

Second annual Madison Valley Home Tour features six homes

By Dottie Fossel
MVMC Board Chairman

On Saturday August 20, the community is invited to tour six homes for the benefit of the Madison Valley Medical Center Auxiliary, whose purpose is to support the Medical Center.

Owners of six distinctive homes have graciously agreed to open their homes from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. for this worthwhile cause. This year the auxiliary has added a silent auction – home décor items featuring local art as well as a set of beautiful cabinet plates from the Southern Landmark Series which depict beautiful and well known Southern Homes will be available for viewing and bidding in the lobby.

Advance tickets are available for \$25 at the Madison Valley Medical Center reception desk at 305 North Main (US Hwy 287) in Ennis, the Ennis Chamber of Commerce, or by calling 682-3578. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour for \$30, between 9:30 and 11 a.m. at the Medical Center - maps with four different routes to avoid congestion and full descriptions of the homes will be distributed at that time.

The six homes tucked into the breathtaking Madison Valley reflect a range of designs and lifestyles. The following are brief descriptions of the six stops on the tour.

Step up to a birds-eye view of the Madison Valley from this modern home designed by CommQ architects in Bozeman. Fashioned after an old

mining shaft, this rusted steel building is complete with polished cement floors, reused timber and steel-beamed ceiling and imported hardwood accents. Windows frame views in every room capturing the mountains and Ennis Lake. Artwork from local and global artists enhances the walls. An art studio and garage/workshop complete the compound on the hill.

The Bob Bayley designed home is tucked so discreetly into the landscape you'd never guess it has three levels. The main level features asymmetrical, brightly colored walls and a rock archway leading to the great room, which serves as a gallery for a variety of local artists. The furnishings are a mixture of pieces from Ennis merchants and family antiques. Don't miss the "Angel Room" on the upper level and the music room and rock-faced walkout on the lower level.

Be among the first to see one of the newest homes in Ennis. Built on the river's edge, it features a "wall of windows" that maximizes the views. Custom tile work in every bathroom and designer touches throughout lend elegance to this Montana home. Step outside to experience the magnificence of the Madison River rushing by. It was designed by Carla Farnam of Bozeman, built by Clark & Son Construction of Ennis, and decorated by Heather Scott Home and Design of Austin, Tex.

Experience one of the finest collections of antiques and artwork in our valley. There is a story behind almost every object in this home. The

furniture, paintings and collectibles have come from several parts of the US in addition to England and beyond. The home was designed and built by Matthew Beardsley to "fit" in front of the trees and mountain immediately behind it.

You will find the grounds and landscaping around this home every bit as enticing as the house and other structures. Cross the bridge to check out the tepee and picnic area. Take a moment to enjoy the pond. The main house is a western America showcase - rustic furnishings, leather draperies and cowboy art are joined by a fine collection of Native American pieces. The "cowgirl" watches you enter the bathroom that features stair steps up to the tub.

This home was moved from a site on the Madison River to its present location. A major addition and whole-house renovation were completed by the current owners, an internationally prominent architect and his wife. It features the main house, a guesthouse, art studio, garage and gym, and a garden silo. Interiors were professionally designed. The structures sit on nine acres among mature trees, sprawling meadows, fields, three live streams and three ponds.

Please join the Madison Valley Medical Center Auxiliary in the support of MVMC for an enjoyable day.

For more information or tickets, please call Coleen Hill, Auxiliary President at 682-3578.