

Montana Conservation Voters Livingston City Commission Voter Guide

www.mtvoters.org

September, 2009

Who we elect Matters! This is especially true at the local level where the candidates we elect put our local tax dollars to work, and are the first line of defense for protecting our healthy communities, clean air, water, and beautiful outdoor heritage.

Montana Conservation Voters' endorsement process included the use of a questionnaire reflecting local conservation priorities, candidate interviews with chapter members, and endorsement decisions made by the chapter board, which were then advanced to the MCV Political Action Committee and Board of Directors.

The Livingston City Commission has five members, three of whom are up for re-election. All three were previously endorsed by Montana Conservation Voters, and face three challengers (a fourth dropped out of the race). Montana Conservation Voters supports the re-election of these three pro-conservation incumbents. Livingston is the first community in Montana to get a municipally-owned glass pulverizer that is pulling in glass from the community and from around the state. The community is beginning to develop trails that encourage greater health and less reliance on vehicles. This election is important to keeping the momentum moving.

Copies of the candidates' questionnaires are available to MCV members upon request by calling 254-1593, or e-mailing kevin@mtvoters.org.

2009 Municipal Election Calendar

October 5th: Close of regular registration. Late registration begins. Voters may still register at the local election office up to and including on Election Day, fill out and submit a voter registration card, and vote a ballot.

October 14th: Absentee election ballots are sent out.

November 3rd: Municipal General Election. Voters have until 8:00 p.m. on November 3rd to return mailed ballots to the county election office or to ballot drop-off boxes in their town or city.

Here's what you can do as a Conservation Voter to elect these candidates.

- Help the candidates with phone calls, meeting with voters at their doors, or with mailings and fundraisers.
- Write a letter to the editor in support of these candidates.
- Register to vote, and vote in the November 3rd general election.
- Donate to Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee to elect pro-conservation candidates:
www.mtvoters.org/pac

Mary Beebe was first elected to the Livingston City Commission as a write-in candidate in 2004 for a two-year term and re-elected in 2006. She has been strong voice for conservation on the commission. Mary works as a case manager for the local mental health center and is a dedicated volunteer for the Stafford Animal Shelter and the local chapter of the Montana Spay-Neuter Task Force. She worked as a teacher, a researcher and a community



organizer, as well as a seasonal surveyor for the Forest Service and two summers as a sheepherder north of Melville. Mary wants to be re-elected "to create a long-term plan for the development of a recreational district that incorporates existing and new parks, trail systems and a recreational facility." Mary pledges to "continue to expand recycling and composting efforts, and to move forward with infrastructure replacement, especially in the downtown area, so that our historic district is both functional and aesthetic." **To support Mary, send contributions to Mary Beebe, 219 S. E. St., Livingston, MT 59047, marybeebe@hotmail.com, phone 223-0885.**

Vicki Blakeman has been a Livingston City Commissioner since 2000 and was chair for three years. She is the Executive Director at the Stafford Animal Shelter in Livingston. From 1991 to 2003 Vicki was a co-owner of a small manufacturing/retail shop that employed 12 people. Blakeman believes that people are drawn to our area because of its natural beauty and amenities, which she believes is a strong economic driver. If re-elected, Vicki "would continue the current infrastructure replacement plan - concentrating on replacement of century old water and sewer lines downtown and other areas, expand our recycling program with enhanced citizen education and strive for more drop off sites, and continue development of a city wide trail system." **To support Vicki, send contributions to Vicki Blakeman, 914 E. Callender St., Livingston, MT 59047, vblakeman53@yahoo.com, phone 222.9075.**



Steve Caldwell is running for re-election to his 2nd four year term on the Commission. He is a finance and economics consultant with more than 25 years of management experience in industry and banking. In recent years, Steve has managed a technical assistance grant from the EPA to fund the Park County Environmental Council's oversight of Burlington Northern Santa Fe's cleanup of the Livingston rail yard. He is also a board member of the Western Sustainability Exchange. Steve is also a member of Park County Search and Rescue. Steve is hoping to continue the hard work the Commission has done by "looking for opportunities to leverage our trail development efforts with other programs, including county efforts and the Safe Routes to School program." He wants the commission to be "very creative in sourcing construction materials, which now include crushed glass from the city's glass pulverizer." Steve also wants to find ways to encourage more public participation in the city program and feels there is opportunity for improvements in the city system. **To support Steve, send contributions to Steve Caldwell, 823 W. Lewis St., Livingston, MT 59047, caldwell@avicom.net, 222.4687.**





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Billings, MT 59103

www.mtvoters.org

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Inside: Endorsements for the 2009 Livingston City General Election

Election Calendar

October 5th:
Close of regular registration. Late registration begins.

October 14th:
Absentee ballots are sent out.

November 3rd:
General election Day.

Livingston Candidates

Here is a list of current Livingston office-holders, and candidates who are on the 2009 General Election ballot. Visit www.mtvoters.org or call (406) 254-1593 for up-to-date information through election day.

Paid for by the
Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee
PO Box 63, Billings, MT 59103 • David Tyler, Treasurer

Your Vote Matters in the Upcoming City Elections!

The candidates we elect this fall are the first line of defense for protecting the health of our community, for clean air, clear water, and for shaping Livingston's future. The City Commission makes decisions about recycling, and plays a role in moving us towards a clean energy future.

Montana Conservation Voters' Voter Guide informs you about who is running, and who we are supporting. Send in your ballot by November 3rd and make your voice heard and your vote count.

If you weren't sent a ballot and live within city limits, contact the Park County Elections Office at (406) 222-4111 for a ballot.



Position	Incumbent	Up for re-election	Candidates who have filed
City Manager	Ed Meece	No	
Commission	<u>Steve Caldwell</u>	Yes	
Commission	<u>Vicki Blakeman</u>	Yes	
Commission	<u>Mary Beebe</u>	Yes	<u>Mary Beebe</u> , <u>Vicki Blakeman</u> , James Bennet, <u>Steve Caldwell</u> , Cliff Ingledew, Bill Spanning, Adam Stern
Commission	<u>Rick VanAken</u>	No	
Commission	<u>Juliann Jones</u>	No	

Previously endorsed Incumbents and currently endorsed Candidates are underlined.