

Deadwood Ditto July 2026

Send all submissions & comments, etc to NEW Email
deadwoodditto2026@gmail.com

Editor: Mark McNutt "All the news that fits, we print"

Gratitude always to MaryGold McNutt for assisting

Happy Mercury Retrograde, y'all! June 29-July 22. Known to Astrological enthusiasts as a time of mental dissolution when communications and mental matters get a little spacy-except if you are born that way, like me!

July Calendar at a glance-

Deadwood-SwissHome Fire Service Meeting Th 7/2, 7 pm

Mapleton Food Share Th 7/9 & Sat 7/25

Triangle Lake Food Share Fri 7/17

Deadwood Community Association Mon 7/13 & 7/27 5 pm

Deadwood Creek Services Mon 7/20 4:30 pm

Camp Deadwood Mon 7/27- Fri 7/31 (see article)

Deadwood Community Center

Planning a family Gathering, Birthday, or other event?

Deadwood Community Center is a beautiful setting.

Quiet clean environment with a large deck.

Well kept park like grounds, charming playground with picnic table.

Well equipped kitchen. Wifi. Security cameras.

Low Rental fees starting at \$25 for 6 hours for 30 people.

www.deadwoodcreekservices.org

Or call Greg Hertzbach at x3348

Deadwood Community Services News

The last Third Saturday of the season was a great success with many attendees enjoying the band Wolves of Leisure with Ken Sokolov on drums. Ken is a very versatile and talented drummer who has performed in Deadwood many times over the years with very different groups that he brings out to Deadwood. Thank you Ken!

Attendance and donations were high: the Door money brought in \$350 for the band, and dinner donations provided \$270 for our new gate, gate posts, and installation supplies. Thank you Deadwoodians for this success. Much gratitude to **Kate Harnedy** for continuing to find bands and manage the event. The next Third Saturday will be September 19 with Steel Wool, after two months off.

.We will be installing a 12ft wide green farm gate on the north side of the building. This width will allow large trucks down the driveway as needed. The gate is required by our insurance policy and also as part of child safety for the upcoming annual **Camp Deadwood for Kids**.

Other safety features for **Camp Deadwood** will be the re-installation of the wooden gates at the entrance to the deck. (Adults will easily be able enter through them during events). We will also be adding 4ft high removable child safety gates for the big double doors and for the front door. **Ami Levi**, a member of our building crew, will be re-instating the shade sails over the playground.

Camp Deadwood! July 27th- 31st

Five days of fun with Kids!. This will be the Camps' 3rd year. We are aiming for 25 children ages of 5 to 12, with many playful activities planned, perhaps more than we'll have time for! The general idea is to encourage children to explore new areas of interest. Activities will include art, (painting, collage, mosaic stepping stones...), music, dance, games, outdoor activities, gardening, theatre, an excursion, quiet time options, and more. Snacks will be provided. **Mapleton Community Foundation** has awarded \$500 towards camp expenses. Mapleton School is being very helpful, providing transportation and other support. **Kaylie Bloom**, a Mapleton substitute teacher, will be the camp leader. There will be provisions for children with special needs. The Camp is asking for Art and Craft supplies donations. Drop off at the Community Center For more details, registration, and how you can get involved, go to www.deadwoocreeservices.org

Community Center Grounds

The grounds surrounding the hall, with the charming play area, is a lovely place for your summer time family gathering. It is also a lovely place for personal quiet time. Please come and enjoy the space.

Please leave it clean as you leave.

Blue berries: Did you know that we have a blue berry patch at the back of the hall? It was planted by **Kamari Moeller** and **Ami Levi**. **Grisha Stewart** recently liberated the seven small bushes from blackberries. They could use more loving attention and wood chip/saw dust mulch. Can you help with this? With some care, we could have berries for the children next year. The apple tree beside the deck stairs is pruned by **Mary Gibney** each year. She also manages the grape vine, and these will produce towards the end of summer. We thank **Aaron Buckwald** for keeping the grass mowed down.

We are seeking people to join the Grounds Keeping Crew. When individuals take on the care of different aspects of the grounds, the whole becomes beautifully maintained.

Please contact **MaryGold McNutt X5341** if interested. Or just drop in and pull a few weeds!

Sub by MaryGold McNutt

To the Deadwood Community from Les Benscoter-

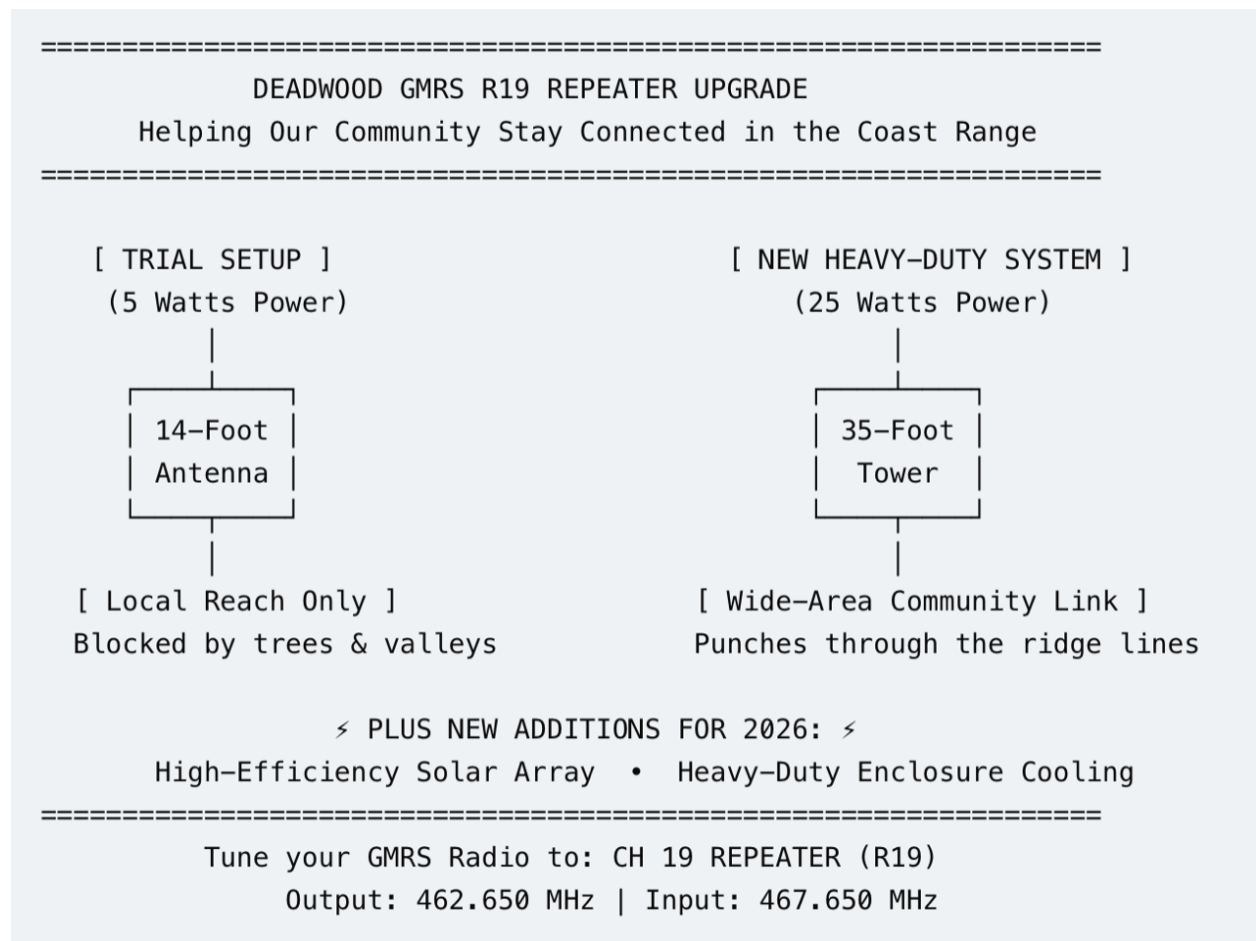
If there is a path forward to upgrade the now-trial R19 repeater on HOLLO, this is what that could look like.

We are waiting for the latest report from Global Campbell and Elevate Technology.

WLECN (Florence supporting resources) is still in line to help our community.

A theoretical graphic, which is one possibility.

There are possibilities, safety and emergency communications, community involvement in routine check-ins, and inclusivity of everyone in this area, Stage Coach, Indian Creek, Deadwood, Greenleaf, Nelson Mountain Road, which is approximately 200 plus square miles, with maybe a total of (estimated by my iMac) 300 to 450 people. I once thought our area had about 300. If we revise and think that locally we have over 100, which is larger than 30, and the number is probably closer to 200 people, there could be unique ways to communicate and foster a sense of belonging and a sense of togetherness on many fronts.



Kathy Robinson has recently passed

Ellis Worthylake and Ray Robinson have informed us that Kathy Robinson, former Deadwood resident, died on June 23, 2026.

Kathy was the Deadwood Postmaster for many years and lived with her husband Ray at the Tom Alexander homestead at the end of West Fork, where Ray also had a Railroad.

We send our cell wishes to the family at this time. Rest in peace Kathy, your life journey is complete.

Appendix To The Strange Case of the Dog In the Night

In an earlier Ditto I told the strange case of the unknown little dog under my deck that wouldn't stop barking. It was barking at what I thought was a large coyote in my yard. The dog stopped barking when the coyote trotted away. I

Jan later told me that she had heard the barking and thought it sounded like a coyote pup. Ray had also heard it and was getting dressed to come over. He thought it sounded like a large dog and the barking had continued for so long he was worried it was caught in a trap.

I continued to brood about both creatures. What had been under our house? And was the animal in the pasture really a coyote? Secretly, I thought it looked like a wolf, but of course there aren't any known wolves in this part of Oregon. I kept that observation mostly to myself.

Two weeks later Ray reported that a new lone wolf had been spotted in Butte Falls in the Rogue River area. That is just about the time it took OR-7, a lone gray wolf (nicknamed "Journey"), to cover a similar distance in 2011.

Go North with Basho

He knows the path to follow

Is he coming back?

(Billy Burress)



Notice of Regular Board Meeting

The Swisshome Deadwood Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors will hold the Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, July 2nd, at 7:00 PM, at the Swisshome fire station (12) - 13283 OR-36, Swisshome, OR 97480.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES and BILLS

PUBLIC COMMENT

OLD BUSINESS

Elect Board Positions

CLCC Update

Grant Update/Committee

LGIP Update

CORRESPONDENCE

Public Safety EAP

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

RADIO "B"

By James Webb

The Times

The empirical life is always the best teacher. It is the school in which we all get taught. To make the most of it we must make the most of what we have learned. Words transform both speaker and hearer. They feed energy, emotion and understanding back and forth and amplify it to transmute mere information into illumination. As doubt is the ground for all belief, society itself is what bestows significance upon it. We are survivors of vast and minute revolutions, the infant future manifested on our selected day of 1 January. Thus we confront our difficult situations, those becoming ever more technical as we hammer away with our digital clubs. Do we even know what we're striving for anymore? We confront a perilous future of lies and misinformation recreating a never to be forgotten past

hiding in each of us. Justice and morality are the product of a delusional mind. Objective reality is quite different. Justice is bought and sold independent of any moral values. What is presented as justice now seems totally devoid of any morality. Poetical truths are seen at the corner of the eye-just beyond the edge of ordinary vision. Moral change always comes from those who are out ahead of the institution, never from those in charge of it. Everything that has happened in space and time happened on the far fringes. The process of creation and innovation is delegated to the margins. We are always poised on the cusp of existence, a breath and a heartbeat from annihilation. We give birth astride a grave (to paraphrase Pozzo). We need stress to live. Stresslessness kills. Your sofa is deadly. If art doesn't deal with edges, the point is missed. The edge is where things happen and art and innovation abide. That, in part must be why I am so attracted to the edge...the view from the edge is the only place I can find something worth writing about...the supremacy of finitude, the amorphous unknown lurking beyond the concretely measured. Technology promised to set us free, instead it has trained us to withdraw from the world into distraction and dependency. It is a challenge to keep our bearings as our reality dissolves into white

house generated memes, clickbait advertising and ai slop. Permanent critique is absolutely essential for social and cultural awareness. Roll over Beethoven We are stuck somewhere between desire and conscience. Con-science We see a world that reflects our own concerns. Our personal fantasy prevents us from engaging with reality, indeed, prevents us from even recognizing it. We lean on problematic class stereotypes and self serving fantasies. Death itself proves that reality exceeds what we can think of it. Death is that which thought cannot reach. Ennui is a tedium of the heart. To most the promise of a brighter future is endlessly postponed. And so we have wars to keep ourselves entertained. "Never were there suns so cloudless as those that dried up all that blood" Musset (from Rolla) A profit driven bourgeois mentality will keep it rolling. "The radiant suns which once shone upon the earth forever extinguished in the nothingness of uniformity." Gautier (brought to us by ai). We are granting reason the power to solve all of humanity's problems. The momentum of the moment has carried us along ever since humanity first started sharpening sticks. There is no foreclosed future. Most believe that a better world is no longer possible. The late 20th century promises of progress, stability and prosperity have definitely faded. We now live in a climate of uncertainty surrounded by warnings of ecological collapse, economic precarity and civilizational fragility. We cannot retreat to a pre-digital past where relationships seemed more authentic and ai wasn't telling us what to believe. It is the distress of having too much access to information without the lived experience. We have desires but no illusion...we are undeceived before we have enjoyed. Kids now face real time footage of war zones, updates on everything, unsettling ai generated slop and endless advertisements selling more reasons to feel inadequate. Today our anxieties are virally contagious. Once we visualized art as an influence in shaping

our world, now it's about how the digital world intensifies our distress. Suffering melts into a twilight. Our overstimulated, dopamine-fuelled brains find it difficult to have a profound emotional experience. Every life is shaped by the obstacles it has encountered and the way it has responded. In the military it was called situational awareness. Some obstacles are insuperable, others a mere mental declivity. The strict linearity of the will as cause is interrupted by any obstacle, creating a point of division...thus a new beginning and end point. Our two dimensional model is interrupted and a new three dimensional one created as the arrow of causation no longer proceeds to it's original point of consequence. Indeed there is no straight line from cause to effect in a four dimensional universe. The end is undecided and requires a new approach. We are not the spider...we are the web itself. One of the hardest equations to balance, especially in the close relationships between people, is when to keep trying and when to stop. Variables are inevitably charged with feelings and feelings cannot be weighed or qualified. Those insensitive to or not caring for others' feelings may get their way by default but the result will not be harmonious. Yeah..."a backhoe is faster than a shovel, but is it what you want in your garden?"