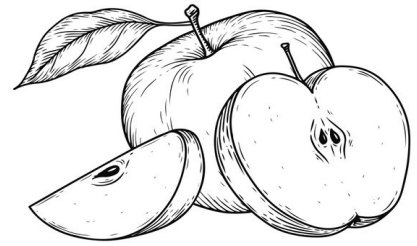




September 2025



The Community Center Fall Update
EXTRA! Yoga with Pearl: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.
Oct. 7—Nov. 25, See our website for more info.

Your Family is Invited to a Free Sit-Down Dinner to Break Bread with Your Friends & Neighbors: Saturday, September 27th at 6:00p.m. is our annual Spaghetti Social and Harvest Share! Enjoy a free home cooked spaghetti dinner made by Linda Hale, Pearl Cash, and Sharon Sweeney! Dinner is served on a first come basis and will begin promptly at 6p.m. If you have any garden harvest items you would like to share, bring them along! In fact, everyone should bring a shopping bag to take home some fresh produce. We still need a couple of volunteers for set-up, contact Julie Van Hise at 406-626-2535 if you can come a little early to help.

Harvest Your Fruit Trees & Help Save Local Bears & the Chili Cookoff is Back This Year! Our 8th Annual Apple Cider Festival: Saturday, October 11th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Live music and a homemade chili lunch, including drinks and all the fixings, for just \$5 from 11:30 till the food is gone.

Bring your harvested apples or any stone-free fruit to the Community Center and with a little work enjoy fresh homemade cider! It is a really fun work party for all ages. Everybody is invited to roll up their sleeves to help process the community's apple harvest. Washing, chopping, pressing, and serving the cider takes many hands. The goal is to keep the fruit away from prowling bears. This helps keep the wildlife from getting into trouble, and in the process we get to enjoy your company and some fresh cider too.

If you don't have fruit trees, no problem. Just bring your store-bought apples to add to the harvest fruit for free cider pressing. Bring your own quart size cider containers to pack your apple goodness home. If you bring some fruit, you can take home a quart size container of cider. Even without a fruit contribution a taste of the fresh apple cider is free for all. See you there, rain or shine!

Email ninemilecc@gmail.com if you are interested in being a Chili Cookoff contestant. There is no entry fee plus we provide a free lunch ticket for contestants. Limited to 15 contestants. Sign up by October 8th.

Nine Mile Community Center Annual Meeting & Board Election: Tuesday, October 14th at 7 p.m. We always have openings for local volunteers. Think globally, and help locally!

Everybody is welcome to attend our October Board of Directors meeting. This meeting is for the purpose of electing Directors and receiving annual reports. There are three Directors elected for a term of three years. As of press time we have three openings but just two Director candidates. You are welcome to join the Nine Mile Community Center volunteers and help with local events! Contact Steve King at ninemilecc@gmail.com, talk to a current or past member, or come to the October 14th meeting, for more information. Drop your election ballot off at the Spaghetti Social, Apple Cider Festival, or by 7 p.m. on October 14th.

Montana Department of Transportation Public Open House for a Proposed I-90/Six Mile Wildlife Crossing: Tuesday, October 21st from 5-7 p.m. The Community Center will host an information sharing event concerning a proposed new highway wildlife crossing. The meeting organizer, HDR is working on behalf of MDT, and is coordinating with the local Nine Mile Wildlife Workgroup, as well as other interested parties. There will be project displays and subject matter experts available to explain the proposed project and answer questions.

Family Halloween and Potluck Party: Saturday, October 25th from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Free! This is our outrageously fun Halloween Trunk or Treat, Potluck & Haunted House!!

Halloween is right around the corner and so is this awesome event! We need lots of volunteers to get everything together the week before the Saturday party. Contact Julie at 406-626-2535 or Tabitha Boyle at 406-360-4635 if you are interested in volunteering. All abilities are appreciated to help with set-up, event support, and cleanup.

4:00 p.m. Fun and games begin for kids of all ages. Costumes welcome! We are also having a pot luck dinner with food, snacks, and desserts to share. Bring whatever food you can and your own home decorated pumpkins to share at the party. Carved or painted, large or small, the more the better to show-off upstairs in the Schoolhouse. (No candles please.)

5:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat for the kids. Adults will park around the community center grounds and the kids will go vehicle-to-vehicle trick or treating. Parents, please bring treats and goodies to share with the trick or treaters. Decorated vehicles welcome!

6:00 p.m. Little Kids Haunted House begins in the big, slightly scary basement. Gentle thrills and fun for the kids this one. Parents may accompany the kids.

7:00 p.m. Big Kids Haunted House crawls into the really scary dark dungeon below the old haunted schoolhouse. Afterwards, if you are not dead from fright, stay to help with the party cleanup! Many hands...

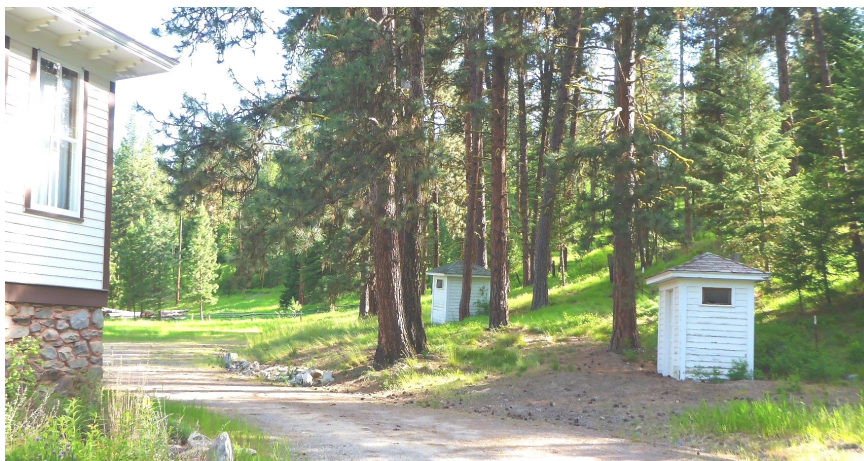
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Frenchtown, MT 59834

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**So many changes in life these days!!
Isn't it comforting that the Nine Mile Community Center has looked about the same for the last 110 years?**

Fortunately, nowadays we have indoor plumbing. It was not always that way. Our community center water well record dates back to 1974 and as near we can tell that is when the first indoor restrooms were installed in Stark School. Before that, since 1915, the boys and girls outhouses were the only way to go for polite company. Although the outdoor privies have been closed for some time they are still a quintessential part of the historic school grounds, a National Historic Register landmark.



If you have seen our old outhouses lately they look pretty neglected. Tilting on wood bases that are rotting like one of them could fall over with a puff of wind. Their little roofs are way past due for replacement and much of the wood trim needs repair. They could use a lot of hands on restoration work.

Historic preservation is part of what we do at the community center, but we're afraid the historic outhouses have been low on our project priority list. That is changing because without prompt action they will literally fall apart and be lost to history. Our Board has been discussing options for some time, and in September we committed to a new 2026 project to preserve and protect our vintage privies.

This fall we will apply for historic preservation grant assistance. We are also reaching out to you as our neighbors who would like to help preserve a part of local history at the Stark School. Please support the Stark School outhouses restoration project. We need local matching funds for any grant we receive.

*If you would like to support local historic preservation send your donation check in any amount made out to NMCC, P.O. Box 1061, Frenchtown, MT 59834, or use our handy website donation link.
See our website: ninemilecommunitycenter.com for more information.*

2025 Nine Mile Community Center Official BALLOT

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS: The Nine Mile Community Center has three open seats on its nine-person Board of Directors for the upcoming year. While two people have volunteered to run, we are still seeking a third candidate who enjoys helping with local events. Volunteering is a great way to support our community! If you're interested in serving on the Board, please contact us at ninemilecc@gmail.com or attend our 7 p.m. October 14th Board meeting.

Please vote **X** for the candidates listed below. The election is open to all bona fide residents, 18 or older, of the 59846 Zip Code area.

There are three ways to vote. All ballots must be in our P.O. Box by October 14th, or at the Community Center by 7:00 p.m. Election Day—Tuesday, October 14th.

- **By Mail:** On a separate piece of paper or on your envelope we need 3 things: **your printed name; your signature; and your address.** We require all of this information for your ballot to be counted.
- **Drop-Off Box:** At the Community Center. The drop box will be available during the Spaghetti Social, Apple Cider Festival, and before 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 14th. Current Board members will monitor the box. If you utilize this method, we still need on a separate piece of paper or envelope: **your printed name; signature; and address.**
- **In Person:** You can also vote in person from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 14th at the Community Center.

If there are two or more eligible voters in your household you can copy this ballot sheet, or simply write out the ballot portion of this page and vote on it. We will still need the printed name of each additional voter, as well as their signature and address to verify that individual as a bona fide resident of the 59846 Zip Code area.

Board of Directors

Please vote for up to three candidates for the Nine Mile Community Center Board of Directors:
(PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES.)

Rick Marler (Elect to Third Term)
(He is good with tools and so much more.) ☐

Tabitha Boyle (Elect to Second Term)
(She is our party planner deluxe!) ☐

_____ (Elect to First Term) ☐

You may drop off your ballot at the September 27th Spaghetti Social, October 11th Apple Cider Festival or October 14th at the Board meeting. **If mailed or dropped off for your privacy we require your printed name; your signature and your address on a separate piece of paper or envelope.**

Mail To: NMCC, P.O. Box 1061, Frenchtown, MT 59834

The Nine Mile Community Center Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, October 14th starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Stark Schoolhouse, 25620 Ninemile Road.

All welcome! There may be cookies!