIRE INVESTIGATION MEDIA RELEASE**

DATE	1/9/2026	TIME	1715 HOURS
LOCATION	3900 OLMPIC BLVD	SUITE / APT / UNIT	B103
BUSINESS	N/A		
INCIDENT TYPE	BUILDING FIRE	INCIDENT NUMBER	2026-0443

**INCIDENT DESCRIPTION**

A fire occurred in the kitchen of this apartment. The fire was caused by unattended cooking on a stovetop. The occupant fell asleep while cooking and was alerted of the fire by their residential smoke alarms. Fire damage was contained to the area of origin. The apartment sustained moderate smoke damage. The occupant was able to knock the fire down with towels. Engine 5 responded and extinguished remaining hot spots and ventilated the apartment. One occupant sustained minor injuries and refused medical transport. A full structure fire response was dispatched, consisting of four engine companies, one truck company, one Battalion Chief, and one ambulance. After confirming the incident was under control, Engine 5 released other responded units.

**COMMENTS, OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED**

*Please keep in mind that a presence of law enforcement doesn't always mean an incident is criminal. Unless advised otherwise in these comments, any questions concerning this investigation should first go through the Fire Prevention Bureau contact listed at the bottom of this form.*

Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms save lives by providing early warning of fire or dangerous gas levels, giving you and your family time to escape. These alarms are a critical part of home safety, but only if they are working. Test your alarms today and replace the batteries if needed—it could make all the difference in an emergency.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU INVESTIGATOR		DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL ANDY EKBLAD	
PHONE	406-237-6193	EMAIL	ekblada@billingsmt.gov