



**September**  
**2018**



**You are invited!**  
**Annual Board of Directors Election and**  
**Nine Mile Community Center BBQ**  
**Saturday, September 15th (11 a.m. — 2 p.m.)**

Come up to the Community Center and vote in the annual board election, enjoy some tasty Bar-B-Que, visit with old friends and make new ones! We'll have free burgers and other goodies after you vote.

Three board member terms will end September 30, 2018. The top three vote recipients will serve three-year terms ending September 30, 2021. Citizens living in the Nine Mile valley from Siegel Pass to Interstate 90 (Exit 82) are eligible to run for board positions and also vote. Please see the candidate biographies on the next page. We also have an opening to fill the remaining one year term of a retiring board member. Let us know if you are interested in serving as a board member for just one year.

Mail-in ballots are available if you cannot attend in person. If you would like one, contact Jen Murphy at 626-5596. Mail-in ballots must be received at our P.O. Box before September 15th.



**New dining area lights are in!** Local resident, Brian Palmer of Palmer Electric, recently removed the florescent shop lights and installed six new “schoolhouse” pendant lights in the Stark Schoolhouse dining area. This is the first major step in our planned dining area improvements. Next we will proceed with repairs to the plaster ceiling and walls (the plaster is literally falling down), fix the holes in the walls and then apply fresh paint on the walls and ceiling. We would also would like to replace mismatched, missing, and broken wood molding, and refinish the beautiful old wood floors when time and money allow.

Special thanks to the Preserving Missoula County’s History Grant program, and some very generous private donors to make this work possible. We are still seeking additional donations to help complete these much needed repairs.



## Board of Directors Candidate Biographies

### **Julie Van Hise**

My husband, son and I are very lucky to call the Nine Mile Valley our home. We moved to the valley in August of 2017 from Germany after my retirement of 20 years in the United States Air Force. We were first introduced to the valley and surrounding area while stationed at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls from 1998 until our departure in 2004. Now, I fill substitute teaching and secretary positions within the Frenchtown School District. We love this new chapter of our lives, we love Montana and we love the Nine Mile Valley.

I have roughly 16 years working various board positions for several non-profit organizations, three of which I had the opportunity to be board President. Experience, together with several years of education in business, management, and information systems, has provided me with several opportunities to work within various communities for a diverse set of organizations. I currently hold the position of Board President for the newly established Football Club Frenchtown; a non-profit organization dedicated to developing the youth of Frenchtown interested in soccer.

My first introduction to the NMCC was during the elections BBQ in October of 2017. It was such a great experience meeting the members of this community; I immediately fell in love. I then attended two of the yoga sessions held at the NMCC and the Ranger Station, the craft fair, and the valley clean-up. At every subsequent event, I met new neighbors and formed new relationships.

I would very much like to continue to meet residents of the Nine Mile Valley and to continue to strengthen the sense of community. I am confident that my past and present experiences can be a positive addition to the NMCC Board. I hope that you agree and vote for me; I would be honored to serve on the Board of Directors. Thank you.

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### **Morris Eisert** (incumbent board member)

After serving my first three year term on the Ninemile Community Center Board, I discovered many wonderful things about our valley community. For example what a wonderful, giving community it is, and if you ask people will help. And I met many new friends and neighbors!

I enjoy being involved in projects that continue to help make the Community Center a better place, and I would like to continue to serve on the Board to further along projects that we have "on the To-Do list." It's a great group of people and I would like to stay involved. I ask for your vote, for what I hope will be my third term on your Community Center Board of Directors.

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### **Pam Schneider** (incumbent board member)

Hello. My name is Pam Schneider and I have had the privilege of living in Nine Mile for almost 27 years. Both of my children were raised in this valley and call Nine Mile "home." Lots of memories have been made here. Nine Mile Community Center has been the location for both of their graduation celebrations and my daughter chose the Nine Mile Community Center for her wedding reception.

Just a little about me – I was raised in eastern Montana in a very small community. I graduated from Montana State University – Billings with a degree in Business Administration, majoring in accounting and becoming a Certified Public Accountant. From 1989 to 2000 I focused solely on raising my children, giving them the wonderful rural experiences I had as a child. In 2000, I started my own business, Office of AccountAbility, and have been providing tax preparation, accounting services and preparing payroll for clients since then. I also work in Missoula as an accounting analyst.

I have served one term on the Community Center Board of Directors, and feel that we have accomplished a lot in the last 3 years. I would like to run for one more term, to continue with all the outstanding projects we have going on at the Community Center. I believe my dedication, determination and organizational skills can help preserve the financial and historical integrity of the Nine Mile Community Center and enhance the warm sense of community we all enjoy in the Nine Mile.

I hope that you turn out to vote on September 15th, and vote to retain me on the Board.

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**REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF THE NINE MILE VALLEY**  
FROM THE NINE MILE COMMUNITY CENTER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Accomplishments: September 2017 – September 2018

**Improvements:** We were successful applicants for a Preserving Missoula County's History Grant this year. The Missoula County Board of Trustees for the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula awarded us a \$2,600 grant to pay for a portion of the repair and painting for the Stark Schoolhouse dining area. With your financial help we were able to buy new lights and leverage the grant funding into lasting building enhancements. Palmer Electric was hired to install new lighting, and Professional Drywall Services, Inc. is under contract to repair the plaster ceiling and walls. The painting contract is still pending, with our plan to have this portion of the project completed this fall. Regarding problems overcome, last winter a basement water leak caused major ceiling damage that required emergency repairs. Basement ceiling and plumbing repairs are now complete except repainting and final contractor payments. We also worked outside on the grounds quite a bit, watered and weeded around the front garden space and perennial plantings on our property line, repaired woodpecker damage on the pavilion, and rebuilt the front steps on our historic church building, (Thank you Mark and Becky Colip). Our website is maturing with an easy to use donation link thanks to Karen Murphy, and also thanks to Jen Murphy (no relation) for setting up our new Facebook page. Thank you Karen & Jen!

**Governance:** IRS Nonprofit 990-EZ tax return was filed for calendar year 2017. Filed annual nonprofit corporate renewal report with Montana Secretary of State. Maintained property and liability insurance, and nonprofit mailing permit for our newsletters.

**Events Held:** We held election for the Community Center Board of Directors and had a great feast of a BBQ, September; \* Holiday Craft Fair, Hay Ride, and Turkey Shoot, November; (700+/- attendees) \* Christmas Eve Celebration, December (80+ attendees); \* Winterized the Schoolhouse to conserve energy, December; \* Spring Clean-up Day, April; \* Hosted US Forest Service information meeting, May; \* Nine Mile Roadside Cleanup & Potluck, June; \* we rented the NMCC for a graduation party, and four grand country weddings!

**Upcoming Public Events:** Nine Mile Community Center Election and BBQ, September 15<sup>th</sup> 2018; Apple Cider Pressing & Chili Cookoff, October 13<sup>th</sup>; Holiday Craft Fair, Hay Ride and Turkey Shoot, November 24<sup>th</sup>; Christmas Eve Celebration, December 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Newsletters & Website:** Five newsletters published. (Notified community members of events and projects) Standard newsletter circulation: 600, Special Event circulation: 2,500. Created a *new Facebook page* to go along with our informative [ninemilecommunitycenter.com](http://ninemilecommunitycenter.com) Website & BlogSpot, over 2,750 site visits.

**Plans for the Future:** Our next planned project involves completing the dining area repairs and painting inside Stark Schoolhouse. The next priority after that would be to refinish the upstairs wood floors.

We send out a heart-felt Thank You to all of you! It is with your help and support that we have such a viable and beautiful Community Center. By working together, we've accomplished a lot this year!

It's time to enter the **1st Annual Nine Mile Chili Cookoff** to be held with the Apple Cider Pressing event October 13th, 11:00 to 3:00. To enter the cookoff send a \$10 check made out the NMCC, along with your name, address and email or phone, sent to Lisa Schweigert, 16580 W Nine Mile Rd. Cookoff entries limited to a total of ten contestants, one entry per household please, entries due by October 1st. The cookoff rules are posted on our web site, Facebook page, and Lisa will attach a copy with your entry confirmation. There will be a \$5 cost for the Chili Sample Lunch to taste and vote for your favorites'. Prizes awarded for the top three vote getters. Also, these beautiful new 9 Mile Growlers will be for sale. Bring your apples to press for free, and the fresh cider is free for all. Everyone welcome!



Nine Mile Community Center  
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Frenchtown, MT 59834

25620 Ninemile Road  
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#### **Ways to Give**

NMCC depends on your generous gifts for everything we do. All financial gifts are tax deductible. Here are a few ways to contribute to the success of your Community Center:

#### **Year End Giving**

Give an annual year end gift to the Community Center. These unspecified gifts go to General Fund for Community Center operating costs, utilities, insurance, projects and events.

#### **Donate toward a Specific Project or Activity**

Our two specific activity funds cover Buildings Renovations and Maintenance, or Landscaping and Grounds projects for the Community Center. If you would like to donate to a specific project or activity, please be sure to specify when giving.

#### **Honor Gift**

You can honor a loved one for any occasion by making a donation in their honor. If you are making an honor donation, please be sure to include the honoree's information and intended use of the gift.

#### **Amazon Smile**

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your Community Center every time you shop, at no cost to you. To shop at Amazon Smile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer and select the Nine Mile Community Center as your charitable organization. The Amazon Smile Foundation donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the NMCC.

#### **Volunteering**

We have several citizen volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Think, "Many hands make light work." For example, we will need some extra hands to help out at the November Holiday Craft Fair. Also, this is the year to harvest your apples, and/or call your neighbor to help harvest their fruit trees, and join us for the October 13th Cider Pressing & Chili Cookoff event. It should be fun!

Call us to sign up, or keep your eyes peeled for other upcoming volunteer opportunities.

*Send your check to our P.O. Box, or use the our handy web site donation link. If you have any questions about these ways to give to NMCC please contact Sharon Sweeney, 626-1610.*

Visit us at [www.ninemilecommunitycenter.com](http://www.ninemilecommunitycenter.com)