From: Sent:

Bruce Peterson [bpeterson@valleycountymt.net]

To:

Tuesday, May 08, 2012 12:13 PM

Subject:

Redistricting valley county commission input

RE: Input on Redistricting effort from Valley County Commission

After discussion the Valley County Commission recommends the following:

- 1. Keep the City of Glasgow in one district
- 2. Instead of using Highway 2 for district lines we would hope that you can use Milk River and still be able to meet population criteria

I know that you have an near impossible job and best to you as to you try to meet all the criteria and requests from across the state.

A further suggestion would be to allow a larger allowance of variance in population per district, but without research I assume that MCA or the Constitution has a set percentage.

Thanks for your time and I know you will give good effort.

Bruce Peterson
Chair, for the Valley County Commission

From: Sent:

Betsey Hedrick [bsghedrick@gmail.com] Wednesday, May 09, 2012 6:38 AM Redistricting redistricting maps

To: Subject:

I support the SUBDIVISION plan.

Thank you Betsey Hedrick Glendive MT

From:

Joel Brandvold [temoindearbre@att.net] Wednesday, May 09, 2012 3:56 PM

Sent: To:

Redistricting

Subject:

Please don't split Cut Bank

A recent Cut Bank Pioneer Press article suggests comments to this website where the Glacier County Commissioners can receive feedback from the public concerning redistricting plans and proposals for representation in Montana government for the next 10 years. After reviewing the redistricting maps, options and information provided, I strongly support the Urban Rural plan for Cut Bank. Please don't split up Cut Bank; I really think CB needs to be represented as one city, and grouped with other nearby towns (Conrad, Shelby, etc) with similar interests.

Also, there seems to be some talk to divide Glacier County into two new counties: one with county seat Browning and the Reservation, and a second county seat Cut Bank with its own county. I feel this would be very good for the area, and may ease some of the friction and problems that many feel. Both communities are wonderful in their own way, but definitely have different needs.

Cut Bank deserves and needs the Urban Rural plan for its growth, progress, and issues, while Browning and the Reservation deserve and need its own, unique type of representation for its citizens and members.

Thank you.

T & K Enterprises P.O. Box 430 Black Eagle, MT. 59414-0430

Chairman Regnier
District Apportionment Commission

P.O. Box 201706, Helena MT. 59620

Black Eagle is three blocks wide and five blocks long. There is certainly a great need to break it up.

You Folks need something to do! The purpose of a district is to represent the people in the district – Black Eagle is a (one) district and should remain that way. Who gives a hoot about the same number voters in each district as that is not in the best interests of the existing district.

Montana supposedly has all this money in the Bank and most roads aren't fit to drive on. The county is broke and can't figure out how to get money for the fire departments or anything else that needs doing.

Feel free to call on me when you wake up!

Thank You

Harold Tucc

RECEIVED

MAY 07 2012

Chairman Regnier and Commissioners,

Of the proposed legislative redistricting plans before you for consideration, the Communities Plan is the best baseline. It splits notably less small towns (both incorporated and unincorporated) than any of the others, and it keeps the average population deviation between districts to 1.18%. These communities represent critical Montana communities of interest, and they are overall best served by the Communities Plan.

The Communities Plan has other benefits as well. It best recognizes the shared commonalities between urban and suburban voters. Suburban voters shop in town. They work in town. Their children go to school in town. Splitting them off into rural, agricultural districts serves neither their interests nor the interests of Montana farmers and ranchers.

In these highly partisan, gridlocked times, it is important to create districts that encourage legislators to work hard, listen to voters, and come together to compromise and get things done. As the most generally balanced plan, the Communities Plan offers that benefit as well.

I support the Communities Plan and encourage you to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address.

RECEIVED

MAY 0 7 29:

TO THE MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

districting@mt.gov

FAX: 406-444-3036

Dear Commissioners,

As a resident of Jefferson County, I am totally opposed to having Jefferson County split up for the benefit of Butte/Silver Bow County. Each of the four plans submitted by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission and the plan submitted by the Democrats on the Commission all put some portion of Jefferson County into Butte/Silver Bow County. This is simply unacceptable.

If you are going to consider the three discretionary criteria you set up at the beginning of this process, you will understand why none of these proposals make any sense.

1.) <u>Following the lines of political units.</u> Jefferson County is about 1,500 people over the ideal district size. Since our existing district is most of Jefferson County, we should start there and make every effort to keep Jefferson County as whole as possible, the remaining population staying with its "<u>Community of Interest</u>" in Madison County.

2.) <u>Following geographic boundaries.</u> The Continental Divide separates Jefferson and Butte/Silver Bow Counties. That is a very distinct geographic boundary between our

counties that should be respected.

3.) Keeping communities of interest intact. Many people live in Jefferson County because they don't want the impacts and influences of urban areas. Most of Jefferson County should be one district, with an area of the county South of Interstate 90 remaining as part of the district that represents Madison County. The Whitehall Elementary and Whitehall High School District both include portions of Madison County. The Jefferson Valley Rural Fire District also extends into Madison County. Kids from Jefferson County participate in 4-H and the Madison County Fair in Twin Bridges. Jefferson and Madison Counties share an MSU Extension Agent. In short, Southern Jefferson County and Northern Madison County are clearly a "Community of Interest", and should remain together.

Jefferson County is located between three large, urban counties, Lewis and Clark, Butte/Silver Bow, and Gallatin. It is important that we keep our own district so that we can maintain our proud identity. Please keep Jefferson County as whole as possible and allow a portion of Southern Jefferson County to remain with their "Community of Interest" in Northern Madison County.

I support the Jefferson County Proposed Legislative District Map.

Thank you for your consideration.

MAY 0 8 202

Montana Legislative
Services Division

Name /	M en e	Dave	many			Services [
Address	30	Ange	6910	Whitehall	MT	5759
		Pr)		•	,,,,

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FAX: 406-444-3036

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I support the Jefferson County Proposed Legislative District Map.

MAY 08 1612

Thank you for your consideration.

Montana Legislative Services Division

Name

Address

....

59759

Karen Hollandsworth

1463 Prairie DR

Brady, MT 59416

May 8. 2012

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission

PO Box 201706

Helena MT 59620-1706

Dear Chairman Regnier,

I strongly urge you to reject maps that use political data and election results in the development of district lines for the legislature. Political parties should not manipulate boundaries to maximize the number of seats they think they can win in elections. That defeats the purpose of redistricting, which is to equalize the number of people in districts, protect minority voting rights, following existing political subdivisions and communities of interest.

The last map in Montana was developed through a heavy reliance on political data and election results. There is no way to explain how many communities were divided, other than it served a political purpose. The new map should have no resemblance to the current map, because it inconsistently ignores existing political subdivision, communities of interest, lacks the compactness requirement and all of the other official redistricting criteria.

The commission should use the three maps developed by non-partisan legislative staff as starting points for the new map: the urban-rural, deviation and subdivision maps. The fourth map is just a slightly modified version of the map the Democrats put forward in 2000 using political data and election results. Many local communities are putting forward suggestions for their areas – please pay attention to these.

Thank you for your work on building consensus through this process. I encourage you to reject partisan politics in the redistricting effort.

sincerely,

Karen Hollandsworth

RECEIVED

MAY 10 2519

Mineral County has less than the ideal population size for a House district, so we should be kept together at all costs. Counties are communities, so every effort should be made to preserve county lines and keep them whole. We should be joined with southern portions of Sanders County because we have similar histories, industries and rural communities.

Having said that, the "Communities" map and the "Existing District" map clearly do not do a good job of keeping counties together. They split up many counties unnecessarily because the main goal is electing Democrats. Many of their districts are not compact as well.

Redistricting can be much easier if you put politics aside and focus on the criteria. If you do that, I think you will gravitate towards the Urban-Rural plan or the Subdivisions plan.

Name:

Address:

5233 mullan 81.E.

Superior MT. 59872

Email Address: Scenann & blackfoot. net

RECEIVED

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Name:

Judia M. Danne

Address:

5233 Musian Rd.E.

Superior MT. 59872

Email Address: Somman @ blackfoot. net



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Name:

Joan Cartoll

Address:

5+ Reas, M+ 57866

Email Address: <u>carroll</u> a blacktootine

RECEIVED

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Name:

Gary Grippo

Address:

1871 Riverhen 20

SYPERIOR MT, 59872

Email Address: FloGrip Q BlACK foot Net

RECEIVED

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Name:

Address:

Email Address: tcreek woman a fi yahoo, Com

District should me to made according to the meds + simulation, Not party needs.

RECEIVED

MAY 08 2012

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I support the Communities Plan and encourage you to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Name: JOHN SCHEUERING

Address: 819 MAIL ST,

MICES CITY, MT

59301

RECEIVED

MAY 10 2012

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Sincerely,

Name: Thank Fix

MARK FIX
Address: 1198 TONGUE RIVER RUAD

MILES CITY MT 5930)

RECEIVED

MAY **09** 2012

From:

Bill and Colette Berg [bill@coolworks.com]

Sent:

Thursday, May 10, 2012 4:45 PM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

Support Communities Plan

Dear Commissioners,

I support the Communities Plan and I hope you do too. In these highly partisan, gridlocked times, it is important to create districts that encourage legislators to work hard, listen to voters, and come together to compromise and get things done. Montanans should choose their legislators, not let a map do the work for them.

The Communities Plan best respects the independent spirit of Montanans. It also splits the least towns and keeps the districts quite even in size, preserving our constitutional right to 'one person, one vote'.

Best wishes,

Bill and Colette Berg PO Box 275 Gardiner, MT 59030

From:

Gayle and Jim Joslin [joznpoz@bresnan.net]

Sent:

Thursday, May 10, 2012 4:45 PM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

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Best wishes,

Gayle and Jim Joslin 2763 Grizzly Gulch Helena, MT 59601

From: Sent: Wade Sikorski [wds@midrivers.com] Thursday, May 10, 2012 6:38 PM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

Support the Communities Plan

Dear Commissioners,

Of the redistricting plans prepared for your consideration, the Communities Plan is best. It splits the least small towns, which are unique and critical Montana 'communities of interest'.

For Polson, Livingston, Four Corners, Glasgow, Ulm, Clancy, Troy, and more, we need the Communities Plan.

The plan manages to do this while keeping districts highly evenly sized, preserving our constitutional right to 'one person, one vote'.

Sincerely,

Wade Sikorski 1511 Hwy 7 Baker, MT 59313

From:

Elli Elliott [elli@visi.com]

Sent:

Thursday, May 10, 2012 7:16 PM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

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Sincerely,

Elli Elliott 16 Fountain Park Drive Red Lodge Red Lodge, MT 59068

From:

Kevin Dowling [kpdowling@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Thursday, May 10, 2012 9:16 PM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

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Sincerely,

Kevin Dowling 1825 10th Street W Billings, MT 59102

From: Sent:

Emitt Northup [teachinc@live.com] Thursday, May 10, 2012 11:59 PM Redistricting

To:

Subject:

Valley County redistricting

Dear Commission;

I am in favor of the "Communities Plan" for redistricting as I believe it to be the fairest choice proposed.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Emitt Northup 214 Skylark Rd. Glasgow, Mt. 59230

From:

Robert and Rosemarie Barta [bbarta@mt.net]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 5:54 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

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Sincerely,

Robert and Rosemarie Barta 11825 Hanover Road Lewistown, MT 59457

From:

Frank & Helen Cory [fhcory@nemont.net]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 7:23 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

"No!" - Communities Plan

Dear Chairman Regnier,

Stillwater County strongly believes it should be kept together as part of one single legislative district. Since the county population is under the ideal district size of 9,984 residents, it makes sense to add a portion of Sweet Grass County and keep Stillwater County in one piece. Also, we urge you to maintain a Senate district with Carbon County, which shares many interests with us.

We understand that there are proposals out there that split our community. This plan used voting preferences and election results as the main driver for drawing lines, and it should not be taken seriously. Any proposal brought forward in such a manner should be suspect.

Counties are communities. When you split them up unnecessarily, you are splitting up those traditional communities we have recognized for 100 years. As such, the best choices to use are the Subdivisions 100 map and the Urban-Rural map.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Frank & Helen Cory 19 Cottonwood Way Absarokee. Montana 69001

From:

Michael Ruger [rugermichael@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 8:07 AM

To: Subject: Redistricting Re-Districting

Dear Chairman Regnier,

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We understand that there are proposals out there that split our community. One of which is a map put forward from the Montana Democratic Party. This plan used voting preferences and election results as the main driver for drawing lines, and it should not be taken seriously. Any proposal brought forward in such a manner should be suspect.

Counties are communities. When you split them up unnecessarily, you are splitting up those traditional communities we have recognized for 100 years. As such, the best choices to use are the Subdivisions 100 map and the Urban-Rural map.

Sincerely, Michael & Melissa Ruger 7 Rose Lane Columbus, MT 59019

"Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what's for dinner; Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote." - Benjamin Franklin

"It can not be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great country was founded not by religionists, but by Christians , not on religion but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ." - Patrick Henry

TO THE MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 201706

HELENA, MT 59620-1706

districting@mt.gov FAX 406-444-3036

Dear Commissioners,

3.)

As a resident of Jefferson County, I am totally opposed to having Jefferson County split up for the benefit of Butte/Silver Bow County. Each of the four plans submitted by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission and the plan submitted by the Democrats on the Commission all put some portion of Jefferson County into Butte/Silver Bow County. This is simply unacceptable.

If you are going to consider the three discretionary criteria you set up at the beginning of this process, you will understand why none of these proposals make any sense.

- 1.) Following the lines of political units. Jefferson County is about 1,500 people over the ideal district size. Since our existing district is most of Jefferson County, we should start there and make every effort to keep Jefferson County as whole as possible, the remain population staying with its Community of Interest in Madison County.
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Services Division Montana Legislative

SIOS I I YAM

RECEINED

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Thank you for your consideration.	1 // m.l
Name John W. Himes	Joh Munes
Address 35 FISH CREEK RD	White hall MT. 59759
(Lower)	

TO THE MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 201706

HELENA, MT 59620-1706

districting@mt.gov

FAX 406-444-3036

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3.)

MAY 11 28'?

Services Division

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MAY 1 1 2019

Montana Legislative Services Division

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Name //eura ///	Will
Address 1166 469 55	Acrelia Mir 59759

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Name:

Address

Billinga MT 59105

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I support the Communities Plan and encourage you to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Momo

Address.

5838 Huy 8/11 Lepherd, M759079 RECEIVED

MAY 11 2012

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Sincerely,

Name: West Sins

Address: 623 Arene B

Billing, Mondro 5002

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Sincerely,

Name:

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Addross:

Stanley Coulee Clay

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Sincerely.

Name:

Address: 1215 Princeton

Billings, MT 59102

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Sincerely,

Name: Katherine French

Address: 710 Hillsdale St.

Helena, MT

59601

Montana Legislative

Services Division

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission Legislative Services Division PO Box 201706 Helena, MT 59620

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Sincerely,

Address: PO BOX 215 7

6 WILLOW BEND RD.

RED LODGE MT 59068

MAY 11 2012

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission Legislative Services Division PO Box 201706 Helena, MT 59620

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Sincerely,

Camie C. Alderson

Name: Jeanie C. Alderson

Address: 29 Bones Lane
Birney, MT Sana

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1 2012

From:

Rick R. Richard [rick.richard@eciblgs.com]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 9:45 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

"No" to the Communities Plan

Dear Chairman Regnier,

I strongly urge you to reject maps that use political data and election results in the development of district lines for the legislature. Political parties should not manipulate boundaries to maximize the number of seats they think they can win in elections. That defeats the purpose of redistricting, which is to equalize the number of people in districts, protect minority voting rights, following existing political subdivisions and communities of interest.

I hope you will include Carbon County and Stillwater county in the same Senate district.

The last map in Montana was developed through a heavy reliance on political data and election results. There is no other way to explain how many communities were divided, other than it served a political purpose for the Montana Democratic Party. The new map should have no resemblance to the current map, because it inconsistently ignores existing political subdivisions, communities of interest, lacks the compactness requirement and all of the other official redistricting criteria.

The commission should use the three maps developed by non-partisan legislative staff as starting points for the new map: the urban-rural, deviation and subdivision maps. The fourth map is just a slightly modified version of the map the Democrats put forward in 2000 using political data and election results. Many local communities are putting forward suggestions for their areas – please pay special attention to those.

Thank you for your work on building consensus throughout this process. We encourage you to reject partisan politics in the redistricting effort.

Sincerely,	
NAME: Rick Richard	
ADDRESS: 713 Montaqua Rd., Joliet, MT EMAIL:	

Rick R. Richard

rick.richard@eciblgs.com

From:

Rick R. Richard [rick.richard@eciblgs.com]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 9:51 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

"No" to the Communities Plan

Members of the Districting and Apportionment Commission,

I appreciate how tough the task at hand must be in redrawing district lines in the Legislature, but I don't know why you must have proposals that gerrymander based on how people vote in certain areas. Doesn't that go against the criteria you adopted? Montana shouldn't just follow the bad examples of other states that allow one political party to draw seats that help them in elections. You should reject those kinds of maps.

There are at least a couple of maps on the table that seem to follow your criteria. I think the urban-rural 100 map is a common sense recognition of the differences between cities and rural areas of the state. I think the subdivision 100 map is also a good approach since it seems to keep many counties and towns together when possible.

Allowing the Democratic party to have a map that draws lines to help them is ridiculous. It shouldn't even be under consideration!

For my own area, I hope that you will keep Carbon and Stillwater counties as one Senate district.

Thank you for listening to my comments,

Name: Rick Richard

Address: 713 Montaqua Rd., Joliet, MT

Email Address:

Rick R. Richard

rick.richard@eciblgs.com

From:

Maggie Zaback [magzaback@gmail.com]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 10:15 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

Support Communities Plan

Dear Commissioners,

I support the Communities Plan and I hope you do too. In these highly partisan, gridlocked times, it is important to create districts that encourage legislators to work hard, listen to voters, and come together to compromise and get things done. Montanans should choose their legislators, not let a map do the work for them.

The Communities Plan best respects the independent spirit of Montanans. It also splits the least towns and keeps the districts quite even in size, preserving our constitutional right to 'one person, one vote'.

Best wishes,

Maggie Zaback

Maggie Zaback 1125 17th St W Billings, MT 59102

From:

Roy and Susan O'Connor [rsoc2001@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 10:22 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

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Best wishes,

Roy and Susan O'Connor 125 Bank Street Suite 300 Missoula, MT 59802

From:

dale grosfield [dalemarj@mtintouch.net]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 11:50 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

"No" to the Communities Plan

Dear redistricting board

The communities plan is a horrible plan that will take away all fairness.Please keep counties as much together as possible.Thanks for considering.

Dale Grosfield

From:

Russ Doty [russ@newworldwindpower.com]

Sent:

Friday, May 11, 2012 11:53 AM

To:

Redistricting

Subject:

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Best wishes,

Russ Doty 3878 North Tanager Lane Billings, MT 59102

As a resident of Granite County, I do not agree with having Anaconda as part of two districts that can dominate both my county and Powell County. The community of Anaconda should be kept together, and Granite and Powell counties should be joined into one House district. This will recognize the urban-rural differences we have compared to Anaconda. As such, Anaconda should have a Senate district with Butte, not with our proposed House seat.

The reason the Democrats would like two districts to come out of Anaconda is because the two seats will be dominated by Democrats. Even though their map is called the "Communities" map, they go against what they claim their map is about by splitting the town of Anaconda and forcing their voters into our two counties. They know they can have two Democrats out of this area because they use election results to see how districts will vote before the votes are even taken!

There is a reason Granite and Powell counties are no longer a part of Deer Lodge county. We have different interests, different communities and different priorities. Please focus on your criteria and don't let Anaconda dominate our elections. The Subdivisions 100 map does the best job of matching our

priorities.	
Since	
NAME: NAME WALLESON	
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ADDRESS: 37 Princeton KA	
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Sincerely,

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ADDRESS: 451 Princeton Prd. Philipsb

EMAIL: Coppersol/20001-Com/0

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Sincerely,

NAME: UR ME Tome:

ADDRESS: 300 So Holland (Allon)

Fhilpshoung MT 59858

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Sincerely,	•
NAME: Donald J. M. Menye	
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ADDRESS: 7.0. 130+ 366	
ADDRESS: 7-0. 130+366 Philipsburg, Int 59858	
EMAIL:	

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MAY 10