

Photo Essay – Elaine Marie Reed

Mask Making during the pandemic March-April 2020



**Friendship House Adult Care Assisted Living
Kalispell, Montana**

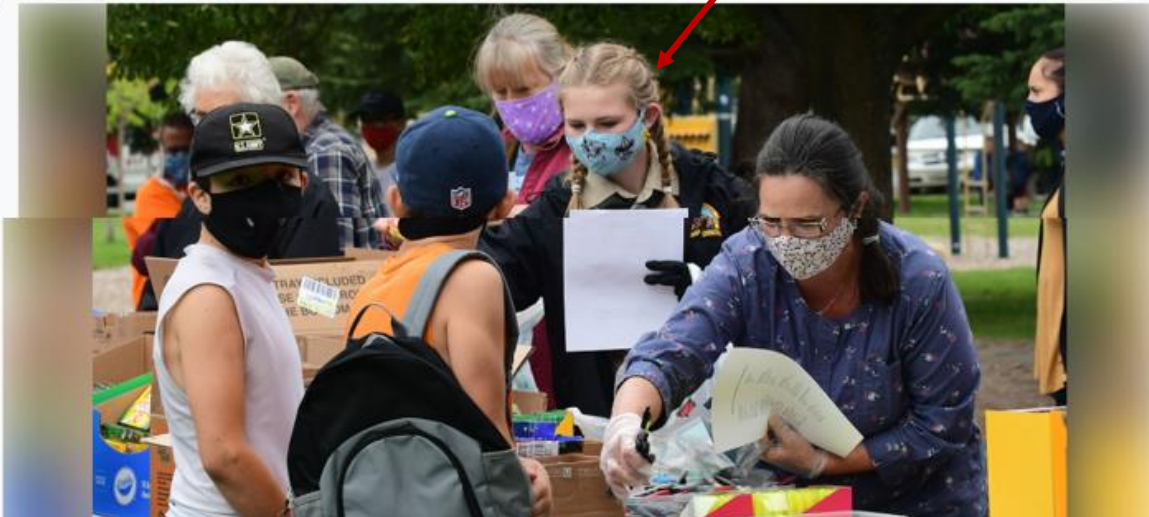


**Montana Veterans Home where a
good number of her masks were
donated.**

The Montana Veterans' Home in Columbia Falls is a Medicare/Medicaid and Veterans' Administration certified facility with 105 intermediate/skilled-care beds and 12 domiciliary beds. The nursing facility includes a 15-bed Alzheimer's unit. MVH has been providing services to Veterans since 1896.

Lions Club efforts help school kids, fire victims

Elaine



Volunteers helped students get the school supplies they needed at the first annual Lions Club Back to School Bash last Wednesday. (Teresa Byrd/Hungry Horse News)

<https://hungryhorsenews.com/news/2020/aug/19/lions-club-efforts-help-school-kids-fire-10/>

By TERESA BYRD
Staff Writer | August 19, 2020 7:02 AM

The Columbia Falls Lions Club kicked off their first Back to School Bash at Marantette Park last week.

“It’s just a chance for the community to get together, pick up some school supplies, and eat a hot dog,” said event organizer and Lions Club volunteer Kelly Hamilton. The main feature of the event was an array of donated school supplies, ranging from coats to backpacks to pens and highlighters. Helping out were local Boy Scouts and volunteers. They matched people with the school supplies list from their appropriate teacher and then helped them pick out exactly what they needed.

Lions Club members served grilled hot dogs and Girl Scouts handed out Thin Mints and Samoas. Families gathered on the lawn to eat their picnics in socially distanced-spaced shapes painted in white on the grass. Volunteers handed out masks to anyone who needed them. The masks, 2,500 of them, had been donated to the Lions Club by a Mississippi company that supplies Weyerhaeuser with face masks. Hamilton, who works at Weyerhaeuser, had reached out to the southern company who donated without hesitation, she said. The club plans on donating the masks to Columbia Falls schools, which will be requiring all students to wear masks daily.

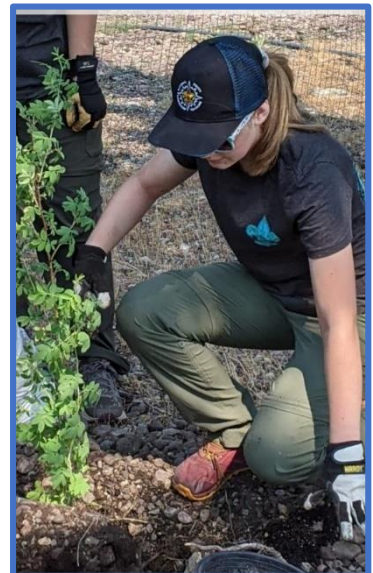
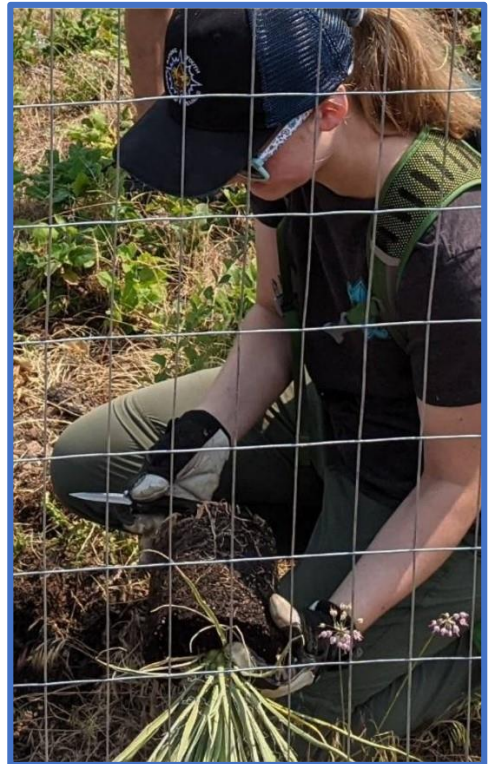
Also present were the Columbia Falls Fire Department and the Columbia Falls Police Department, out to show their support and familiarize themselves to the community. The Back to School Bash was the first event held by the Lions Club this summer. Their typical summer events like the pancake breakfast and the summer concert series had all been canceled due to coronavirus, said Lions Club president Steve Melby. All of which the club hopes to resume next summer if conditions allow. Despite the cancellation of the club’s largest fundraiser — the pancake breakfast — the club hasn’t been hurting for funds, said Melby.

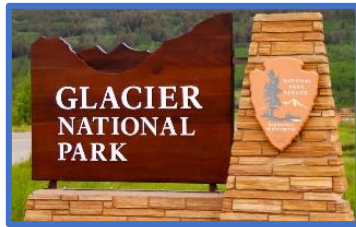
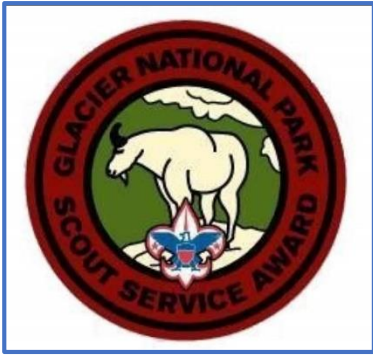
“We live in a good community,” said Melby. “Donations have still been coming in. If we need something, people are willing to give it.”

This is only further evidenced by the two storage containers full of donated household items the club has amassed for the families that were displaced from the apartment fire on Aug. 2, that left about 20 people homeless. The Bash was a great success, according to Hamilton, with over 100 students being served before supplies began dwindling. Hamilton hopes to replenish stock to serve families that called in and couldn’t make it that evening.



Melita Island Restoration Project
Flathead Lake, Montana
Melita Island is a 64-acre island on Flathead Lake, located about one-half mile off the west lakeshore.





Glacier National Park Scout Service Project
September 2020
Completely refurbish outdoor amphitheater at East Glacier Camp Ground





Elaine's Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Complete Landscaping Update Columbia Falls, Montana



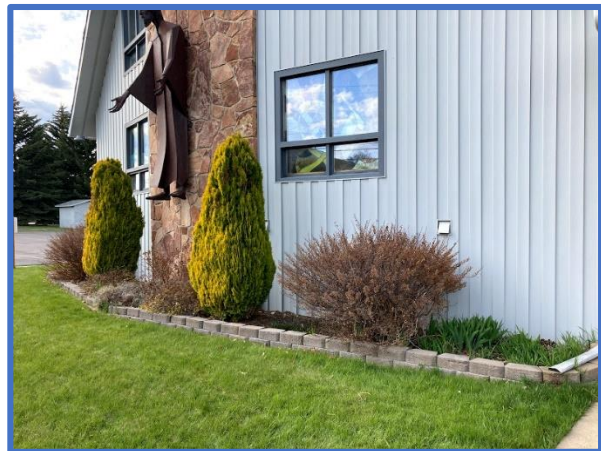
Our Savior's was organized as Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Church on November 11, 1890. The first church was built in 1892. Prior to that, services were held in various places, such as other churches and business establishments. The first building was started in 1891 and an addition was built in 1909.

Excerpt from her project proposal:

"I am proposing to renovate the flower beds in front of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls. I will lead volunteers in taking apart the flower beds and removing old materials such as soil, landscaping fabric, mulch, and any plants or rock that we will not be keeping. We will then reshape the beds and reconstruct them with the new rock, soil, mulch, and plants. The end result will be clean and refreshed, resulting in less maintenance for church volunteers, and improve the aesthetics of the community."

"I grew up going to Our Savior's Lutheran Church with my grandparents and great-grandparents. Serving their community and church was very important to them. The church depends on volunteers. I want to extend their legacy by carrying out a project that includes things that were always important to them. This project is a way of remembering them, giving back to the church that started me on my journey of faith, and giving back to the community."

-- Before photos --





-- During the work --





-- Project completion --

