

Glenda Wiles

From: Shirley Rasmussen <shirley777dan@cybernet1.com>
Sent: Friday, June 15, 2018 12:21 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office; Greg Chilcott
Subject: response to editorial

I just want to make a comment to all of you in response to the guest editorial in the STAR newspaper this week. I think Russ Lawrence is living in the fantasy world. We need a Woods Products industry. We need to at least try to use that wood instead of just letting it continue to burn up. I am sorry all the mills have closed. If a nation does not use their raw materials, there can not be a thriving economy. We cannot have a healthy economy on service industries only. It just does not work. I applaud your efforts in trying to do what we can to use the trees instead of letting them burn up.

I am extremely grateful we no longer have a growth policy. It does not take too much looking around to see the benefits of letting people make their own decisions and have the FREEDOM to act. Growth policies and the inevitable building permits can add as much as \$35,000 to the costs of a 1200 square foot house, as in Clark County Washington. Missoula decries there is not enough affordable housing, yet the building permits and hoops they make a person jump through to build a simple shop, adds many thousands of dollars to the costs. Please, Ravalli County Commissioners, keep on doing what you are doing and don't put any credence in the words of Russ Lawrence or the Bitterrooters for Planning.

I would also like to comment on the letter this week by Dallas Erickson. It makes no sense at all why there would not be a PUBLIC and PRACTICED Plan of escape in the event that Lake Como Dam OR Painted Rocks Reservoir breached. That is a lot of water to come down through the valley floor. With no warning or escape plan in place and practiced. The most likely disaster for our county is the breach of either of those dams. It is not as likely for an earthquake to cause as much damage or be as life threatening as those dams breaking loose. We agree with Dallas. There needs to be a much publicized and practiced plan of escape. You commissioners need to make that happen.

Sincerely,
Dan and Shirley Rasmussen
Stevensville