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Rewards of Public Service—p. 6



Billings Clinic's new expansion is opening—p. 12

HOSPITAL DISTRICT REMEDIATION SURPRISINGLY SMALL COST TO COUNTY

Hugh vanSwearingen



The Broadwater County Hospital District was recently billed for the county's share of the cost of the latest cleanup of gasoline and diesel contamination left about 35 years ago by a filling station and bulk plant at the corner of Broadway and North Oak streets in Townsend.

No need to hold your breath, it was only \$500 out of a total project cost of about \$400,000.

Brian Obert, executive director of Montana Business Assistance Connection (MBAC), estimates that 95 percent was paid by the Montana Petroleum Release Compensation Board and 5 percent by the U.S. Environmental Agency.

The project, completed months ago, involved the demolition of a building that was owned by the Hospital District. It was used by the Broadwater Health Center hospital to house ambulances. After tearing down the building, the contractor had to excavate and then replace

soil to a depth of 16 to 18 feet, Obert said.

The Hospital District also owned the hospital building across Oak Street. Broadwater County owned and still owns the corner lot adjoining the ambulance building lot. Some years ago, that lot was twice excavated to remediate petroleum pollution.

In 2019, the Hospital District was negotiating to sell the hospital building and ambulance building to Billings Clinic. Petroleum contamination was proving to be an obstacle to Chicago lawyers representing Billings Clinic. They were worried about underground pollution from the gas station seeping under the hospital building.

I was on the Hospital District board of directors at the time and still am. With help of our county commissioners and County Attorney Cory Swanson, the negotiations were successful. We sold the hospital building and grounds to Billings Clinic, which now also holds an option to buy the former ambulance building property. That option is on hold until the State Department of Environmental Quality certifies that no further action is needed to remediate the pollution. The

certification won't happen pending the results of soil tests yet to come. Upon certification, Billings Clinic will have two years to exercise its option.

Just look at what has transpired along with the cleanup. Billings Clinic Broadwater undertook an extensive rebuilding and modernization project. Before Billings Clinic took over, we were afraid that plumbing and air conditioning systems would fail due to age and deferred maintenance. Voters had turned us down on a mill levy tax request to finance repairs and replacements. The hospital was losing money and was in debt to the county.

Special thanks are due to Brian Obert for his expertise and years of experience with remediation of petroleum pollution. He pulled everything together and got the ball rolling. MBAC is the federally and state designated economic development corporation for Broadwater, Lewis & Clark, and Meagher counties. Thanks also to Snowy Mountain Development Corporation of Lewistown for management of the project.



The corner of Broadway and North Oak before the cleanup.



The corner of Broadway and North Oak today.

SEARCH & RESCUE RAISES MONEY FOR NEEDS

Broadwater County Search and Rescue responds to a variety of emergency calls each year. Maintaining the equipment necessary to answer each call in a timely manner is imperative to each call. As many people are aware, prices for everything have been increasing and it is no different with emergency response tools. Search and Rescue has a list of needs they are putting together to update the equipment used.

On July 21, 2022, the volunteers put on a "pie in the face" fundraiser to help raise funding for those needs.

Search and Rescue member Daniel Truesdell says he got the idea for the fundraiser from a sheriff's office

member in Helena. It worked in that area and the idea seemed like it would work in Townsend as well. The overhead of the "pie-in-the-face" fundraiser was less than putting on a large dinner and the work behind it was not as extensive. After asking prominent members of the community to allow themselves to be "pied," Truesdell came up with \$5 per pie or 3 for \$10.

All three County Commissioners, a City Council member, Mayor Mike Evans and Captain Nick Rauser agreed to participate and be pied. Paper plates full of whipped cream were provided and each individual who was pied was allowed to wear a plastic bag to keep clothing clean. Participants of all ages took their chance at throwing a pie into whichever individual they chose. After expenses, Search and Rescue was able to raise a little over \$340.

The members of Search and Rescue were thrilled with the fundraiser and want to give a huge shout-out thank you to all of those that participated both those willing to throw pies and those willing to take them in the face! Search and Rescue will be doing another "pie-in-the-face" fundraiser on August 18 at the next Slice of Summer. This time, Truesdell says, the individuals getting pied will be school administration. Captain Rauser agreed to do it one more time!

Broadwater County Search and Rescue is always looking for individuals who are willing to serve: those willing to answer the call when someone is in distress and when a family is in need.

If you have any questions about Search and Rescue or would like to volunteer please call the sheriff's office at 266-3441.

Inflation-busting Sale! Everything in the store at least 15% off! Smokin' deals up to 50% off! Might even be a bit more!



Historic Townsend Hardware
204 BROADWAY • 266-5588

Customer Appreciation Days
Aug 4~6
Free Lunch on Saturday starting at 11am



MAY WE INTRODUCE...

If you are new to Townsend you might have wondered about a flamboyant and patriotic rig that frequents our downtown streets. As you might gather from the tractor, long-time resident Roland Heaton is a retired US Veteran. Nowadays, Roland is most frequently seen at the Bird's Nest where he's responsible for much of the construction and maintenance of the building. But a great deal of his time is also spent throughout our community. Roland is an active member of American Legion Post 42 and is frequently involved with funeral flag details, retiring of aged flags, and other Post activities. He also spends a great deal of time volunteering at both Helping Hands locations and our local Food Pantry. And he cooks a mean barbecue! Thank you Roland for being an inspiration, comfort, support, and friend to so many and our community! If you see Roland and his rig downtown, stop by and introduce yourself!

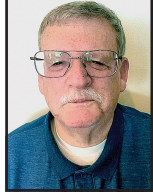


DON'T FORGET TO SHOUT "JENGA!" WHEN EVERYTHING FALLS APART!



SIXTH ANNUAL BROADWATER COUNTY-WIDE YARD SALE

Vic Sample



The Missouri Valley Marketing Sixth Annual Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale was our most successful County-Wide Yard Sale yet.

The first County-Wide Yard Sale event was held in 2017 with the goal of bringing people from outside the county to visit Broadwater County. We had 43 people sign up to hold yard sales and there were about 4 local area people set up sales at the Flea Market area of the event, near the Copy Cup along Front Street.

In 2017 we advertised the event in the Helena IR, Butte Standard, Bozeman Chronicle and, of course, the local newspaper. Hundreds of people from Helena, Butte and the Gallatin Valley came to Townsend to shop at our yard sales.

This year we had over 60 people register to hold yard sales, including our first ever yard sale at the south end of the county. There were over 10 vendors at the flea market area from Townsend, Helena, Three Forks and Whitehall. We again advertised the event in the Helena, Butte and Bozeman newspapers and Mini-Nickel but also advertised in the Three Forks, Whitehall and Boulder newspapers.

I spent most of the day at the Flea Market on Front Street working with the vendors and handing out maps of the Yard Sales in town and in the surrounding areas. I spoke to a lot of people from out of the county that came to Townsend for the sales. For many people, it was the first time they visited Townsend.

I also visited several of the Yard Sales in the area. All of the people holding the Yard Sales said they were very happy with the number of visitors they received and the people I spoke to were very happy with the sales they made. Paul Liner told me that he and his wife Donna started setting up the yard sale at 7:00 in the morning. Paul said, "People started arriving at 7:30 in the morning!" The official Yard Sale hours were 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Over the years the County-Wide Yard Sale has had some challenges. In 2018 there was a torrential downpour all day long, with heavy winds. Even with the terrible weather, people that could have their Yard Sale inside a garage reported a terrific number of visitors and great sales.

2020 was the Year of Covid! We advised the people holding Yard Sales of the safety guidelines set by the county health department. Again, even with the challenging environment, people reported that they had a lot of visitors and great sales.

We thank everyone that has participated in the event over the last 6 years and hope we continue to get great participation in the future.

TOWNSEND TODDLERS HAVING FUN

Nancy Marks

Several Townsend toddlers and their parents enjoyed learning to tolerate the water with instructor Amanda Hazlett on Wednesday. They included Kelsey Flynn and Riley, Shayna Gillespie and Kinley, Kay Kitto and Aura and Levi Van Zee with Abby. According to Amanda, it is a mixed bag with 2-year-olds. "Some like the water; others, not so much!"

Amanda teaches two-week sessions. The current sessions are full. She still has a few spots open in the August sessions. Please call (406) 266-5144 for more information.



TOWNSEND POOL LIFEGUARDS EARN CERTIFICATES

Nancy Marks

Six Townsend teenagers earned their lifeguard certificates on Wednesday. The course is taught by certified instructor Amanda Hazlett.

Townsend Rotary and Lions' Clubs have sponsored the training for eight years, according to Rotary member Adam Six. "We are so glad to have the pool open, number one and even more glad to have these great students work at the Townsend pool," he said.

In addition to Rotary and Lions', this year, St. Peter's Health Townsend Clinic also supported the program.

The instructor explained that one of the incentives for the students is a pay bonus if each of them stays for the full summer session. Amanda said, "We would like these kids to come back next year so we have lifeguards who already have experience and who want to come back every year, rather than having to train newbies every year."



From left to right: Instructor Amanda Hazlett, Asten Obert, Tyson Giome, Caleb LeLachur, Else Herrick, Annika Roelofs and Kaelyn Sangray.

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF TOWNSEND JULY 19, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Council members present were Vickie Rauser, Angie Wintrow, Matt West, Ken Ulrich and Nate Brown; Christina Hartmann was absent. Others present were Clerk Coleen Ward, Public Works Supervisor Tim Rauser, Attorney Peter Simon, Engineer Chris Hayes, Erik Kreuger and Jessica Crusch.

PLEDGE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2nd Reading Ordinance 2022-01 - Mayor Evans asked for comments on the Changes to the Building Codes Ordinance. Having no comments, Angie Wintrow moved to adopt the changes

See CITY, 7



New Farm Bureau agent Dustin Gillaspie, his wife Tyranna and their three children Kason, age 6; Maggie, age 2 and new baby, Tyler, born July 4 are shown in front of the Broadwater St. Farm Bureau office along with agent Tim McAlpine.

FARM BUREAU ADDS A SECOND AGENT IN TOWNSEND

Missy Cox

Dustin Gillaspie joined Townsend's Farm Bureau office as a second agent in April 2022. He is working with long-time agent Tim McAlpine who will continue working in investments and financial plans. Dustin worked in the Miles City office before being transferred to Helena when Tim decided to step back to become an associate agent.

Tim has enjoyed working in Townsend. He had an opportunity to keep the Townsend office open when Farm Bureau planned to combine it with the Helena office. "Twenty-three years ago, I presented a management plan to the company to keep the Townsend office open. They accepted," he said.

Tim explained the company made plans to bring in a second agent. "Since 1999, our Townsend office business has increased by over 500%. I and my family cannot say, "Thank You" enough to all the customers I work with, for the hard work of my staff and a wonderful twenty-three years in the insurance business."

Dustin studied business at the University of Great Falls. After college, he worked in the oil fields. When he was laid off, he began studying to become a Farm Bureau agent. He came by that honestly. His father had worked in the Great Falls office for thirty-three years. Dustin and his wife Tyanna, a geologist, and their three children, currently live in Helena. They are looking forward to finding a home in Townsend.

Dawson County Agent George E. Piper organized Farm Bureau in 1915 when the peak of the land rush and homesteading boom hit Montana after the Homestead Acts were passed by Congress, according to "Legacies," written by Laura C. Nelson. The history was commissioned by Farm Bureau to commemorate its 100th anniversary in 2019.

Settlers came by the thousands from the Midwest to claim 32 million Montana acres. They filed 114,000 homesteads. Piper helped educate the new farmers and ranchers on how to farm in this semi-arid land. He helped them learn gardening to feed their families and helped them forge business alliances as well as providing them with a platform for obtaining business insurance.

Broadwater County Farm Bureau's role has expanded its focus to include community outreach. It still offers its members education and political outreach. The policy-holder-owned organization now offers an annual scholarship to a graduating Broadwater High School senior. Members teach farm safety education to Townsend school children including a special program in ATV safety.

Dustin works in the Townsend office, 410 Broadway, on Tuesdays. He can be reached at (406) 266-5233 or at the Helena office other days at (406) 442-0456.

Broadwater Farm Bureau President Chuck Plymale can be reached at (406) 266-3590 for those interested in joining the organization.

BACKYARDS OF BROADWATER YARD & GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, July 30 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm



Tickets are \$5.00 on sale **NOW** at MSU Broadwater County Extension, Townsend Hardware and Goose Bay Glass. Call 406-266-9242 for more information.

MT 43 News, Inc.

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Send stories & tips to
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Letters and opinions to
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Advertising queries to
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All other correspondence to
corporate@MT43News.com

Deadlines

Letters to the Editor: Monday 5 p.m.
Advertising: Tuesday 10 a.m.
Stories & News: Tuesday 12 p.m.

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Letter Policy

MT 43 News, Inc. welcomes letters to the editor on subjects of general community interest.

- Letters must be signed and include the author's legal name, phone number, and address for verification purposes. Anonymous submissions will not be published.
- All accepted letters will appear on the MT43News.com website. Letters will be published in the print edition in the order received as space

allows and may not be published the week the letter was submitted.

- MT 43 News embraces our freedom to speak freely and freedom of the press, but we reserve the right to refuse publication of any letter. We will make a reasonable effort to resolve any issues we may have with the submitter.
- Letters may discuss any subject, but are expected to deal with only one subject per-letter and be 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and length. We further reserve the right to require documentation or evidence when discussing the behavior, motivation, or lives of other people.
- Letters to the Editor may not be used as a thank-you, sales pitch, or any type of solicitation. These submission must apply to paid space.

- Letters should be submitted via email (letters@MT43News.com) in plain text. Please do not attach any files.
- Headlines and bylines will be determined by the Editor at the editor's sole discretion.

Political Letters and Editorials

Political candidates are allowed to submit one biographical article during an election year. Additional articles must be paid for or they will be considered only as space allows.

- Any letter that calls into question another person's character will be held until the other party can respond to the allegations. Rebuttals must be submitted within one week of our request. If no rebuttal is received, the letter will not be printed.



What national monument does Cary Grant climb in the heart-pounding final moments of North by Northwest?

Answer on Page 10



**Broadwater County
Development Corporation**
**COMMUNITY REVIEW PROCESS
FOR BROADWATER COUNTY**

BCDC

Broadwater County Development Corp. (BCDC) initiated a Community Review Process, starting in 2021. It has been 18 years (2004) since we conducted the last Community Review, then called a Community Assessment. Through this process, the citizens of Broadwater County were able to air their concerns, gather their thoughts and offer future possible visions for the betterment of the local communities. Much information and data were compiled from the town meetings, objective observations and listening sessions that took place in 2004. As a result of those meetings, a one hundred-page report was produced with all the data, comments, suggestions and visions of the community, observers, and facilitators. From that report, much has been accomplished. The local communities have been improved with the involvement of many leaders and volunteers over the years although there are still many issues that have not been resolved.

Much has changed in the county since then. In cooperation with MEDA (Montana Economic Development Association), Montana State University, the University of Idaho, BCDC, and others, we have started the process again. We have put together a survey to garner your concerns and thoughts. Results from the survey and listening sessions will be funneled into a report listing the priorities for our community. Local government and community organizations can use this information to guide community projects, infrastructure, grants and priorities.

These survey results will also assist our team in determining what topics will be discussed when we conduct our town halls and listening sessions, slated for October 11-13. This survey is a critical first step in a process that will provide opportunities for residents to come together to discuss topics of mutual interest and to get involved in Building a Better Broadwater.

You should have received a postcard in the mail with a reminder to fill out your survey by August 1. If you have lost your survey or thought it was junk mail, there will be links on the postcard to direct you to an online site to complete the survey. Please take time to fill out this survey as it is important to your community. All your address information and your responses are totally confidential, has been certified as such, and will be in a secured database. No personal information will be shared. If you did not get the survey or the postcard, and would like to fill one out, please stop by the MSU Extension office on Broadway in the Flynn Building for assistance or email higgins@uidaho.edu. We will keep you informed of the survey results and upcoming community review events. Any other questions, email bcdc@mt.net. Remember, this is all voluntary.

One of my favorite quotes: "If you think you are too small to be effective, you've never been in bed with a mosquito." Betty Reese.



JB Howick

WHY TWO NEWSPAPERS?

We were recently asked online why there should be two newspapers in Broadwater County? This was my answer:

"It could be said that Broadwater County generally and Townsend specifically doesn't need two of a lot of things. Two gas stations, two hardware stores, two bookstores, barbers, bars, restaurants... so why are there two of any of these organizations? Because competition breeds quality. Because no one can do everything. And because each entity brings something different to the community. When the Broadwater Reporter ceased we felt there was a need for quality, unbiased reporting and elected to bring our difference to the community."

We understand that we have placed our community in an unenviable position. Local non-profit groups, businesses, government, and you, the reader, must either utilize both newspapers or choose between them. We hope you will agree with us that the choice of what voice will bind our community together is important and we wanted the community to have that



**BROADWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
JULY 25, 2022**

Nancy Marks



Montana Business Assistance Connection (MBAC) representative, Katherine Anderson, presented the commissioners with an overview of the plan to conduct a series of listening meetings beginning in October in Broadwater County to develop an economic plan update for the county. The last economic report was published in 2004. Her organization will be working in concert with Montana State University, the Montana Economic Development Association (MEDA) and Broadwater County Development Council (BCDC). BCDC representative, Adam Six, said a survey asking residents what their needs and wants are for the next five years was sent out by mail in early June. For residents who did not receive one or forgot to fill out the survey, MEDA will be sending out a reminder card this week. County residents can take the survey online from the link listed on the card.

Renee Bauer, director of Family Promise of Greater Helena, made a request for matching funding to collaborate with BCDC on a project to set up one of their community outreach programs in Broadwater County. The program consists of three levels of assistance for needy families: 1) Providing families about to lose their homes with rent and food assistance; 2) Diverting families who are already without homes by giving temporary shelter; and 3) Stabilizing families with permanent housing, health evaluation, education opportunities and job seeking aid. The program staffers would begin by working with the schools, sheriff's office, the hospital and churches to reach people who need help, she said

Bauer explained she has received a \$15,000 National Family Promise organization matching grant. She also has a Washington Foundation grant for \$10,000. BCDC representative, Adam Six, explained his board has committed \$8,000 of their county mill toward the project.

Commissioner Darrell Folkvord said in a separate interview that the commission definitely wants to support this important program. He explained, "We need to make sure the program will be sustainable so we will still need more discussion."

Director of Public Health, Margaret Ruckey, announced she has access to the newest Covid vaccine. It is called Novavax. It is used to vaccinate against the latest COVID variants. The vaccine comes in a two-dose series of shots. She explained the catch is she must order no fewer than 100 doses.

"If community residents are not interested in another set of shots, then I won't be ordering them as the federal government is limited in how many it has for public use", she said. If residents are interested in taking the shots, they should let her know at the county health office at (406)266-5209.

In other business, the commissioners appointed Lacey Forrey to the Parks and Recreation Board for a three-year term.

choice. Per our Statement of Objectives and Ethics, which you can find online at MT43News.com, we are committed to providing unbiased, thoughtful, ethical, and uplifting news.

At the risk of opening the proverbial can of worms, I invite the community to respond to our decision. Lettersto the Editor can be sent to letters@mt43news.com.

**SUPPORTING OUR
WALK IN FAITH**

Past Broadwater newspapers gave our local religious organizations the opportunity to uplift our community with articles written by congregational leaders. We would like to do that again and will be contacting our local churches for participation. In a day when people are seeking to subvert Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Religion, we believe it is important as your local newspaper to protect and support these civil rights. To quote Elder Ronald A. Rasband of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "We join with ... religions protecting people of all faiths and persuasions and their right to speak their convictions. This does not mean we accept their beliefs, nor they ours, but we have more in common than we have with those who desire to silence us. ... The good of religion, its reach, and the daily acts of love which religion inspires only multiply when we protect the freedom to express and act on core beliefs." We look forward to reading the words of our local faith leaders.

Supporting this goal is a regular column in MT 43 News: our Church Directory. We recognize and respect the many faiths, beliefs, and philosophies represented

**BROADWATER
COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

**UNOFFICIAL AGENDA FOR
MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2022**

As of the deadline for MT43News there will NOT be a Commission Meeting Monday, August 1, 2022.

Please look for the OFFICIAL Agenda on the county website broadwatercountymt.com every Thursday.

Darrel Folkvord/Chairperson
406-266-9272 and 406-980-1213

Debi Randolph
406-266-9270 and 406-980-2050

Mike Delger
406-266-9271 and 406-521-0834

E-mail: commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us



**Broadwater County Fair Board
presents:**
El Wenko
**Wednesday August 3rd
7:00 pm**
**Townsend Fairgrounds
Rodeo Arena**
**Tickets: Pre-Sale* \$6
At the Gate \$8**

***Pre-Sale tickets available June 15th-
July 22nd at the Fair Office- 416
Broadway, Townsend**
406.266.9242 for more info

**TOWNSEND CITY
COUNCIL**

**UNOFFICIAL AGENDA FOR
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022**

- CALL TO ORDER
- PLEDGE
- MINUTES
 - Approve Minutes of July 19, 2022
- GUESTS and CORRESPONDANCE
 - Chris Daly
 - Urban Forestry Award to Pat Plantenberg
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- NEW BUSINESS
 - Building Fee Schedule Resolution
- CLAIMS
- ADJOURN
- BUDGET WORK SESSION
 - This week's City Council meeting will be intentionally short to allow time to work on the FY23 budget.



The most amazing thing will happen if you take a picture of that weird blob to the left with your phone...

by our neighbors and fellow citizens. While we cannot devote space to every individual's beliefs, we encourage the organized efforts of like-minded people to do good in our community and invite every faith-based organization formally represented in Broadwater County to also be represented in the directory. If your organization would like to be added to the directory, please send a message to news@mt43news.com.

AN INVITATION TO YOU

Finally, the Board of Directors at MT 43 News, Inc. would like this newspaper to be a force for good in our community. Informing you of breaking news and the actions of businesses and governments in a timely manner certainly meets that expectation. However, we would prefer that this newspaper be used for more than reporting the dire circumstances of a complex world. We would also like the newspaper to bring joy into the lives of our neighbors.

We can think of no better way to begin our efforts to reach that goal than to invite the community to let us know about people who do notably good things. People who aren't just leaders in our community, but mentors and symbols of inspiration. I would like to personally invite people to bring the good and interesting things of life to our attention. If you take a particularly beautiful photograph of our area or its people, if you take note of an act of charity or generosity, or if you would like to nominate an individual who selflessly contributes to our community, please send that information to letters@mt43news.com.

GROWING GRAPES IN MONTANA: THE IMPOSSIBLE IS NOW (SOMETIMES) POSSIBLE

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County
Extension Agent



Besides a few select pockets, growing grapes in Montana was once something of a fairytale. Many tried but few were successful. Growing grapes in Montana is still challenging, but thanks to advancing research, new varieties and changing climates, it is now more attainable. There are regions of the state where growing grapes is still a bit of a challenge (we happen to live in one), but there are a few tips and tricks to help you be successful.

The first step is choosing the right variety. There are thousands of varieties of grapes, but only a select few grow well in Montana. Traditional European grape varieties require more days of warm weather than feasible in Montana. Cornell University and the University of Minnesota have developed cold-hardy grape varieties through their research programs. These varieties are hybrids that can be grown in USDA plant hardiness zones 4 to 6. They were created by crossing French wine grapes (hardy to -5 F) with American native grapes.

Montana State University has done research at five sites across the state with twelve different cold-hardy varieties. This provided excellent data for grapes that

can be more successful in Montana. The study has found ‘Frontenacs’ to be the best-suited red wine grape for Montana. The most popular red wine grape currently planted in Montana is ‘Marquette’ which also did well in the trial but experienced higher winterkill. ‘Marchal Foch’ and ‘Petite Pearl’ are other popular varieties that performed well in the trial.

‘La Crescent’ is the best white wine grape from the research study. ‘St. Croix’ and ‘Prairie Star’ are popular white wine grapes in Montana that did well in the trial. ‘Bluebell’ and ‘Somerset’ were the favorite table grapes. Although not in the study, another good option as a starter grape is ‘Riverbank’ which is best suited for jam or juice.

A critical step for successfully growing grapes is choosing the right location. Grapes prefer soil with a pH below 7.0. Broadwater County has alkaline soil, usually around 8.0. Have your soil tested before planting grapes. It’s difficult to make a big change in soil pH, but there are a few techniques to bring your pH down a few decimal points.

Avoid frost pockets. South or southwest slopes are best. Broadwater County gets its fair share of wind, so choose a sheltered location out of the wind as much as possible. Grapes prefer well-drained sandy or gravelly soils.

Once you choose your site, there is quite a bit of site preparation work to do. You need to make sure the area is weed free. Grapes are extremely sensitive to herbicides, so take care of this beforehand. Using mulch or keeping the ground tilled underneath the vines for at least three years is recommended to avoid using herbicides and to allow the grapes to establish.

Do your research beforehand and take the time to build the trellis correctly. There are some very specific designs to allow the heavy foliage to correctly shade the grapes during development and avoid “sunburn” from direct sunlight.

The goal for the first three years is to make sure the plants become well established. Watering is very important. For two and three-year-old vines, it is recommended to harvest a few immature clusters of grapes soon after flowering. Research shows this improves winter hardiness by allowing the vines to enter dormancy earlier. If the fruit stays on the vines, they will grow longer to ripen the fruit and are more likely to experience frost and winter damage. If all goes well after three years, hopefully, you can start enjoying the fruits of your labor!

H. Fred Dale might have said it best, “My green thumb came only as a result of the mistakes I made while learning to see things from the plant’s point of view.” This could not be any truer than with grapes in Montana as they can be temperamental. Through a little trial and error, it may be possible! For more information about gardening, contact MSU Extension in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.



LET’S GO PHISHING!

Vic Sample

I hope by now that everyone knows there is no Prince of Nigeria who needs to move hundreds of millions of dollars from Nigeria to a US Bank and that you were randomly selected from 300 million Americans to help him move the money AND earn millions of dollars from helping the Prince.

Over the last 20 years I have won numerous lotteries totaling over 700 million dollars. Amazingly, I won those lotteries without even entering the lottery!

Those types of emails being sent out are a form of “Phishing”, an effort to get you to respond to the email and give the sender your bank account information, and social security number or to get you to send them “a small processing fee.”

Current Phishers have become more sophisticated than the early ones. In the last year, I have received at least a hundred emails notifying me that I have been selected to receive an award or gift from Home Depot, Walmart, Lowes, CVS, etc. Many emails have arrived, notifying me that UPS, FedEx and even DHL (are they still in business?) could not deliver packages to me, packages I never ordered.

Of course, these were all Phishing emails. I recently received an email notifying me that I was selected to receive a Loyalty Reward from Ryobi. The email even has the Home Depot logo in the picture.

All I have to do is answer a few questions!



How can you tell if an email like this is a real email or a Phishing email? After all, you don’t want to miss out on making the “Easiest decision of your life”.

First, have you even purchased a Ryobi product? I haven’t and I certainly didn’t sign up for any loyalty programs.

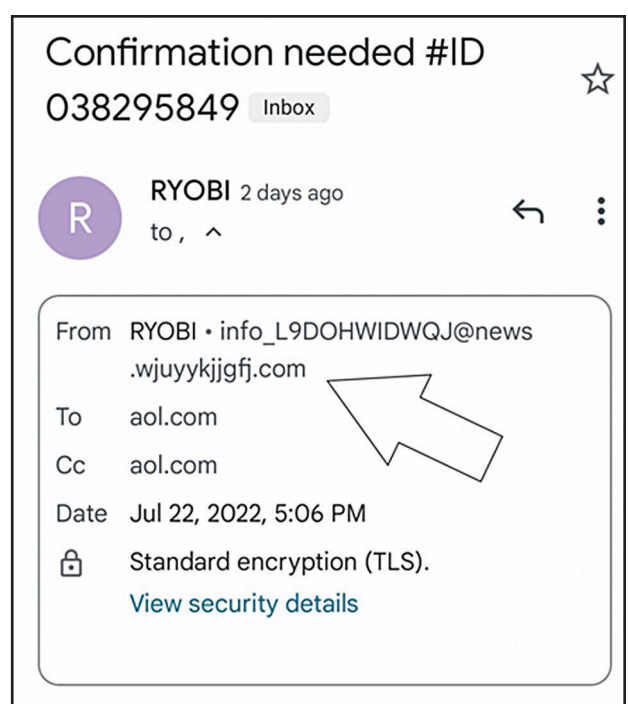
Watch for warning signs like “Easiest decision of your life”. A Loyalty program doesn’t generally require making decisions.

The best way is to look at the email address of the sender. Anyone can make up an email address and say it’s from a known name like Ryobi or Home Depot. But the “@___” part of the email address is not as easy to fake.

I received this email claiming to be from the Ryobi Loyalty Rewards program. It features a Home Depot logo, but look closely at the email address.

The “@___” part of the email address is “@news.wjuyykjgjfj.com”. Nowhere in that part of the email address is the name ryobi or homedepot. It looks like a randomly generated email address designed to avoid being blocked by your email.

If you receive an email notifying you that you have been selected for some sort of reward or prize, check the email address. If it looks like it’s a bunch of random letters and not a reputable company name, it is not a real notification. It is a PHISHING email. Don’t get hooked by these phishermen!



BROADWATER COUNTY FAIR & RODEO SCHEDULE

- Aug 1: Rodeo sign-up
- Aug 2: 1:00pm 4-H Horse Show
6:30pm 4-H Dog Show
- Aug 3: 9:00am–12:30pm Open class check-in
7:00pm El Wencho Concert!
- Aug 4: 1:00pm 4-H/FFA Small Animal Show
3:00pm–9:00pm Exhibits open to public
5:00pm RMM Dance Group
6:00pm Rodeo/Youth Division
- Aug 5: 8:00am 4-H/FFA Swine Show
9:00am NRA Rodeo Slack
12:00pm–9:00pm Exhibits open to public
1:00pm–3:00pm STEAM activities
1:00pm 4-H/FFA Sheep & Goat Show
3:30pm–4:30pm Cattlewomen entertainment
4:00pm Premiums for Open Class

- 5:00pm 4-H Rabbit Agility Demo
5:30pm Stick Horse Rodeo!
7:00pm NRA Rodeo
- Aug 6: 8:00am 4-H/FFA Beef Show
9:00am Rodeo/Team Roping
10:30am 4-H/FFA Showmanship
11:00am–1:00pm STEAM activities
11:00am–9:00pm Exhibits open to public
12:00pm–1:30pm Cowboy Entertainer
2:00pm–3:30pm Eliel Family Band
3:00pm 4-H/FFA Buyers Dinner
4:00pm 4-H/FFA Livestock Sale
7:00pm NRA Rodeo
9:00pm–12:00am Free public family dance!
- Aug 7: 10:30am Sign up for parade @Massa Park
12:00pm Grand Parade on Broadway
1:00pm–5:00pm Exhibits open to public
2:00pm Broadwater Rodeo
3:30pm 4-H Indoor Silent Auction closes
4:00pm 4-H & Open Class exhibits released.



AURORA BOREALIS!

Jeff Ross



On July 22, a relatively rare event for us began just before midnight. It was a pretty good display of Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights.

Aurora Borealis is the culmination of a series of events that start on the surface of our local star. On July 20 at 7:10 pm, sunspot complex AR3060 exploded on the surface of the Sun, sending a solar flare and a Coronal Mass Ejection into space. The flare was rated as a Type-II solar radio burst and caused shortwave radio blackouts on Earth about 10 minutes later.

A Type-II burst is not very big but the CME following it was directly aimed at Earth. A Coronal Mass Ejection is a bundle of super-charged plasma and a strong magnetic field and travels much slower than light. Observations showed this CME leaving the Sun at 2.4 million miles an hour. The Earth is, on average, 93 million miles from the Sun so a forecast for a smallish auroral display could possibly start on late July 22 or early July 23.

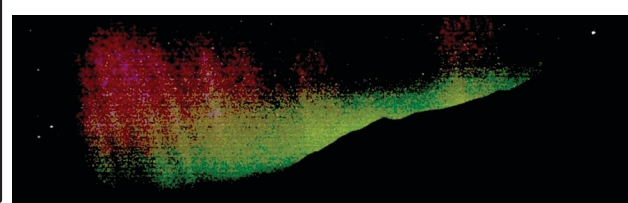
Possibly is the key word there. Not all Earth directed CMEs result in an auroral display. Sometimes the CME’s magnetic field dissipates before hitting the Earth. Sometimes the CME will strike a glancing blow off our magnetic field and bounce away from Earth instead of being directed down.

And sometimes, as on July 22 and into the early morning on July 23, it all works. The energy from that plasma causes oxygen and sometimes nitrogen to ionize, releasing the light that makes up an auroral display. Ionized nitrogen releases a reddish light, ionized oxygen glows green. This aurora had both.

I did not actually see this aurora! I was up around 1:00 am on July 23 but didn’t see anything at all in the north. However, the entire display was captured using a small computer driven super sensitive camera. My Aurora Cam is an ongoing project to first capture aurora in real-time, and second, send an alert out via text message when a display is detected. The alerting process is still prone to far too many false alarms but the capturing part is working well.

More details about this project and the resulting movie can be viewed at https://www.starhouse-observatory.org/aurora_cam.html. Aurora is first visible in the movie just before midnight on July 22 and continues until around 2:30 am on July 23.

Our Sun is about in the middle of its 12-year solar activity cycle. With solar activity higher than we’ve seen for a few years, we can hope to see more auroral displays like this one soon. With clear skies, of course.





Patrick Plantenberg pruning one of the hundreds of trees planted by the Tree Board

THE TOWNSEND TREE BOARD

Patrick Plantenberg
Chair, Townsend Tree Board

The Townsend Tree Board is a group of volunteers operating under a city ordinance to help manage the community forest. The award-winning Townsend Tree Board has been beautifying Townsend one tree at a time since 1990. Volunteer urban forest management won't work for most cities, but it has made a difference in our community. With a minimal city and county annual budget, the board's survival depends on grants and donations from the public as well as money made selling trees to the public and pruning private trees.

A Broadwater County Resource Assessment in 2004 identified beautification of the highway corridors through town as one priority. The Tree Board members found a niche and got started. They started small. Built Partnerships. Built Trust. Got Training. Kept Promises. Did Good Work. Maintained Projects. Since then, they have put in 1000–2000 volunteer hours per year.

The key to the Tree Board's success has been the commitment of volunteers. Scott Eckhardt was the hardest working and most dependable worker on the Tree Board for seven years. Linda Southall teaches students about trees, organizes the Arbor Day poster contest, and is its photographer. Retired volunteers dominate the Tree Board workforce. Judy Schenk, Mary Mistek, and others work as volunteers for the board. Part-time senior employees including Henry Murray, now deceased, and Teri Blahnik, and others have watered hundreds of new trees through the years.

City trees are watered from April 1 through the first freeze each year. In 2020, 750 trees were watered at a

cost of \$13 per tree. From 2005 to 2021 the Tree Board funded watering trees from tree sales and planting/pruning services. The City Council began funding the watering program in 2022.

Current members of the board are Linda Southall, Dan Mainwaring, Iwy Obrigewitch, Laverne Heavirland and Patrick Plantenberg. Since 2004, the Tree Board has partnered with many organizations. Youth involvement has been critical. Every student from the Townsend School District has helped plant a tree on campus on Arbor Day, helped with other town landscaping projects, or helped prune trees on campus. Students will get a chance to plant trees around the new school beginning next spring.

The Tree Board also plants trees on private land. A contractor was hired to do a tree canopy analysis in 2009. The contractor's recommendation was to plant at least one private tree for every tree planted on public property. The lack of a nursery and landscapers in town created an opportunity. The Tree Board started purchasing extra bare root trees for sale to private citizens. Tree sales and planting services for private citizens largely pay for the following year's trees. Currently, the Tree Board plants at least three to five private trees for every one public tree.

Additionally, the Tree Board has been partnering with and selling trees to other cities and towns in Montana. In 2021, over 250 trees were sold outside Townsend. Helena bought all their urban forest trees from Townsend in 2021. In 2020, 2021, and 2022 the Tree Board purchased over \$20,000 worth of trees and paid \$9,000 to water trees.

What are the results? The Tree Board has increased the number and diversity of trees in Townsend with an increase from 15 to 70 species on private property between 1990 to 2020. One urban forest guideline shows no tree species should exceed 10% of the total trees in the inventory. The Tree Board keeps trying different Zone 2–4 tree species. The Tree Board has significantly reduced the dominance of green ash, Siberian elm, and blue spruce but green ash still exceeds the recommended 10%.

Is volunteer urban forest management sustainable? No. Tree Board members are aging. They have not been able to identify an individual to manage the program going forward. The Tree Board planned to start cutting back by not ordering trees to plant in 2023. However, Jemma Loughery, the Broadwater High School horticulture class teacher, asked that the Tree Board continue to order a reduced number of trees to allow her class the opportunity to learn what it would be like to work at a nursery, garden center, or as a landscape contractor. The Tree Board will continue working in 2023 even if it is at a reduced pace.

ABOUT TREE CITY USA

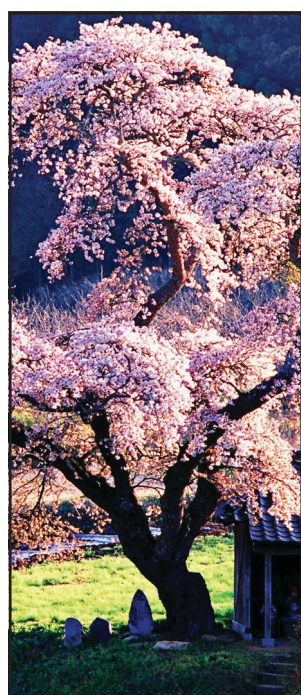
Cooler temperatures. Cleaner air. Higher property values. Healthier residents. The benefits trees bring to urban environments are endless — and by earning Tree City USA recognition, communities can experience them firsthand.

The Tree City USA program provides communities with a four-step framework to maintain and grow their tree cover. It also gives them an avenue to celebrate their work, showing residents, visitors, and the entire country that they're committed to the mission of environmental change.



- Trees help absorb the sounds of traffic in urban areas by 40%.
- Neighborhoods with trees are seven to nine degrees cooler than those without.
- Trees reduce energy costs up to 25% by shading buildings and protecting them from winter winds.
- Homes with trees have higher property values.
- Green space plays a major role in improving mental and physical health.
- Planting and maintaining trees absorbs carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, mitigating the effects of climate change.

Publicly demonstrating commitment to the environment is a great way to build pride among residents, as well as position communities as an attractive place to live.



WE BEGIN AT THE END BY CHRIS WHITAKER

Rachael Elliott-Brug

"Life, much like storytelling, tends to be linear: We're born (characters); we live (plots); we conclude." But what fun might a cunning writer have from flipping that story?

We Begin at the End by Chris Whitaker, is an engrossing twist on the small-town mystery that starts when everything is supposed to be settled. Touted as a cross between True Grit and To Kill a Mockingbird, as well as, a West Coast Where the Crawdads Sing, We Begin at the End is a spectacular must-read debut.

Duchess Day Radley is a thirteen-year-old self-proclaimed outlaw. She takes care of her small broken family with a fierceness that often lands her in trouble. The chief of police, Walk, her mother, Star Radley, and the fresh from prison, Vincent King, are all tied together by a horrible disaster in their shared past. When tragedy strikes again Duchess must decide who she can trust to help keep her family together.

This novel kept me flipping pages well into the night. Duchess, despite being brave and strong, is not wise beyond her 13 years. She often finds herself in dire situations that may not have been situations because of her foolishness. As a result, I had to know how everything turned out! I was definitely not disappointed, and as soon as I finished reading, I wanted to pick it back up and start over from the beginning. It is that good.



SENIOR CENTER MENU AUGUST 1–5	
Monday August 1	Thursday August 4
Cabbage Rolls	Baked Cod
Mashed Potatoes	Rice Pilaf
Tossed Salad	Carrot Coins
Apricot Halves	Bean Medley
Tuesday August 2	Friday August 5
Roast Pork	Polish Sausage w/ Sauerkraut
Mashed Potatoes	Steamed Potatoes
Key Largo Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables
Whole grain roll	Whole Grain Roll
Applesauce	Pineapple
Wednesday August 3	
Spaghetti w/Meat Balls	

Program History

Started in 1976, Tree City USA is one of the Arbor Day Foundation's oldest programs. Our founders had a vision for a greener, healthier America, and hoped this initiative would inspire change on a nationwide level.

The first Tree City USA cohort was comprised of 42 communities in 16 states. Today, the program includes more than 3,600 communities from all 50 states, Washington D.C., and Puerto Rico.

We've seen a lot of change over the years — but our participants' passion for trees has remained the same.

The Advantages of being a Tree City USA Member

A thriving urban forest offers many advantages to communities. Here are just a few:

To be heroic is to be courageous enough to die for something; to be inspirational is to be crazy enough to live a little.

Criss Jami

VISIT HISTORIC CANTON CHURCH

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH 2022 SUMMER SCHEDULE AND EVENTS

DATE	VISITING HOURS	GROUP/SPEAKER	EVENT TIME
JUNE 10	3-6 PM	Seldom Kings Acoustic Trio playing folk, rock and country music	5 PM
JUNE 24	3-6 PM	Neal Lewing—Inlaws and Outlaws Award winning singer/songwriter	5 PM
JULY 15	3-6 PM	WE Tierney Broadwater County Pioneer and Leader	5 PM
JULY 29	3-6 PM	John Larsen, Family and Friends Toe tapping music	5 PM
AUGUST 12	3-6 PM	The Ruby Valley Boys and Barb Wire Folk, Country and Gospel music	5 PM
AUGUST 26	3-6 PM	Jim Foster Folk, County, Gospel and Patriotic music	5 PM

Visit our website at <https://canton-church.org>

SLICE OF SUMMER SATISFIES

Nancy marks

It's Slice of Summer time in Townsend. A large crowd enjoyed the bouncy toys, swimming, music and games last Thursday at Heritage Park. Youth activities ran throughout the afternoon along with family-friendly food, music and swimming in the evening, according to Rotary Coordinator Pat Plantenberg.

The summer event is sponsored by Townsend Rotary whose members provide food and drinks. The Lions' Club also served food. Canyon Ferry Mansion owner Stacy Somers provided the foam building blocks from her Imagination Playground business. The kids 'dive' for \$60 worth of quarters in the sand pile was arranged by Pat. Rotary's blowup bouncy toy was 'wait in line only' popular.

The evening event showcased "2nd Wind," an acoustic rock and roll dance band. Those who performed were Joel Selzer, Ashley Stevens and Gary Frigo. They often play at Norwegian Wood Restaurant at the other end of Canyon Ferry Lake.

Broadwater County Search and Rescue volunteers were present with a 'pie in the face' contest. The fundraiser brought \$300 in a little over two hours! Acting on the receiving end of the whipped cream pies were Townsend Major Mike Evans, Broadwater County Commissioner Mike Delger and Nick Rauser of the Sheriff's Office.

Slice of Summer grew out of an idea from high school students who mentioned in Rotary scholarship interviews there was nothing to do during the summer for kids, according to Ron Salladay. That was ten or twelve years ago. The event is fashioned after the 'Alive At Five' performances held in Helena. Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce helped finance the event and the Lions Club volunteered to help. Broadwater 4-H clubs assisted. With the help of Tonya Wyse, then Amanda Hazlett, the group purchased a bouncy toy which has proved to be a huge hit with the little ones.

Rotary members would like to remind volunteers to sign up to help set up. Pat explained, "If your organization has displays or wants to advertise events, please contact me before the next Slice of Summer coming Thursday, August 18." Pat can be reached at (406) 431-4615.

Top: Joel Selzer, Ashley Stevens and Gary Frigo of 2nd Wind entertain the crowd.

Middle: Jesslyn Johnson and Jenny Peters enjoy cotton candy.

Bottom: Kids built elaborate structures with Imagination Playhouse foam toys.



Right: Tina Larson, Townsend Lions' Club instructs Mary Kondelik on serving food.

Above: Broadwater Search and Rescue set up a great fundraiser with pie throwing at special people, Nick Rauser, Sheriff's Office, County Commissioner Mike Delger and Townsend Mayor Mike Evans.

Above Right: Bridger Gillespie, Alice Brummer and Riley Rauser gleefully get ready to throw their whipping cream pies.

Bottom: Bridger gets a mayor's eye while Commissioner Delger tries to wipe some excess off his face. Great fun for a good cause!



PLAN FOR THE NEXT SLICE OF SUMMER!

AUGUST 18TH

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

July 28, 1938

Crow Creek News

James Cox of Helena is spending the summer working in the valley making his headquarters at the Spangler ranch.

There was a severe electrical storm here early last Sunday morning and tho it did not do much damage, it aroused a number of residents from sound sleep. At the W.A. Sherlock ranch, a tree was struck a short distance from the house, splitting it from top to bottom. At the Roland Kimpton home, the electricity seemed to center in the kitchen and fire was spouting in all directions, but nothing caught fire.

Clifford Mockel, Clifford Bowman and Albert Mockel of Townsend spent two days fishing on the Madison this week.

1949

Winston News

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Sherlock and his daughter were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lokowich Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lenahan of Butte and Mr. and Mrs. Con Sweeney of Townsend were business visitors in Winston Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Berndt of Townsend were Monday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Reynolds.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Whitehead took their son, Glenn, back to his post at East Base Air Field at Great Falls last Saturday.

Toston News

Mrs. Cliff McLaughlin and children, Lindy Lou and Robert of Dillon called on Toston friends Monday. Mrs. McLaughlin, formerly Miss Evelyn Strand, taught school in Toston several years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Greaves and granddaughter, Jeanie, drove to Trident Sunday and spent the afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Sharp.

Mrs. George Flynn and Shirley and Bobby and Mr. and Mrs. C.V. Flynn and Louise attended a picnic at the Deep Creek campgrounds last Sunday.

1966

Local Girl Named "Tonkin Gulf" Girl of the Month

The following letter was recently received by the "Star" and the request has been taken care of. Candy was quite stunned by the surprise and it gave all of us quite a thrill to present the patch and charm. (Editor's note)

Fighter Squadron One Five One
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif. 96601

12 July 1966

Dear Editor:

The hard-fighting Vigilantes of Fighter Squadron 151 take a great deal of pleasure in announcing the selection of Miss Candace Diane Davis as our Tonkin Gulf girl of the month. Her sweet visage is a welcome companion through the flak-ridden skies of north Viet Nam.

We ask that you present the enclosed squadron patch and charm to Miss Davis as a remembrance. May success follow her in her academic endeavors at Western Montana College.

The Townsend Star comes to us weekly through one of our fellow officers, Lt. jg. Bradley C. White. This weekly has caused Townsend, Montana to become for us, in the Thorton Wilder sense, "Our Town".

Sincerely,
The Officers of VF1151

1977

Radersburg News

Jane Bottler and Lola Ricketts attended the Blood Pressure clinic held at the Senior Citizen Center a week ago. Mrs. Mary Grandchamp accompanied them to Townsend.

Debbie and Alan Smith got their trailer house today, Monday, after two weeks of long hours and hard work putting in the water line and septic tank and hauling dirt away, not far to haul, George Hough needed it for fill around his place.

Mrs. Minnie Heisey and Mrs. Leslie Parks of Helena were Radersburg visitors one day last week. Leslie took her brother, Bill Holdaway, to town for shopping and Minnie visited with Oppie and Me.

Saturday, July 16, the Williams Brothers, Doc and John, took cattle to the Holdaway place for summer pasture. A picnic lunch was enjoyed at the new cabin site by most everyone.

Bea (Harris) Baker and her husband of Santa Monica, Cal. left the Houghs after spending some time in Radersburg and headed for Helena and Butte. They visited with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cobban and family of Winston. Then Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Barraugh of Helena.

They were in Billings to visit her sister, Bobby Ann and family before returning home. Mrs. Hough received a letter on Monday that they had made it home safely.

Patti Ragen Schwisow, who is staying with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Williams while her husband is in school for the summer, left Thursday for Missoula to attend a wedding Saturday of a friend. She came home Sunday.

Annie Lennox is the most famous of the Eurythmics duo. Who was the other member?

Answer on page 10

CITY, from page 2

to the Building Codes Ordinance #2022-01, Vickie Rauser seconded, the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor. Ordinance 2022-01 will become effective in 30 days, August 19, 2022.

MINUTES: Vickie Rauser moved to approve the minutes of July 26, 2022, as circulated, Matt West seconded, the motion carried with all council members voting in favor.

GUESTS: Chris Hayes – Water – Engineer Chris Hayes reviewed with the council the dates and timelines on moving forward with the Water Storage project. Chris needs to know what he is putting in the applications, what project; Valves, Hydrants, Water Storage, or all of it. He needs the council to decide so he can proceed with the applications. After some discussion on rates and cost of materials, it was determined that prices are not going down and the infrastructure is necessary. The City has already received \$551,359 from AFPA Local Fiscal Funds, we would need to raise the rates to bring them up to loan requirements. Matt said this has been discussed for a long time, even in prior administrations, it needs to happen, and it is not getting any cheaper. Mike said this is not like the sewer lagoon where we were getting fined for non-compliance, we should get a schedule and either raise the rates a little at a time and to do the projects we have funding for. Vickie thought about doing the \$627,000 for hydrants and \$120,000 for valves with our current fee structure funding which would cover the expense over time, would that work for us. Tim said we really need to decide if we are going with the big project, because every town and city across the nation is doing projects which is putting a load on the availability of contractors and supplies; with all the deadlines attached to the money there is no guarantee we will be able to get the contractors. Tim said he would need to hire out the main valve replacement, in his opinion the main valves are the most important they should come before the hydrants. Vickie Rauser moved to continue with the full project, water tower and associated items as laid out in the Preliminary Engineering Report and to move forward with the application process for the minimum allocation funding, Matt West seconded, the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

Eric Kreuger, Pastor with Mountain Valley Church – He would like to get permission from the council to erect a sign pointing toward the church on the existing Tree City USA sign on the corner of E Street and Highway 287. The council informed him that he would need to get permission from the State of Montana, Dept. of Transportation as the sign is on the Highway Right of Way.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Peter spoke on the Noise Ordinance, he resent the email to the committee. The consensus was somewhere between Tree Forks or Conrad, Peter will write it up based on those two. Peter said the Building Permit Fee resolution will be ready for the next meeting.

Angie spoke to the council on the Solicitor Fee, they are looking at an annual fee; the committee is meeting again next Thursday.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Evans reported that we had a person fall down by the park, we have submitted the information to our insurance; they will handle it from there.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: Vickie reminded everyone to complete their Build a better Broadwater survey and get them turned in. Matt asked how the skatepark was looking, Tim replied someone spilled maple syrup in it and some kid was in there cleaning it up, no sprinklers yet as we are waiting for the Pavilion pad to get in place before we start digging. Matt would like for Tim to bring his street plan to the next budget meeting. Discussion ensued, Matt would like to see what streets have been chip sealed and what streets are next for needing done. Ken said in his opinion keep chip sealing every year. Vickie

said let us know what you want done for this next fiscal year. Ken wanted to say thank you for doing the sand at the swings, the two ladies are incredibly happy. Nate asked about the crosswalks again when are they getting painted; Mayor will contact DOT. Mayor is going to talk to the construction firm at the school, they got a guy driving equipment at 30 mph with the forks out.

FINANCE/BUDGET: Clerk Ward reviewed each of the Budget amendments in the Council Packets:

BT #65: TO INCREASE BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL YEAR END TRANSFERS - \$6,000 from GF Fire to Fire Capital Projects and \$12,000 from GF Streets to Streets Capital Projects. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #65; Angie Wintrow seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

BT #66: O INCREASE ELECTRICAL BUDGET TO ACCOUNTS FOR ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE - \$1,633 for Special Lighting, \$505 for GF Facilities Admin, \$201 for GF Fire Protection, \$92 for GF Parks, and \$294 for GF Pool. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #66; Ken Urich seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

BT #67: TO INCREASE BUDGET FOR 1-TON PICKUP PURCHASE FROM STATE - \$2,166.67 for GF Streets, \$2,166.67 for Water, and \$2,166.66 for Sewer. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #67; Angie Wintrow seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

BT #68: TO INCREASE BUDGET TO MOVE FUNDING FROM SID REVOLVING TO SID #6 - \$7,250 from SID Revolving and \$7,250 to SID #6. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #68; Angie Wintrow seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

BT #69: TO MOVE BUDGET WITHIN GENERAL FUND TO HELP COVER POOL SHORTAGES - \$3,916 To GF Pool Wages, \$293 To GF Pool Employer Contributions, \$9 To GF Pool UI Contribution, \$32 To GF Pool Workers Compensation, \$1,747 To GF Pool Supplies, \$5,997 from GF Planning Professional Services. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #69; Angie Wintrow seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

BT #70: TO INCREASE BUDGET FOR UTILITY CLERK NOT BUDGETED FOR - \$2,388 To Water Payroll Expenses, \$2,393 to Sewer Payroll Expenses, and \$2,318 to Garbage Payroll Expenses. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #70; Angie Wintrow seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

BT #71: TO INCREASE WATER BUDGET FOR UNEXPECTED INCREASED EXPENDITURES - \$9,000 Slurry for Water Digs, \$700 Plumbing Repairs on Water Digs, \$4,900 Generator Work, \$3,500 Extra Water Testing, \$800 Water Hydrant Meter, \$800 Increased Fuel, \$500 Increased Electrical, \$2,700 Plumbing Supplies, \$2,000 Tower Epoxy Repair, \$1,200 Street Repairs from Water Digs, and \$2,000 increased Accounting/Audit expense. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #71; Angie Wintrow seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

BT #73: TO INCREASE SEWER BUDGET FOR INCREASED EXPENDITURES - \$500 Increased Fuel, \$500 Increased Electrical, \$5,800 UV Repairs, \$6,700 Building Insurance and \$15,000 UV Lights. Vickie Rauser moved to approve BT #73; Ken Urich seconded the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

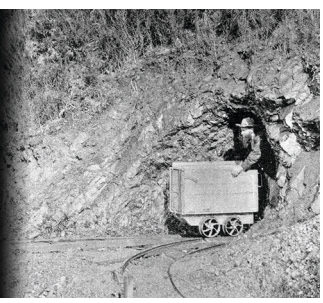
The next Budget Meeting will be held August 2, 2022, after the Regular Meeting. Mayor Evans then informed the council that the meeting with the Water Court Attorney went well and they are proceeding in our best interest.

ADJOURN: Vickie Rauser moved to adjourn, Ken Urich seconded, the motion carried with all council members present voting in favor.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 29 <i>John Larsen Family & Friends</i> 5:00 p.m. at the Canton Church	August 12 <i>The Ruby Valley Boys and Barb Wire</i> 5:00 p.m. at the Canton Church
July 30 <i>Backyards of Broadwater Home & Garden Tour</i> <i>Shakespeare in the Parks "Twelfth Night"</i> 6:00 p.m. @ Heritage Park	August 12-14 <i>Broadwater Community Theatre "Disney's Aladdin Jr."</i> At The Lodge of Townsend
August 1-8 <i>Broadwater County Fair & Rodeo</i>	August 13 <i>Grand Opening Sharp Shinned Skatepark</i>
August 7 <i>El Wencho</i> 7:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds	August 18 <i>Slice of Summer</i> Heritage Park
	August 26 <i>Jim Foster</i> 5:00 p.m. at the Canton Church

YESTERYEAR



WINSTON

Vic Sample

The area below Spokane Butte (some believed the butte to be named by Lewis and Clark on their way through the Missouri Valley) has been home to a number of small towns since homesteaders found their way into the area.

The first noted town in the area was Beaver Creek (also known as Beaver Town), a hamlet located 18 miles southeast of Helena where the water of the creek is diverted into the two French Bar ditches. The 1880 census credited the town with a population of 14. The townsite of Beaver Creek (actually located on Staubach Creek) was located on a very swampy area. Each new business that located in the town was built a little higher from the creek bottom in the direction of the railroad siding called the Placer siding. In 1889, Beaver Creek gave way to the Town of Placer, located at the railroad siding.

The town and the siding were in low swampy ground. It was hard to start the trains again in either direction after stopping at the siding. An auxiliary engine was used to get the trains "over the hump".

Gold was discovered in the area and many mines were established from the French Bar near the confluence of Beaver Creek and the Missouri River to the Elkhorn Mountains west of the town of Placer. The population of the area grew as mines opened and miners moved into the area.

The East Pacific mine was located southwest of Beaver Creek in the Elkhorn Mountains along Weasel Creek. Two brothers from Minneapolis took a contract for hauling ore from the East Pacific mine to the railroad. The Winston Brothers were instrumental in getting a new siding built on higher ground about a mile south of Placer. The siding was named the Winston siding.

The original town plot of Winston was set in 1892. Around the end of 1894 or the beginning of 1895, Winston became the community center of the area and the town of Placer moved to the Winston community.

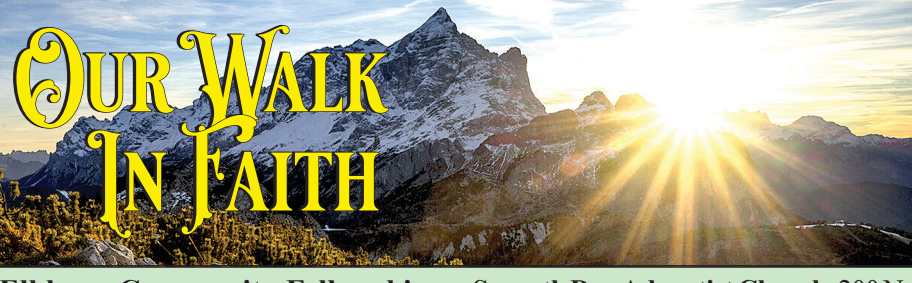
Winston's best days were between 1896 and 1910. The town grew rapidly. At one time it hosted several saloons, five general merchandise stores, two doctors, several hotels and also had a newspaper, The Winston Prospector.

The Durnen Hotel in Winston had a dining hall that fed up to two hundred people at one time.

The town even had three "hurdy gurdy houses" run by local madams.

But as with so many mining towns in Broadwater County, the mines played out, the price of minerals fluctuated and the towns' populations waned. Like Diamond City and Hassel, the population of the town of Winston slowly dwindled to very few people.

This article is based on information from the "Broadwater Bygones" available at the Broadwater County Museum.



OUR WALK IN FAITH

Elkhorn Community Fellowship, 126 N Cedar St. Townsend. Services: Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Eric Crusch, 949-0183.

Faith Baptist Church, 5 Jack Farm Rd. Townsend. Services: Sunday, Prayer time, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Morning Service, 11:00 a.m. Wednesday: Evening Service, 6:00 p.m., Bible time & prayer, 7:00 p.m. Pastor Mike Wenzel, 266-4219.

Holy Cross Catholic Church, 101 S. Walnut St. Townsend. Mass: Wednesday, 9:00 a.m., Thursday, 9:00 a.m., Saturday, 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Adoration: Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. Reconciliation: Saturday, 5:15-5:45 p.m. or by appt. Rel. Ed. classes: Pre-K-5th Grade, Wednesday, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Middle & High School grades, Wednesday, 6:15-8:30 p.m. Adult classes, Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Father Cody Williams, 266-4811 or office@holycrossmt.org.

Mountain Valley Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (CMA), 110 E Street Townsend. Services: Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Kids ministry during Sunday services. Life groups meet during the week. Pastor Eric Krueger, 465-5895. MountainValleyChurch.org. We stream our services on Facebook: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406. (Was Alliance Bible Church.)

Radersburg Baptist Church, 7 Main St. Radersburg. Services: Sunday: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Worship, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Richard Summerlin, 410-0458.

Seventh Day Adventist Church, 200 N. Cedar St. Townsend. Services: Saturday, 9:30 a.m., Bible study, 10:30 a.m. Pastor John Witcombe, 594-1710 or 431-2810.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church ELCA Synod, 301 N. Cherry St. Townsend. Services: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Women of the ELCA meet second Tuesday every month at 6:00 PM. Bible Studies meet weekly. Call Pastor Anna Viehland for more information, at 406-272-2352.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 916 Broadway St. Townsend. Choir Practice, Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Services: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Christian education, Sunday, 10:40 a.m. Youth activities Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Family History Center, Tuesday, 6:00-9:00 p.m. or by appt. (Director Rebecca Mitchell, 980-0270). Bishop Matt Graham, 266-4255.

Townsend United Methodist Church, 200 N. Cedar St. Townsend. Services: Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Pastor Daniel Viehland, 266-3390. TownsendUMC.org.

Trailhead Christian Fellowship, 20 Trailhead View Dr. Townsend (5 mi. north of Townsend). Sunday School and Christian Education, Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Services Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Middle School youth group, Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Pastor Mark Roelofs, 266-4406 or info@trailheadchristianchurch.com, www.TrailheadChristianChurch.com.



NEWS FROM THE CANTON CHURCH

Vic Sample

If you have attended any of this summer's Canton Church events you undoubtedly noticed that the Church is looking much brighter and there is a pile of construction materials behind the Church.

The Canton Church was built in 1875/1876 by 90 volunteers and paid for by donations from the local community. Many of the early settlers in the Canton Valley along the Missouri River came from the Canton, New York area. They brought the style of the church with them. I was recently interviewed by a reporter from Canton, New York who found our website and was struck by the similarity of our Canton Church to a historic church outside Canton, New York.

The Church has been painted many times over the last 146 years with the last exterior painting in 2015. The Church was showing the effects of the harsh winds, winter cold and summer heat. It needed repainting.

The roof of the historic building has been replaced multiple times using the traditional cedar shakes. This time Canton Church Restoration, Inc. decided it was time the grand old building upgraded to modern technology. Instead of replacing the roof with cedar shakes, we are putting on a metal roof that will last much longer and provide more protection for the building.

Our summer schedule of events continues with John Larsen, Family and Friends performing at the Canton Church on Friday, July, 29. John Larsen, his daughter Laura Stevenson and Sam Goode have performed at many local functions. This will be their 3rd time at the Canton Church.

The Canton Church events start at 5:00 pm and run for 60-75 minutes. The events are always free. The Canton Church is always open to everyone.

See our ad in this paper for the full summer schedule.



Sudoku

Fill in the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 9 by 9 box contains all of the numbers 1 to 9.

Difficulty: Normal

		9		1		4	5	3
5							6	
6			4	5				1
3			5		4	8		
		7	2	9				
9	6		3	8	7		2	1
1			8		6			
4	2	6	7					
								6

Difficulty: Medium

	2	8	4					
		6						1
			8		6			5
	6		1					
8			6					
					9		2	6
6	8		5		1			
	7	5			4	6	8	
1	9			6		4		

Clue: MT Counties

Words run in all directions: forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally. Number of words: 28.

J	F	B	D	N	E	K	D	A	W	S	O	N	P	R
N	E	N	R	K	H	E	M	G	G	N	L	A	S	E
L	R	N	A	O	N	J	A	L	R	N	R	L	C	I
B	G	L	N	O	A	L	T	O	L	K	E	V	A	C
R	U	U	C	O	L	D	H	R	H	I	W	A	R	A
D	S	C	A	A	S	G	W	F	N	B	H	L	B	L
A	M	B	T	E	I	I	R	A	A	K	K	L	O	G
E	F	I	F	B	T	E	D	A	T	L	L	E	N	T
H	N	L	L	X	W	U	L	A	N	E	L	Y	H	C
R	B	L	A	I	N	E	O	O	M	I	R	O	A	R
E	N	E	T	M	Q	H	L	H	O	B	T	R	N	E
V	N	W	H	N	O	T	E	T	C	T	T	E	Q	T
A	J	O	E	G	D	O	L	R	E	E	D	T	L	S
E	M	P	A	H	M	I	N	E	R	A	L	C	B	U
B	N	T	D	T	E	D	A	C	S	A	C	J	K	C

Which state has the densest population in the US?

Answer on Page 10



Cryptogram

Decipher this simple substitution cypher to reveal a pearl of wisdom!

Hint: Z = R

FEV KRF PH FEVZV

XEVG AMW KRBB EVZ

- PJ HEV SMVHG'F

ERUV HMYVFEPGN

LVFFVZ FM SM.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16					
17					18					19					
20				21				22	23						
			24					25					29	30	31
			26	27				28							
32							33			34		35			
36							37			38	39				
40					41	42				43					
44					45					46					
			47	48						49					
50	51	52						53				54	55	56	
57							58	59				60			
61							62					63			
64							65							66	

ACROSS

- 1 Middle East dweller
- 5 Flightless birds
- 9 Rock concert venue
- 14 Affliction
- 15 Business note
- 16 Grandma, often
- 17 Ill __
- 18 Kind of history
- 19 Suspect
- 20 Edited
- 22 Satires
- 24 Miner's goal
- 25 Pine tree product
- 26 Hazes
- 28 Rio de Janeiro
- 29 Short-term memory
- 32 Religious teacher
- 33 "The meek shall inherit the Earth, but not its mineral rights" speaker
- 35 Date
- 36 Composure
- 37 Card game
- 38 Rewrites
- 40 Gray sea eagle
- 41 More balanced

- 43 Begets
- 44 First name in horror
- 45 West northwest
- 46 Sacred song
- 47 Sailors "hey"
- 49 Tear
- 50 215/75R14s
- 53 Can be cured
- 57 Means to __
- 58 "East of Eden" brother
- 60 Caulk
- 61 Indian
- 62 Manage
- 63 Canoe propellers
- 64 Smallest amount
- 65 Lock partners
- 66 Unclothed

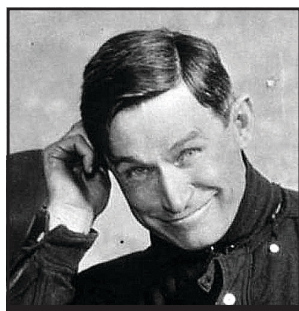
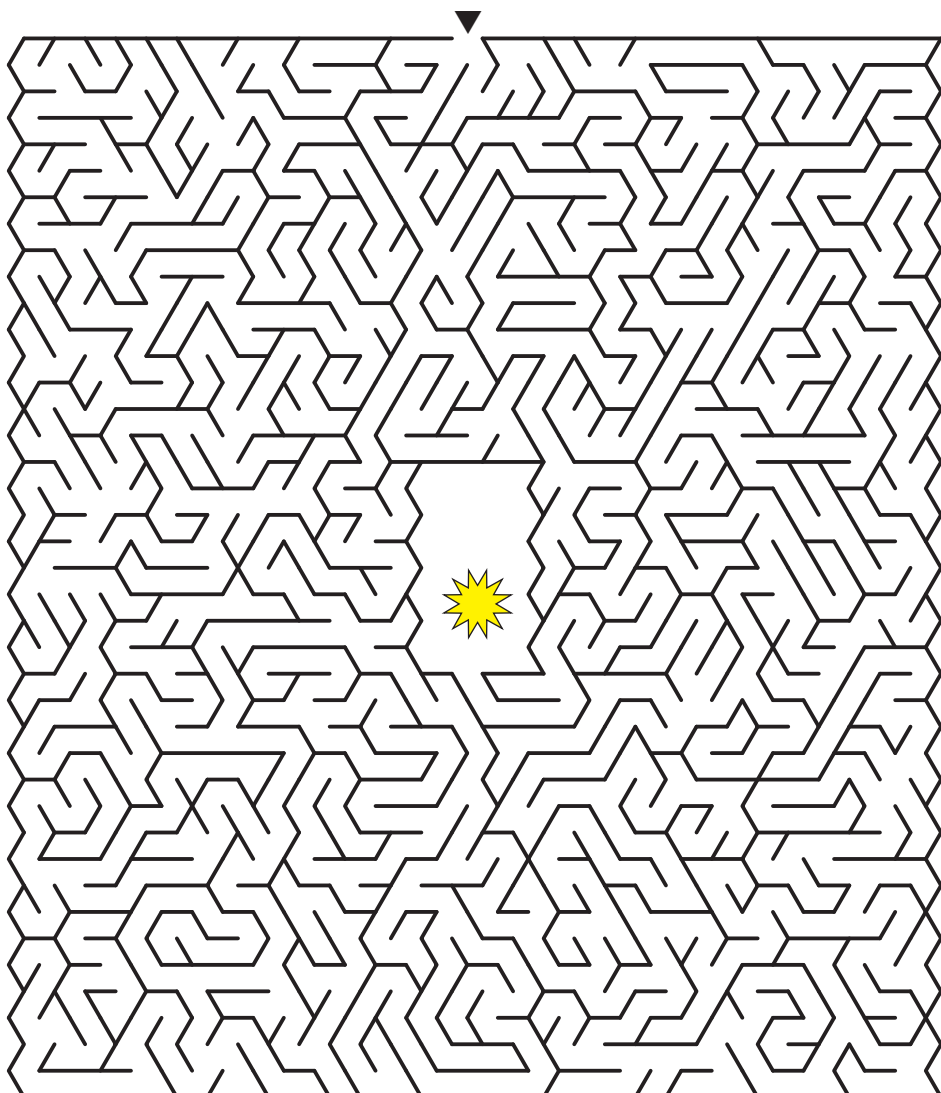
- 12 Northeast by east
- 13 Fine subject?
- 21 Parties where people can't control themselves
- 23 Plant part
- 26 Used bad language
- 27 Big water pipes
- 28 Grant an extension
- 29 Eddy
- 30 Indian tribe emblem
- 31 Green seedless plant
- 32 Gush
- 33 Military bag
- 34 Boot camp affirmative
- 39 Swelling burst of harmony
- 42 Off base, like a bad soldier
- 46 Crops
- 47 Indigenous race of Japan.
- 48 "In case you ___ noticed..."
- 50 Track.
- 51 Green Gables dweller
- 52 __ vu
- 53 Mimic
- 54 Boyfriend
- 55 Animal oil
- 56 Otherwise
- 59 Fish eggs

DOWN

- 1 Abbreviate (abbr.)
- 2 Uncommon
- 3 Afresh
- 4 Sleeping areas
- 5 Declaims
- 6 Bare
- 7 Goddess Devi personified as "Light."
- 8 Salesman
- 9 Append (2 wds.)
- 10 TV exec Arledge
- 11 Decorative needle case

Weekly Maze

Start at the top and find your way to the center of this challenging maze!



Will Rogers

Thank God we don't get all the government we pay for.



Mae West

I'm no model lady. A model's just an imitation of the real thing.

ALWAYS REMEMBER, A CAT LOOKS DOWN ON MAN, A DOG LOOKS UP TO MAN, BUT A PIG WILL LOOK MAN RIGHT IN THE EYE AND SEE HIS EQUAL.

Mensa Madness

Mensa gives these questions as sample questions. They are similar to those administered on the Mensa Admission Test. It was developed by Abbie F. Salny. Answers on page 11.

Question 1

What is the 4-digit number in which the first digit is one-fifth the last, and the second and third digits are the last digit multiplied by 3? (Hint: The sum of all digits is 12.)

Question 2

Jane went to visit Jill. Jill is Jane's only husband's mother-in-law's only husband's only daughter's only daughter. What relation is Jill to Jane?

Question 3

Which of the words below is least like the others? The difference has nothing to do with vowels, consonants or syllables: MORE, PAIRS, ETCHERS, ZIPPER

Question 4

Tabitha likes cookies but not cake. She likes mutton but not lamb, and she likes okra but not squash. Following the same rule, will she like cherries or pears?

Question 5

What is the number that is one more than one-tenth of one-fifth of one-half of 4,000?

Question 6

In a foot race, Jerry was neither first nor last. Janet beat Jerry, Jerry beat Pat. Charlie was neither first nor last. Charlie beat Rachel. Pat beat Charlie. Who came in last?

Question 7

Find the number that best completes the following sequence: 1 2 4 7 11 ? 22

Question 8

Marian bought 4 oranges and 3 lemons for 90 cents. The next day she bought 3 oranges and 4 lemons for 85 cents. How much did each lemon and orange cost?

Question 9

Start with the number of total mittens the numbered kittens lost, and multiply by the voting age in the U.S. What's the answer?

Question 10

There is at least one nine-letter word that contains only one vowel. Do you know what it is?



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSING ON HEADWATERS REST AREA

Construction is moving forward on the Montana Department of Transportation's Headwaters Rest Area near the I 90/US 287 interchange. To serve the needs of the traveling public's safety, this new rest area will include many modern design and safety improvements including open sight lines for patrolling, security cameras, and LED lighting throughout the interior and exterior areas. An additional feature of the new facility will be a Law Enforcement Office that will be available for use by the Broadwater County Sheriff, Montana Highway Patrol, and MDT Motor Carrier Services.

Over the next couple of months, the interior details will be finished, the road and parking lot will be paved, and landscaping will be installed. Work to add a turning lane to US 287 will begin in late July. Some brief delays to the traveling public may occur. Please drive carefully through the work zone.

The new rest area is being constructed by the Montana Rest Area JV Partners (a C.A. Rickert and Associates Inc./Diamond Construction Joint Venture) team and will ultimately replace the dated and undersized rest area located at the 19th Avenue interchange in Bozeman. The transition to the new rest area is anticipated to begin in fall of 2022, following construction and utility system connections.

100 Deadliest Days: A Reminder Stay Safe and Vigilant in Your Summer Travels

For many Montanans, Memorial Day weekend kicks off the start of summer travel, culminating with Labor Day weekend. Unfortunately, these summer months can also be some of the deadliest on Montana's roads due to increased motor vehicle crashes. This period is known nationally as the "100 Deadliest Days of Summer," and has historically represented an increase in crashes and crash fatalities on our roadways due to greater traffic volumes and clear travel conditions that lower drivers' guards.

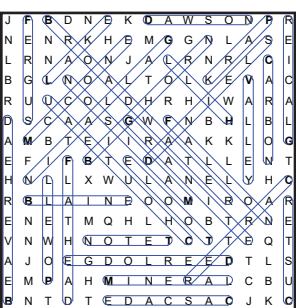
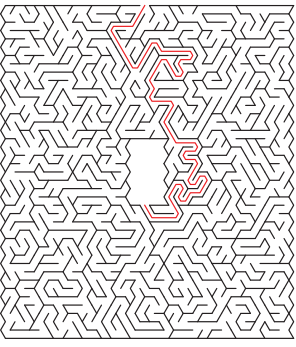
Before you make plans to travel this summer, commit to safe, lawful behavior and remain vigilant in sharing Montana's roadways with all system users. Never operate a motor vehicle while impaired. If you're driving a vehicle, buckle up before you go and insist your friends and family do the same. Using your seat belt is your best defense against serious injury or death in the event you're in a crash. This is

a Vision Zero Message from the Montana Department of Transportation. Learn more about the goal of Vision Zero here: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/>

More information about the project can be found at the project website: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/headwatersrestarea>. Comments, questions or concerns can be directed to headwatersra@dowl.com or by calling (406) 551-1473.

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone 406-444-5416 or Montana Relay Service at 711.

Vision Zero – working towards zero fatalities and zero injuries on Montana roads.



Normal

2	7	9	6	1	8	4	5	3
5	4	1	9	7	3	2	6	8
6	3	8	4	5	2	7	1	9
3	1	2	5	6	4	8	9	7
8	5	7	2	9	1	6	3	4
9	6	4	3	8	7	5	2	1
1	9	5	8	4	6	3	7	2
4	2	6	7	3	9	1	8	5
7	8	3	1	2	5	9	4	6

Medium

5	2	8	4	1	3	7	6	9
3	4	6	7	9	5	2	1	8
9	1	7	8	2	6	3	5	4
4	6	2	1	8	7	5	9	3
8	3	9	6	5	2	1	4	7
7	5	1	3	4	9	8	2	6
6	8	4	5	7	1	9	3	2
2	7	5	9	3	4	6	8	1
1	9	3	2	6	8	4	7	5

MONTANA HEMP GROWERS AWARDED \$65 MILLION FOR 'DECEPTIVE' DEAL

Amanda Eggert
Montana Free Press



Hemp, a crop that largely flew under the radar in Montana when it was planted under a pilot program three years ago, is now central to one of the largest civil awards in the state's history. A jury in Wolf Point last month awarded 25 eastern Montana farmers \$65 million in compensatory and punitive damages, finding that a handful of Canadian and American businessmen had committed negligence, fraud and deceit in failing to fulfill contracts, leaving the crops unpaid for and languishing in fields. The award brings into focus the volatility associated with the emerging market for CBD, a compound in the cannabis plant that's created a global market worth between \$1 and \$2 billion annually.

In 2018, hemp production in Montana was booming. As federal regulations around growing hemp loosened, dozens of Montana farmers saw an opportunity to diversify their operations with a crop that farmers in Canadian provinces to the north had grown successfully for decades. Montana farmers planted 22,000 acres of hemp in 2018, more than any other state at that time. But most of it was never used.

The vast majority of those acres were grown for a company called USA Biofuels, which entered into contracts with more than two dozen farms in northeastern Montana for 20,000 acres of hemp. Per those contracts, the farmers would be provided seed and paid \$100 per acre at the time of planting. Come harvest, they would be paid another \$400 per acre of hemp grown on dryland, and \$600 per irrigated acre. The farmers liked the certainty presented by this arrangement. It would make them less beholden to the wild swings of

the commodities market for crops like wheat, which was doing so poorly at the time it was hardly worth selling.

Early on, there were indications USA Biofuels wouldn't keep up its end of the deal. The company was late delivering the seed and issuing the initial payment. The farmers were repeatedly told the promised \$100 per planted acre was coming soon. Then, six weeks later than expected, they received their initial payment — but not from USA Biofuels. Vitality Natural Health, LLC, a Canadian company, issued the payment instead. Montana farmers wouldn't see another check from either company.

Despite swathing and baling the product as directed, the farmers didn't receive the rest of the money promised to them by the contract. But USA Biofuels wouldn't let them sell it elsewhere, either, threatening legal action if the farmers tried.

Ross Johnson, a Great Falls attorney who represented 25 plaintiffs in a lawsuit against the AWOL purchasers and their Canadian and American executives, said USA Biofuels was a shell company without assets or a bank account, and that the businessmen involved in the deal were hoping to cash in on America's emerging market for CBD by securing a large supply of hemp and building out processing and distribution capabilities before taking the business public.

Some of the defendants named in the lawsuit stood to make hundreds of millions of dollars if the venture resulted in a successful IPO, Johnson said, but "the whole house of cards would have tumbled right off the bat if they let the farmers sell their crop [to someone else]."

So the crop sat, Johnson said, turning into a "rotting pile of biomass" that months earlier Vitality had valued at between \$350-\$400 million when applying for a commodity dealers license from the Montana Department of Agriculture. (Based on concerns about Vitality's ability to meet its contractual obligations, the department issued the company a conditional commodities license, which it didn't renew.) Though at least one of the farmers was able to secure another buyer for the product long after it was harvested — it was used in a kitty litter product — nearly three years on, many of the hemp bales grown for USA Biofuels are still in the fields where they were grown.

Beau Anderson, who farms in Bainville and just across the border in Williston, North Dakota, said the hemp he grew, more than 500 acres worth, is still sitting on his farm. Occasionally he checks on the hemp bales to see how they're holding up, hoping they're still a viable product. He said he grew the hemp to supplement his other crops, including wheat, lentils, chickpeas, canola, corn and barley, because it "was something new, something exciting and something that was [supposed] to be profitable."

It didn't turn out that way. The three-year ordeal has generated "a lot of personal anguish," he said, and eaten up a significant amount of his time. Anderson said he's been especially frustrated with the defendants' poor business ethics, given that he was a point person who got many of his neighbors involved.

For a time, Anderson kept tabs on the various businesses involved. He heard about a Canadian company, Eureka 93, absorbing Vitality, which was the company the Montana Department of Agriculture worked with most closely on the commodities license. He read about Eureka 93's IPO on the Canadian stock exchange, an effort that faltered shortly thereafter when the shares started crashing and the Ontario Securities Commission halted trading in September 2019. Anderson also read about the reshuffling of Eureka 93's executive team, which included the resignation of founding CEO Owen Kenney, one of the defendants named in the lawsuit.

"They're done," Anderson said. "As far as I know, the big company that was in Canada [Eureka 93] is bankrupt."

The attorney representing the defendants did not respond to requests for an interview for this story. An email sent to an address associated with Eureka 93 was returned as undeliverable, and calls to numbers associated with several of the companies named in the lawsuit and their key executives were not returned.

Anderson said he's hopeful the lawsuit's outcome sends a message that "you don't roll in and try to dupe a bunch of farmers [to grow] what could be a worthwhile commodity for the region without any money," but he knows there's still another hill to climb: collecting the money the jury awarded. He said he doesn't expect that any of the farmers will become millionaires out of the deal, but he'll be pleased if they're able to collect even 10% of what the jury awarded the 25 plaintiffs.

Given the number the jurors landed on after deliberating for 3 and a half hours following the five-day trial that concluded June 25, Johnson said they appear to have been similarly troubled by the defendants' actions, awarding the plaintiffs \$65 million to be paid by the various defendant businesses and individuals. Most of the award, \$56 million, is for punitive damages, which are intended to penalize bad actors and discourage similar behavior in the future. The award is significantly more than the \$1 million in punitive damages per defendant that Johnson asked for.

PARENTING: DON'T THINK. IT CAN ONLY HURT THE BALL CLUB

Humor by Mark Bazer

Like much of the Western world last week, I read Amy Chua's "Why Chinese Mothers Are Superior" and immediately wanted to call my very American mom and thank her. But I'd promised my 5-year-old son we'd have a "Scooby-Doo" marathon and from there the day just kind of got away from me.

Over the next few days, I found myself glued to my computer screen, shirking all parenting duties, as I read every rebuttal to Chua's article I could with the kind of discipline that would put even Chua's daughters' practicing of the violin to shame.

But the more I read "Western" parents defending their parenting methods and tearing into Chua's with an anger usually reserved for lead-paint-filled toys made in, well, China, the more disturbed I got by them, too.

Since when does everyone — Chinese, Western or otherwise — have to espouse or follow a parenting philosophy?

Can't you just be kind and encouraging with your kid, discipline him when required and heat up the chicken nuggets at the appropriate time?

OK, being a parent requires more than that, particularly if your child vomits a lot. And I guess now I may be guilty too of wading into the Important Thoughts on Parenting waters. But at least my thoughts are: STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.

From the moment our children are born, we're expected to have several parenting guides on our night tables and bookmarked websites.

And other than these books' unfortunate habit of making you feel that your kid is the last one in his age group to roll over (as if rolling over is a skill that will ever come in handy for him at home, in the workplace, etc.), these guides are probably a good thing.

Most of us are so far removed from our instinctual animal selves that we don't feel comfortable burping our baby without getting confirmation from either a licensed doctor or some mom who burped her kid in 2003 and felt the need to share it on a comment board.

But once you're confident that you're capable of keeping safe a tiny human being who requires only food, love and, currently, a Nintendo DS, it's best to put down the reading material, turn off the "Will this make my child happy and/or successful?" question-asking part of your brain and just . . . be the best parent you can be.

As Kevin Costner tells Tim Robbins in *Bull Durham*, "You just got lesson number one: Don't think. It can only hurt the ball club."

Your family is your ball club. One of the main questions that Chua's article and some subsequent rebuttals raised was what parenting style produces "better" adults—you know, the kind of people who are happy and high-achieving and, um, don't write articles insulting millions of other people's parenting styles, etc.

The answer should be: Who cares?

While everyone knows there are no guarantees when it comes to raising children, chances are that if you're a decent, hardworking, only slightly overweight person, your kid will someday be one, too. That goes for Western parents and Chua's version of Chinese parents, too.

So, unless the last thing you want is for your child to be like you, go grab a moderately healthy snack from the pantry, cuddle up with your kid and let Shaggy and Scooby help you impart some solid life lessons.

And then afterward ground him for getting crumbs on the couch.

Broadwater Classifieds: 25¢/word, 25 word minimum

HELP WANTED

Townsend School District is soliciting bids for student transportation bus contracting services for routes serving students residing within the Townsend School District. The specific routes shall be confirmed by the Board of Trustees after the award of the contract. Bid information packets can be obtained at the administrative office for the Townsend School District, 201 N. Spruce, Townsend, MT 59644, or by calling Susie Hedalen at 406-465-3531. Completed bid

packets must be received by the District no later than **2:30 PM on August 16th, 2022.** All proposals must be plainly marked "Student Transportation Bus Contracting Proposal," and no faxed or e-mailed proposals will be accepted. Proposals received after this date and time will not be considered. The bid opening date is **2:30 PM on August 16th, 2022** at Townsend Schools District Office located at 201 N. Spruce, Townsend, MT 59644. The contract shall be awarded to the lowest

responsible bidder. This request for bid responses does not commit the Board of Trustees for Townsend School District to enter into any agreement, or to pay any expenses incurred in the preparation of any response to this request, or to ultimately procure any contract for the provision of these services. The Board of Trustees expressly reserves the right to waive any formalities and to reject any or all proposals.

Are you a passionate Bulldogs fan? MT 43 News is seeking a freelance reporter for Bulldog sporting events. Send your interest to corporate@MT43News.com.

HEMP, from page 10

"[The defendants] were gambling with the farmers' livelihood, their land and their labor, for the shot that they might hit a big IPO. And when it went south, they just tried to ride off into the sunset with the hope that nothing would happen to them, but the jury in Wolf Point didn't want that to happen," Johnson said.

Johnson added that, to his knowledge, the judgment is the second-largest jury award ever granted for a civil trial in Montana. (In 2014, a jury awarded nearly \$250 million to the families of two teens killed in a car crash involving a Hyundai sports coupe.)

Johnson doesn't normally practice this type of law — he primarily works in personal injury law — but said he felt compelled to get involved when he heard about the farmers' plight in 2019 from personal connections in the agriculture industry.

"I grew up farming and ranching in north-central Montana, and I cannot tell you how unnerving it is just to imagine that people would consider being this deceptive and fraudulent when doing business with others," he said. "I had a soft spot for the farmers."

GROWING, PROCESSING AND SELLING HEMP

Though the business side of the undertaking left a sour taste in the mouths of the farmers involved, Anderson said the crop actually grew pretty well. It tolerated eastern Montana's temperamental weather and grew several feet high. He produced between 1,000 and 3,000 pounds of hemp biomass (including the plant's stem, seed head and flower) per acre.

Had the deal progressed as planned, the hemp would have been processed for CBD, or cannabidiol, which is a key ingredient in products marketed to treat a number of health conditions ranging from epilepsy and anxiety to pain and insomnia. (Hemp and marijuana are both types of the cannabis sativa plant, but marijuana has a much higher concentration of the psychoactive compound Tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, than hemp. The Montana Department of Agriculture oversees the production of hemp, which is mandated to contain less than 0.3% total THC. Production of the recently voter-approved adult-use marijuana, which typically has a THC concentration ranging from 15 to 25%, will be overseen by the state Department of Revenue, said Andy Gray, the Montana agriculture department's hemp program coordinator.)

Gray said some varieties of hemp are very well suited to Montana's climate, particularly hemp that's grown for fiber or grain. Varieties grown for CBD are a bit more finicky, he said, and tend to grow better indoors than outside, where they're subject to the elements.

Gray said the potential applications of hemp are vast. "It can be used for everything and anything from car doors to speakers to clothing to bioplastic," he said. Varieties grown for grain find their way into protein powders, granola bars and milk substitutes.

Gray said hemp grown for CBD became ensnared in a "get rich quick" rush that has since started to level

out, both statewide and nationally.

Markets factored heavily into the arguments posed by the defendants in their trial brief. Mark Parker, a Billings-based attorney for several of the defendants, argued that the businessmen's dealings weren't representative of fraudulent or deceptive business practices so much as a reflection of the boom-and-bust economic cycles that have been associated with everything from the fur trade and copper mining to oil extraction and heirloom grain varieties. The brief also hints that the plaintiffs' unfamiliarity with CBD oil production contributed to the outcome.

"Without a doubt, most of [the farmers] signed contracts for money," the brief reads. "When it came time to go back into the market and sell the commodity, the market had so profoundly collapsed, there was no money to honor the commitments. Thus, about everyone began blaming each other for the collapse, but the cause is clear — it is part of the human condition."

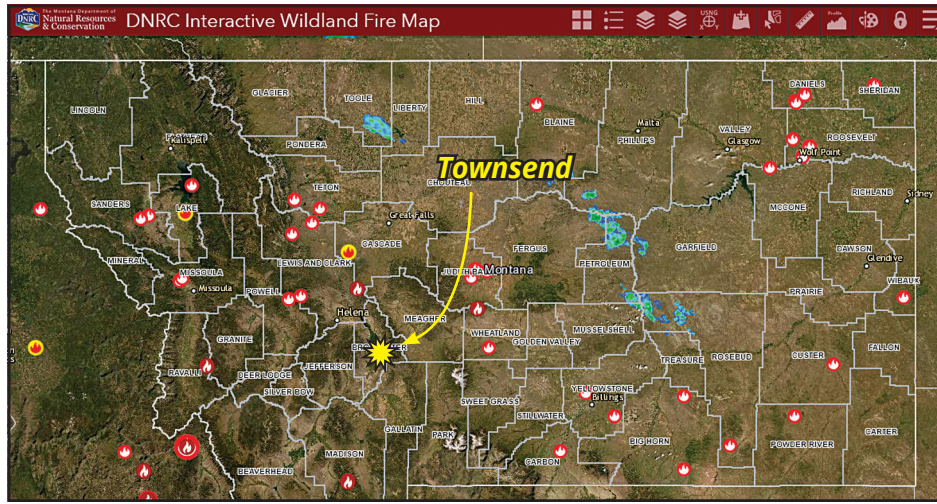
That argument doesn't hold much water with Johnson, who laughed when asked if he thinks there's merit to it. "That's why the farmers entered into the contract in the first place, so they wouldn't have to endure boom and bust cycles," he said. "It was a set price for them."

By the time the eastern Montana farmers were able to seek other buyers for their product without fear of legal retribution from USA Biofuels, it had been sitting out in the elements for several seasons, and supply was starting to catch up to demand.

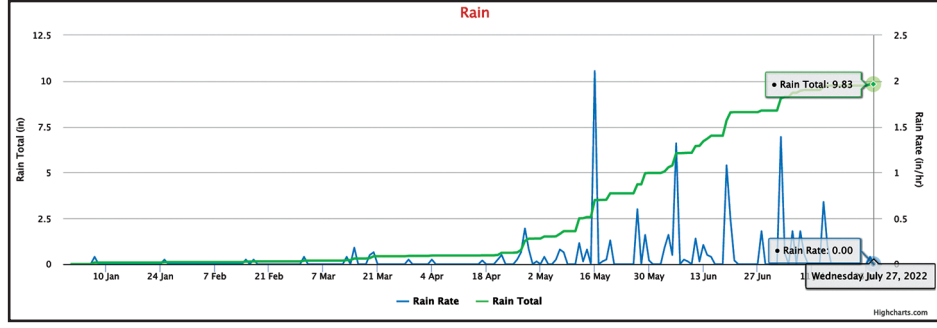
"Because of the 2018 farm bill [which clarified legal hemp production], national acres were way way up [in 2019], so there was a lot of hemp grown nationally," Gray said. "With all that supply, it kind of crashed the market on the CBD price of hemp." In 2019, about 60,000 acres of hemp were planted in Montana. By 2020, that number had dropped to close to 12,000 acres.

Montana has seen a flip-flop in the percentage of hemp grown for CBD as compared to hemp grown for grain or fiber in the last couple of years. Gray said that in 2018 and 2019, 80% to 90% of the hemp plants grown in Montana were CBD varieties, with the remainder being fiber or grain varieties. In 2020, 80% of Montana hemp was grown for grain or fiber, and 20% for CBD.

Gray said hemp production in Montana has seen plenty of fluctuations in the last three or four years, but he still thinks there's a path forward for farmers who want to grow the crop. "We see a future for hemp in Montana, primarily in the grain and fiber segment [of the market.]"



Fri 7/29	Sat 7/30	Sun 7/31	Mon 8/01	Tue 8/02
Mostly Clear	Clear	Clear	Mostly Clear	Partly Cloudy
93° 61°	94° 60°	92° 61°	94° 61°	90° 58°
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
6 19 mph	6 25 mph	6 21 mph	6 27 mph	6 28 mph



FISHING RESTRICTIONS ENACTED FOR SEVERAL SOUTHWEST-MONTANA RIVERS DUE TO HIGH TEMPS

BOZEMAN – Daily "hoot-owl" fishing restrictions are being implemented for the East Gallatin, Jefferson and lower Big Hole rivers to reduce fish stress and mortality during high water temperatures. The restrictions will begin at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 27.



Hoot-owl fishing restrictions prohibit fishing each day between 2 p.m. and midnight. This applies to:

- The East Gallatin River from the confluence with the West Gallatin River at Nixon Bridge upstream to Penwell Bridge Road
- The entire Jefferson River
- The lower Big Hole River from the confluence with the Beaverhead River upstream to Tony Schoonen Fishing Access Site

Water temperatures in these areas have exceeded 73 degrees for three consecutive days, meeting criteria for the restrictions. The restrictions will remain in place until water temperatures allow for lifting the restrictions or until Sept. 15.

Fishing restrictions, such as hoot-owl restrictions and full closures, are designed to protect fish that become more susceptible to disease and mortality when conditions, such as low flows and high water temperatures, combine with other stressors, including catch-and-release fishing. Restrictions may be put in place for other waterbodies as warm temperatures continue in the coming weeks. Anglers can find a statewide list of current restrictions at fwp.mt.gov/news/current-closures-restrictions.

All stress to fish at this time of year is cumulative, and anglers should consider fishing in cooler waters during times of low flows and high water temperatures in rivers. Anglers can help reduce stress for fish by following these practices when catching and releasing fish, though fish mortality may still occur:

- Fish during the coolest times of day, where permitted.
- Land the fish quickly.
- Wet your hands before handling the fish.
- Keep the fish in water as much as possible.
- Remove the hook gently. Using artificial lures with single and barbless hooks can make hook removal faster and easier.
- If the fish is hooked deeply, you may have to cut the line at the fish's mouth or consider keeping it if regulations allow.
- Let the fish recover before releasing it.



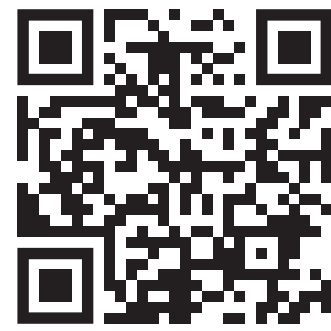
THESE ARE THE ANSWERS TO THE TEST MENSA QUIZ DEVELOPED BY ABBIE F. SALNY. INTO THE NAMES OF CITIES: ANSWER 7: 16 (EACH NUMBER ADDS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 AND 6, RESPECTIVELY, TO THE PROCEEDING NUMBER.) ANSWER 4: CHERRIES (TABITHA ONLY LIKES FOOD WITH TWO SYLLABLES.) ANSWER 2: JANE'S DAUGHTER (JANE'S MOTHER'S HUSBAND IS JANE'S FATHER, AND HIS DAUGHTER IS JANE, AND JILL IS HER DAUGHTER.) ANSWER 5: 41 (4000 / 2 = 2000, / 5 = 400, / 10 = 40, + 1 = 41) ANSWER 9: 216 (3 KITTENS @ MUST HAVE HAD A BAD DAY.) ANSWER 6: RACHEL (4 MITTENS EACH = 12 X 18. KITTENS HAVE 4 PAWS.) ANSWER 10: STRENGTHS ANSWER 8: ORANGES COST 15 CENTS EACH; LEMONS COST 10 CENTS EACH. ANSWER 3: ZIPPER (THE OTHERS CAN BE ANAGRAMMED INTO THE NAMES OF CITIES.) ANSWER 1: 1155 ANSWER 1: 1155 ANSWER 10: STRENGTHS ANSWER 10: STRENGTHS

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BILLINGS CLINIC BROADWATER EXPANSION UPDATE

Townsend, MT—Billings Clinic Broadwater is excited to announce the opening of its new clinic and rehabilitation space.

The expanded Emergency Room is nearing completion. Last summer the hospital also remodeled four inpatient rooms to help improve the healing environment and patient experience.

The new clinic space provides nine exam rooms to allow for additional providers and outreach services. The rehabilitation department is now located above the clinic and has over 2,000 square feet of space to service the physical, occupational and speech therapy needs of patients in Broadwater County. The clinic and rehabilitation areas are both accessible from the new front entrance at the corner of Oak and 2nd Streets.

The expanded Emergency Room is slated to open in the next month. It includes 3 new private ER bays, as well as a new ER entrance, reception and waiting area.



This expansion will bring Broadwater’s total ER capacity to 5 beds, providing greater capacity for patients to be seen here in Townsend instead of traveling elsewhere for 24/7 emergency care.

Billings Clinic Broadwater continues to serve the community by providing primary care, diagnostic imaging services including 64 slice CT, laboratory, acute, skilled nursing and transitional care.

Billings Clinic Broadwater also provides specialty care with cardiology, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, and Podiatry through onsite outreach and psychiatry services via telehealth.

To schedule an appointment or for more information please call 406-266-3186.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR ADAM MEIER WILL LEAVE HIS POST IN AUGUST

Mara Silvers
Montana Free Press



Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Director Adam Meier will leave his position in August, Gov. Greg Gianforte’s office said Thursday. He will be replaced by Charlie Brereton, the governor’s former top health adviser, who has been serving as the health agency’s chief of staff since December.

Meier’s exit is being attributed to “an ongoing family health issue,” according to the press release sent by the governor’s press secretary, Brooke Stroyke, Thursday morning.

“Adam’s expertise, leadership, and heart for public service have been outstanding assets to our administration and the people of Montana,” Gianforte said in the prepared statement. “Under Adam’s leadership, DPHHS has closed critical gaps in treatment for Montanans struggling with addiction, reorganized itself to better serve the people of Montana, and promoted the role of parents as the ultimate decisionmakers on matters pertaining to the health of their children — all while leading the state’s response to a global pandemic. I appreciate his many contributions and innovative ideas.”

Stroyke directed further questions about Meier’s family health issues to the health department’s spokesman, Jon Ebelt. Ebelt did not immediately respond to emailed questions Thursday morning.

Meier, who relocated to Montana from Kentucky to head the state’s largest agency in February of 2021, has also faced challenges at the health department, including the loss of federal funding for the state’s public psychiatric hospital in Warm Springs as a result of safety issues identified by inspectors with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid.

Brereton joined the Gianforte administration in

January 2021, where he helped steer the governor’s health and human services priorities through last year’s legislative session. After Brereton transitioned to his role as chief of staff, Ebelt told Montana Free Press in an April email that he had been picked following “a competitive hiring process.”

At the time, Ebelt said Brereton’s role included supervising “new and existing external affairs personnel and provid[ing] policy, operations, and management support to the Department alongside the Director.”

“As part of the position’s external affairs component, Charlie continues to serve as both the liaison to the Governor’s Office for DPHHS and lead for the Governor on health and human services policy,” Ebelt said in the April email.

Announcing Brereton as Meier’s successor, Gianforte touted his track record within the administration and the health agency.

“Adam’s right hand and my trusted health policy advisor in the governor’s office for the last 18 months, Charlie will make an exceptional director of our state’s largest agency,” Gianforte said. “Charlie has a knack for leadership and a superior ability to develop relationships, building consensus on complex issues. I look forward to continuing to benefit from his expertise, counsel, and hard work in this new role.”

Brereton expressed excitement about his new role in the release from the governor’s office.

“It’s an honor to serve the people of Montana as director of DPHHS and build upon the progress we’ve made to efficiently and effectively serve Montanans, expand their access to high-quality, affordable health care, and promote their health, well-being, self-reliance, and freedoms,” Brereton said. “Our work has only begun, and I look forward to driving the administration’s health and human services objectives alongside our dedicated team at the department.”

Prior to joining the administration, Brereton served as a part of a health policy team for Tennessee’s Republican Sen. Lamar Alexander. Brereton also worked as a public policy adviser for the global law firm Squire Patton Boggs LLP.

The leadership handover is set to take effect Aug. 12.

WITH AN EYE ON THE U.S. SUPREME COURT, MONTANA ABORTION CLINICS PREP FOR OUT-OF-STATE PATIENT SURGE

Mara Silvers
Montana Free Press

The last eight weeks have been an emotional rollercoaster for Nicole Smith, the executive director of one of Montana’s only independent abortion clinics.

When news broke in early May indicating the U.S. Supreme Court was prepared to roll back federal protections for abortion, Smith felt as if a longstanding prediction was coming true.

“Many of us have been trying to scream at the top of our lungs for years that things are not OK,” the leader of Blue Mountain Clinic in Missoula said during a recent phone interview. Reading the leaked draft opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito, she said, was “just a huge reawakening for everyone.”

As written, the opinion would overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling, the 1973 decision that has kept abortion legal in the United States despite decades of legal challenges from abortion opponents. As it began to circulate, some supporters of abortion access bluntly predicted widespread negative consequences for people who they say would essentially be forced to carry unwanted pregnancies to term. But as she watched the news unfold, Smith said, gloom didn’t have time to settle in.

The publication of the leaked draft happened to

coincide with Missoula Gives, an annual fundraising drive for nonprofits in Missoula and Ravalli counties. Smith said Blue Mountain Clinic received the most individual donations of any participating organization, raising more than \$60,000 from 350 people in just two days.

The windfall was more than three times what the clinic had hoped to raise, a sum Smith said “far exceeded our expectations.” The money will be used to upgrade security systems, retain and hire staff, and prepare for a possible influx of clients from across the country. Those expansions will buttress what Smith and other Montana abortion providers point to as their primary mission: keeping clinic doors open.

“The number one priority for us now is protecting abortion access in our state,” Smith said. “We are standing united. We are standing strong.”

Montana is one of a handful of non-coastal states that would maintain a constitutional right to abortion if Alito’s draft opinion becomes binding this month, putting pressure on abortion providers and clinics to prepare to care for patients from across the country.

The Montana Supreme Court decided in 1999 that abortion access is protected by the state’s Constitution. The unanimous opinion in *Armstrong v. State* means that access to abortion, like other medical choices, is considered an exercise of Montanans’ constitutional right to privacy.

The court’s decision has endured through multiple gubernatorial administrations, changes in political leadership in the Legislature, and a number of legal challenges. The most recent package of proposed

CNA CLASS AT BILLINGS CLINIC BROADWATER

We’re excited to offer another Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class at Billings Clinic Broadwater! The class will begin on Monday, August 22. This class is a two-week course running from 8:00 am -- 4:30 pm with a 30-minute lunch. The class will be held at Billings Clinic Broadwater in the community room located at 110 North Oak, Townsend, MT.

Applying for the course is required. The link can be found below.

After applying, selected nursing assistants (NAs) will go through the pre-employment process before being “hired” as temporary NAs. This position starts at \$15.00 per hour. You will then complete the CNA class.

After completing the CNA class, you may take the State Certification test to become Certified. Once certified, you have the option to transition into a full-time CNA role at Billings Clinic Broadwater and receive a \$2000 sign-on bonus that is paid out in increments of 3 years.

If interested, please apply online at <https://bit.ly/bcbena>. The application deadline is August 5, 2022.

Someday you will be old enough to start reading fairy tales again.
C.S. Lewis

abortion restrictions passed during the 2021 Legislature is still working its way through the state court system, with Planned Parenthood of Montana and the Montana attorney general’s office expected to remain locked in litigation for several months.

Even with Armstrong in place and restrictive legislation on hold, accessing an abortion in Montana is not always easy. There are just three organizations in the state dedicated to providing abortions at in-person locations — All Families Clinic in Whitefish, Blue Mountain Clinic in Missoula, and Planned Parenthood of Montana, which operates clinics in Great Falls, Helena and Billings. Other private practice doctors and certain clinicians may provide abortions, but often don’t advertise those services to avoid public blowback in a highly politicized environment.

Providers say the state’s patchwork system is still a more robust network than those in some nearby states. Montana’s operational clinics and legal landscape mean providers are expecting to see increased demand for services from out-of-state patients. The anticipated influx of patients, they say, may begin with residents of the states bordering Montana, all of which have “trigger laws” in place that would make abortion illegal if federal protections fall.

What are the only prime numbers that end in 2 and 5?
Answer on page 10