

## **Obama to make Bozeman stopover**

*By MIKE DENNISON Missoulian State Bureau*

HELENA - President Barack Obama will visit Bozeman next Friday, where he's expected to hold a "town hall" meeting on health care reform, sources told the Missoulian State Bureau on Wednesday.

The White House declined to confirm the president's plans, and state Democratic Party officials also had nothing to say about it publicly.

However, officials in Bozeman confirmed that Obama plans to visit the area next week.

Mayor Kaaren Jacobsen told the Bozeman Daily Chronicle that the president is coming to town, but had no other details.

The State Bureau learned that Obama is planning to fly into Bozeman on Friday, Aug. 14, and hold a town hall meeting, perhaps at a hangar at Gallatin Field Airport.

The president, accompanied by his wife, Michelle, also is expected to stay overnight in the area.

National news outlets reported last weekend that Obama is planning a tour of Western states this month, to push for health care reform and emphasize other issues of importance.

Obama visited Montana five times during his 2008 presidential campaign, including stops in Billings, Butte, Bozeman, Missoula and Great Falls.