

Manhattan Schools Adult Education

The Manhattan Adult Education Program announces the 2026 winter class offerings

The Manhattan School District is once again excited to announce that we will be offering a variety of interesting adult education classes for our community this winter/spring.

- ♦ Classes, range from **1 night to 8 weeks**, (with one exception). Classes will again be offered **for free**. If a class reaches maximum capacity and there are people registered who do not live in the Manhattan school district, priority will be given to those who do live in the Manhattan school district.
- ♦ Several classes have a materials fee (for food or supplies). **If a class has a materials fee, you will pay the instructor directly at the first class session.** Cash is preferred, but checks will also work.
- ♦ Some classes will fill up quickly, so **please register early**.
- ♦ To participate in this program, you must be at least 18 years old and must be out of high school.
- ♦ **Registration is MANDATORY**. Only people enrolled in any class are allowed to attend that class.
- ♦ **Children are not allowed to attend classes with their parents.**
- ♦ If the minimum number of people have not registered for any class by one week prior to the class beginning, the class will be canceled, and anyone who signed up will be notified.
- ♦ If your plans change after you have registered, please notify Ginny Francis asap, as there may be a waiting list for the class. Instructors have purchased supplies (if there is a fee) based on the number registered so it is important to have that number attend. Thank you for your cooperation with this important detail.

REGISTRATION

We are offering two options to register for the classes.

1st option— you can register online. Please visit Manhattan Public Schools website at www.rollontigers.org. There will be a link to register through Signup Genius on the district website's homepage. If you have questions regarding online registration, please call Ginny Francis at 406-581-6843.

2nd option—if you would prefer to register over the phone, you can do so by calling Ginny Francis, Adult Ed Coordinator, at 406-581-6843.

Any class that has a materials fee will be collected at the first class. Cash is the preferred method of payment. Registrations are on a first come, first served basis. **If a class is full, please call Ginny Francis 406.581.6843 to be put on waiting list. People who live in Manhattan School District are given priority to classes.**

Note from Ginny Francis, Adult Education Coordinator. After about 15 years, this is the last year that I will be coordinator of this program. I am very passionate about adult ed, but it is time to pass the torch. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many people and working with you in this program and very much look forward to meeting other new people this one last year. Thank you.

Manhattan School District Adult Education One Night Classes

Class Title: **Families and Legacies: Challenging Decisions** *"Who really decides where your property goes—You or MT?"*

Instructor: Dr. Marsha Goetting

Meeting Date: Monday, April 13, 2026 (6:00 to 8:00pm)

Location: Activities Room, Manhattan High School (Use door #8)

Description: Have you already made decisions about who inherits your property—without even realizing it? The way your assets are titled can override your will, and if you die without an estate plan, Montana law decides for you. Many people assume a written will controls everything, but that's not always true. Join Dr. Marsha Goetting, Montana State University Extension Family Economics Specialist, as she explains the choices you've already made, the ones Montana makes for you, and how to ensure your property goes to the people you truly want—rather than leaving it up to the legislature.

Class Title: **To Have a Trust or a Will...Aye, That is the Question** *"Trust or Will? Discover the answer that fits your life."*

Instructor: Dr. Marsha Goetting

Meeting Date: Monday, April 20, 2026 (6:00 to 8:00pm)

Location: Activities Room, Manhattan High School (Use door #8)

Description: Revocable living trusts have been around for years, but lately they've become the buzzword in estate planning. Are they really the magic solution? Not always. Dr. Marsha Goetting will break down the pros and cons of revocable trusts, testamentary trusts, QTIP trusts, and wills, while also sharing practical, cost-effective alternatives like durable financial powers of attorney. Learn which tools fit your goals—and which ones might just be unnecessary hype.

Class Title: **Tools for Avoiding Probate on Your Assets to Save Money for Your Beneficiaries**

"Skip the courtroom, save your heirs—learn Montana's probate shortcuts."

Instructor: Dr. Marsha Goetting

Meeting Date: Monday, April 27, 2026 (6:00 to 8:00pm)

Location: Activities Room, Manhattan High School (Use door #8)

Description: Did you know Montana offers simple ways to avoid probate and save your beneficiaries time and money? From payable-on-death designations and transfer-on-death deeds to beneficiary registrations for vehicles, these tools can streamline asset transfers and reduce costs. Dr. Marsha Goetting will explain how these options work, their tax implications, and how a Montana Medical Care Savings Account can create both a living and lasting legacy for your loved ones.

Class Title: **How to Make a Soup Bowl Cozy**

Instructor: Julie Brown

Meeting Date: Monday, April 6, 2026 (6:00 to 8:30pm)

Location: Tiger Den, Room 1303 Manhattan **Middle** School (Use door #1)

This class is perfect for beginner sewers. Do you have fabric scraps laying around? This is a good solution to using up the pile of scraps. Soup Bowl Cozies are very popular and practical. They are very simple to make and can be made in a short amount of time. Seams do not have to be exact, which is why this is perfect for beginners. All Fabrics must be 100% cotton. NO metallic thread or metallic painting on fabric. We will discuss it in class. Since this is a one-night class, please have fabric and batting cut and ready to go. Also have your bobbin filled and ready to go. **Supply list will be provided to you when you sign up so that you can have all your supplies ready.**

Manhattan School District Adult Education One Night Classes—continued

Class Title: **Let's Prep Together!**

Instructor: Amanda Swenson amswenson@mhstigers.org

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 (6:00—8:00pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, FCS Room 1150 (Use door #8)

Materials cost: up to \$100 (depends on cost of meat—hopefully less than that) pay instructor at class

Description: Come for a night full of meal prep! In two short hours, we will **prep EIGHT** freezer meals for you to take home. Be prepared to practice those knife skills and measuring along the way! Each meal will be placed into a gallon freezer bag, labeled, and sent home with you whenever you need one of those easy nights! Directions will also be provided for how to cook in the crockpot as well as recommended sides/toppings. Meals will have 4 servings.

*****PLEASE BRING A COOLER OR BOX TO TRANSPORT YOUR MEALS HOME.**

Class Title: **Slice Like a Pro: Knife Skills & Pico de Gallo**

Instructor: Amanda Swenson amswenson@mhstigers.org

Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 (6:00 to 8:00pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, FCS Room 1150 (Use door #8)

Materials fee: \$5.00, payable to instructor ***Please bring a bowl to take your Pico home in! You are also welcome to bring your own knife and cutting board, or use the ones provided.**

Description: Sharpen your confidence in the kitchen! In this hands-on class, you'll learn essential knife skills including proper grip, safety, and common culinary cuts such as dice, mince, and julienne. Then, put your skills to work as we prepare a fresh, flavorful Pico de Gallo from scratch. You'll leave ready to tackle recipes with precision—and with a delicious snack to enjoy!

Class Title: **How to BUY a Home**

Instructors: Nancy Clark Nancy@amerimont.com 406.579.9190

And Brad Wimmer, loan officer at Manhattan Bank

Meeting Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 (6:30 to 8:30pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1144 (Use door#4)

Description: Buying a home is one of the biggest financial decisions of your life, so learn how with confidence. Join our fun, interactive class to learn how to avoid overpaying, win your dream home, and buy with less cash than you think. We'll cover the 5 "loan killers" to avoid, smart negotiating tactics, financing options, inspections, and how to write a winning offer in today's market. Buying a home shouldn't feel overwhelming—we will make it clear and simple.

Class Title: **How to SELL a Home**

Instructor: Nancy Clark Nancy@amerimont.com 406.579.9190

Meeting Date: Monday, February 23, 2026

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1144 (Use door#4)

Description: Thinking About Selling? This Class Is Hands-On & Interactive! In this fast-paced class, we'll cover:

- *The 3 most costly mistakes sellers make (and how to avoid them)

- *The exact prep checklist to get your home market-ready

- *Modern marketing strategies including video + targeted ads (beyond the MLS!)

- *Real negotiation role-play so you're confident handling counters, appraisal gaps, and inspection requests

We'll finish with the game "Which Offer Would YOU Choose?" to help you spot the strongest terms—not just the highest price. Walk out with a step-by-step prep plan and a clear negotiation strategy to sell for more in less time.

Manhattan School District Adult Education One Night Classes—continued

Class Title: How to Build your own Survival Kit

Instructor: Scott Francis 406.581.6845 scott.francis@montana.edu

Meeting Date: Thursday, April 9, 2026 (6:30 to 8:30pm)

Location: Activities Room, Manhattan High School (Use door #8)

Materials fee: \$5.00 for provided materials for kit (pay to instructor at class)

Description: This class will cover the importance of being prepared for travel and outdoor activities to ensure safety and survival of emergency situations. The participants will be given information on how to Build their own survival kits with common household items. Each participant will take home the contents of the kit started in class.

Class Title: Introduction to Dutch Oven Cooking

Instructor: Scott Francis 406.581.6845 scott.francis@montana.edu

Meeting Date: Thursday, April 30, 2026 (6:00 to 9:00pm) – plan to eat dinner

Location: Activities Room and Outside in front of the school (Use door #8)

Materials fee: \$20.00 for food (payable to instructor at class)

Description: The class will introduce the basics of Dutch Oven Cooking. The students will learn the history of Dutch Oven Cooking, types of equipment needed, and basic techniques. There will be recipes and ideas for meal preparation shared with the class. The students will have the opportunity to prepare a simple meal and enjoy the tasty vittles.

Class Title: Harvest to Table—Making your own venison breakfast sausage

Instructors: Marjean Penny 425.344.4858 and Randy Paul

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 (6:30 – 8:30pm)

Location: Manhattan High Room 1150 (FCS Room) (Use door #8)

Materials Fee: \$5.00 for biscuit and gravy sampler (pay to instructors at class)

Description: Instructors will introduce the participants to proper wild game processing. They will cover butchering basics and how to prevent your venison from tasting gamey. They will process some previously frozen trim from grinder (adding fat) to creating venison breakfast sausage and then using the stuffer to fill 1 pound bags. Participants will enjoy a tasting of previously made venison sausage gravy over a biscuit. Sorry..... NO gluten free alternative will be offered.

Class Title: Felted Fairy Gardens in a Cup (Wool Needle Felting)

Instructor: Leia Miller littleblessingsranch@gmail.com 406.599.8257

Meeting Dates: Monday, March 2, 2026 (6:30 to 8:30pm)

Location: Activities Room, Manhattan High School (Use door #8)

Materials fee: \$5.00 for wool (pay to instructor at class) Wool and needles will be provided.

Materials to bring: Mug or teacup to use as a base. Miniatures, (if you want to make a miniature scene), old towels, gloves (if wool makes you itchy).

Description: Learn about wool needle felting in this creative manner. You will learn more about needle felting by using a fun cup or mug to make a fairy garden. You are gonna love this class!

*******MULTIPLE NIGHT CLASS*******

Class Title: Now We're Cookin' Gluten-Free

Instructor: Deb Wheaton deb@glutenfreeprairie.com 406.282.4280

Meeting Dates: (4 weeks) Thursdays, January 22, Feb. 5, 19, Mar 5, 2026 (6:00 to 8:00pm)

Location: This class will meet at Gluten-Free Prairie store (upstairs), in downtown Manhattan

Materials: Food fee \$8.00 per class meeting (total \$32.00)

Description: Cooking & baking gluten-free is often perceived as complicated & full of challenges. In this class Deb will simplify & demystify cooking & baking using Gluten-Free Prairie's Certified Gluten-Free oat-based products.

Manhattan School District Adult Education Multiple Night Classes

Class Title: Investing 101

Instructor: Paul Jones 581-9402 pjones@benchmark-financial.com

Meeting Dates: (3 weeks) Wednesdays, February 4, 11, and 18, 2026 (7:00 to 9:00pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1113 (Use door #4)

Description: This class covers the basics of investment accounts (retirement to individual accounts), what goes on in the markets and how that effects the investment accounts. We will cover insurance (life, LTC & disability), beneficiary designation of all kinds of accounts. Also covered, basic estate planning, how the documents work, & why you need them. All questions will be covered as well.

Class Title: Beginning Fly Tying

Instructor: Rollie Rieger 406.599.5843 dryflies4@msn.com

Meeting Dates: (6 weeks) Mondays, Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23 2026 (6:30 to 8:30pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1136 (Use door #4)

Materials that you need to provide: fly tying tools including a vice, bobbin, whip finisher, small sharp pointed scissors, hackle pliers, bodkin, and hair stacker.

Materials fee: \$25 for hooks, beads, thread, hackle feathers, fur, chenille, various synthetic materials, rubber legs, wire, etc.

Description: Students will learn basic fly tying techniques. Nymphs, dry flies, and streamers will be tied. Each student will tie and keep 12 flies during class. Additional practice tying on your own is encouraged. Techniques will progress from simple to more complex. The instructor will demonstrate the fly and circulate helping students and answering questions.

Class Title: Quilting: Paper Piecing Fun

Instructor: Ginny Francis ginnyfrancis@yahoo.com 406.581.6843

Meeting Dates: Tuesdays, March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 21, 2026 (6:30 to 9:00pm)

Location: Tiger Den, Room 1303, Manhattan **Middle** School (Use door #1)

Materials: Sewing machine & basic supplies will be needed. A list of will be provided to participants.

Description: Have you ever had problems getting those perfect points and perfectly straight lines when quilting? With this technique, you sew on lines to yield impressive results. You will love this technique!

Class Title: Basic Photography

Instructor: Joni Dietz joni@risingwolfstudio.com 406.580.8828

Meeting Dates: (3 weeks) Thursdays, April 2, 9, and 16, 2026 (6:00-8:00pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1144 (Use door #4)

Materials to bring: Must bring camera, DSLR or mirrorless camera, NO point and shoot please.

Description: Do you have a DSLR or Mirrorless camera that you don't know how to use? Then this is the class for you. In this class you will learn the basics of photography and how to use your camera. Learn how to take a great photograph and how to use your camera on manual settings so you can control your camera, instead of just getting lucky and getting good shots some of the time. You will also learn how to use light and composition to make your photographs tell a story.

Class Title: Novel Writing

Instructor: Katie Powner katiepowner@outlook.com

Meeting Dates: (4 weeks) Tuesdays, Feb. 17, 24, Mar 3, and 10, 2026 (6:30-8:30pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1136 (Use door #4)

Materials to bring: Pencil and paper or laptop, or notetaking system of your choice

Description: Have you been thinking of writing a novel? Or have you started one but can't seem to finish? The goal of this class is that by the end, each student will have an outline, synopsis, and first chapter completed, and know what they need to do to finish their project. From planning to plotting, conflict to characters, we'll be covering it all and putting it into practice.

Manhattan School District Adult Education Multiple Night Classes continued

Class Title: **Beginning Crochet**

Instructor: Julie Brown

Meeting Dates: (5 weeks) Mondays, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, and Mar. 2, 2026 (6:30 to 9:00pm)

Location: Activities Room, Manhattan High School (Use door #8)

Materials: For first class, a size F crochet hook, elastic hair ties and medium weight yarn.

Description: You will learn basic stitches by making a hair scrunchie, pot holder, then a scarf and hat.

Consider taking this class before the Basket Making Class, to learn to crochet or to tune up your skills.

Class Title: **Basket Making (Crochet)**

Instructor: Ann Ward-Turner

Meeting Dates: (3 weeks) Thursdays, March 12, 19, and 26, 2026 (6:30 to 8:30pm)

Location: Activities Room, Manhattan High School (Use door #8)

Materials needed: Size J or K crochet hook. Yarn is needed. Supply list will be provided upon signup.

Description: Create a custom crocheted basket, using a few simple crochet stitches. **Consider taking**

beginning crochet class, as you will enjoy this class much more knowing basic crocheting skills.

Class Title: **How to Start and Manage a Small/Medium Size Business**

Instructor: Michael Blanck mjblanck@yahoo.com 406.570.8212

Meeting Dates: (8 weeks) Thursdays, Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar 5, and 12, 2026 (6:00 to 8:30pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1119 (Use door #4)

Description: This will be a fast paced and highly interactive program. We will customize the program based on the mix of attendee—whether the class will focus more on starting a new business or growing an existing organization. We will discuss key factors, processes, and disciplines needed and used to take a concept idea to start-up and how to grow profitably for success. Areas of focus will be; Evaluation of ideas, Brand Identity, Brand Image, Differentiation/Relevance, Brand Positioning, Competitive Analysis, Building Consumer Loyalty, Pricing Strategies, Sales/Profitability, Break-even Analysis, Defining your Target Audiences, Business Modeling, Tri-Angulation, Marketing, Advertising, Social Media, Tracking Results/ROI, Product Mix—80/20 Rule, Owning a position in the mind of Consumers.

Class Title: **More Euchre Fun!**

Instructor: Cheryl Curry 240-273-2294

Meeting Dates: (6 weeks) Tuesdays, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026 (6:30 to 8:30pm)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1137 (Use door #4)

Materials: Please bring a deck of regular playing cards

Description: This fast and fun card game has grown in popularity in the area over the years, and the class is for experienced as well as novice players. Basics will be reviewed, then tournament style play will give everyone as much playing time as can fit in the time allotted. Topics include suit changes (trump), terminology, rules, leads, counting cards, etc. Experienced players will be asked for input.

Class Title: **CONSTITUTION ALIVE! 10-Part Video/Workbook Course**

Facilitator: Kody Van Dyke 406.600.2054 kodyvd@gmail.com

Meeting Dates: (10 weeks) Wednesdays, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar 4, 11, 25, and April 1 (7:00-8:30)
(skip March 18)

Location: Manhattan High School, Room 1143 (Use door #4)

Materials: Laptop computer for digital workbook (unless you purchase the physical workbook)

Description: Join Constitutional experts David Barton and Rick Green and other advocates for the original intent of our founding documents, in this one-of-a-kind course on the meaning & purpose of the Constitution! We'll gather together locally to watch the videos & discuss the workbook as we go article-by-article through the Constitution and Bill of Rights, learn about executive orders, recess appointments, the Electoral college, the powers of Congress and the President, freedom of religion, the duty of citizens, and much more. Shot on location in Independence Hall, in the same room where the Declaration of Independence and Constitution were written!

After registering on the Adult Ed signup genius site, you will need to sign up on the URL:

<https://www.patriotacademy.com/coach/register/10763>. This gives access to the digital workbook, or the option to buy the physical workbook. Please direct any questions regarding this signup to Kody Van Dyke.

Meet the Instructors:

Michael Blanck has 40 years' experience working with some of the most recognized brands in the World—the likes of McDonald's, Coca-Cola, Harley-Davidson, M&M Mars, Coors Beer, Oscar-Mayer, and a wide variety of others. Michael specialized in research, strategic planning & brand management. He often presents/teaches for SBA, Local EDC Offices and University level classes.

Julie Brown has been crocheting for over 20 years. She has made several different size items, but generally prefers small projects as she gets a sense of accomplishment when the project is done.

Nancy Clark has over 10 years of experience in Real Estate. She is a Broker/Owner at AmeriMont Broker Group and has helped clients with over 55 million in transactions in just the Manhattan area.

Cheryl Curry, a retired teacher from the Midwest, has played Euchre since she could hold five cards in her hand! She has taught this game for several years in Manhattan & loves introducing the game to new players!

Joni Dietz is a Certified Professional Photographer, Master Photographer, and Master Artist through PPA (Professional Photographers of America). She has owned and operated a photography studio in Manhattan for over 20 years, focusing on portraits for family, graduates, kids, sports teams and pets.

Ginny Francis is a retired Family and Consumer Sciences teacher. She enjoys crafting, sewing, quilting, cooking, cake decorating, camping and spending time with family. She is Quilting Leader for Gallatin Co. 4-H and belongs to two quilt groups. She is mom to two amazing adult children.

Scott Francis, a retired teacher, who taught 30 years of Math and Science, is currently the Outdoor Ed Coordinator at the Montana 4-H Center. He has been a 4-H Shooting Sports Leader for 20 years. He's an enthusiast of cast iron cooking & history of cooking in the west. He enjoys shooting, hunting, fishing, camping, & Dutch oven cooking.

Dr. Marsha Goetting is a Professor and Extension Family Economics Specialist at Montana State University in Bozeman. She is well known for her webinars conducted during the Pandemic. She has received state, regional and national state awards for her programs. In 2017 she received the *2017 Western Region Excellence in Extension Award*, from Cooperative Extension, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Association of Public and Land-grant Universities. Dr. Goetting received her Bachelors' and Masters' degrees from Kansas State University and a PhD from Iowa State University.

Paul Jones has been a financial advisor for 16 years and is a Certified Financial Planner. His company is Benchmark Financial. He is also a SmartVestor Pro with the Dave Ramsey program. He has lived in Manhattan for the past 20 years and has been involved in the local chamber and school.

Leia Miller & her husband have been in this beautiful valley since 1992, living on their 5 acre farm/ranch (Little Blessings Ranch) for 20 years and have raised three kids. She is a teacher by trade and has been involved with 4-H with her kids, hence the sheep and rabbits. She loves sharing what she has learned from her experiences with their wool. She says the creative process is so exciting and she is always learning and willing to share!

Randy Paul grew up here in Manhattan. He learned how to butcher at Big Sky Market. He is a hunter and fisherman, and has always processed his own game. He has also been a competition Pitmaster for 10 years.

Marjean Penny grew up hunting & raised a family of hunters. As game processing costs increased, her husband built a butcher shop & they started butchering their wild game, & now she's working on perfecting specialty meats. She has a You Tube Channel "Cooking Wild with MJ" teaching how to enjoy processing & cooking wild game.

Katie Powner has lived in Manhattan for almost 20 years. She has published five books with Bethany House and has two books scheduled to release in 2026. Her books have earned two starred reviews from *Library Journal*, one Selah Award and two Christy Awards. She has learned a lot over the past twelve years of being involved in the publishing industry and enjoys sharing her knowledge with others.

Rollie Rieger has been fly fishing for 50 years. He worked as a fishing guide on Montana Rivers for 26 years. He has been tying flies for 48 years. He has taught a number of fly tying class. He hosts a fly tying group that has been tying every winter for 38 years, Most people say he is easy to get along with.

Amanda Swenson is the 7-12 FCS (Family and Consumer Sciences) Educator at Manhattan Public Schools. She has worked at MHS since 2018. In her spare time, she loves spending time with her husband and their dog, Cooper.

Kody VanDyke has lived in Manhattan area for 35 years with her husband Vince, where they raised their four children, two of whom are Manhattan graduates. She has been employed at Stockman Bank for 8 years. She is very excited to facilitate the Constitution Alive course & hopes it will greatly bless the community.

Ann Ward-Turner has enjoyed being part of this community for nearly 30 years. She has taught rug making class for Adult Ed several times in the past & enjoys crocheting. Ann has a degree in Christian Ed & has found teaching, in many settings to be wonderfully rewarding, & looks forward to sharing the skill of basket making with others.

Deb Wheaton is the founder/owner of Gluten-Free Prairie since 2005, when she was diagnosed with Celiac disease, an autoimmune condition requiring a lifetime commitment to a 100% Gluten-free diet. In 2012, Gluten-free Prairie was born, renovating the building to include a classroom. In 2025, Gluten-Free Prairie was honored to be named "Best of Show" at the Made in Montana Trade Show.

Brad Wimmer, a loan officer at Manhattan Bank, is here to share financial information about buying a home.