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Yesteryear: A Little Light, please —p.9

RY TIMBER CLOSES TOWNSEND OFFICE FOR LAST TIME

Nancy Marks

Bill Fredericks was manning the office at the RY Timber mill northeast of Townsend when I caught him Friday afternoon, Feb. 17. He was working at a computer and taking lots of phone calls, letting people who want firewood know that the gates would be closing shortly for the last time. Bill leaned back in his chair, and ran his fingers through his white hair, his voice wistful. “Thirty-one years and ten months I’ve worked here. I had so hoped we could at least sell firewood for a while longer,” he sighed.



After 31 years, Bill Fredericks was left to turn out the lights.

“The gates will close at 4:30 p.m., and no, we won’t be open again,” he told yet another caller.

Did I detect a tear?

Just several days earlier, management reported

that RY Timber had decided to permanently close its timber mill in Livingston as the result of the latest fire at that mill. The Livingston plant had been the source of firewood sold by RY’s Townsend plant which closed its milling operations back in 2020, at the cost of about 70 jobs.

And now, Bill Fredericks was left to turn out the lights.

Dan Richards, RY’s general manager in Livingston, said Friday in a telephone interview with MT43 News, “Management only learned about the Livingston closure on Tuesday. I have no idea what comes next for the mills. He would not speculate on what might happen to the 124-acre Townsend site and the equipment still there.

The Townsend mill was closed on January 6, 2020, after a fire destroyed much of the equipment. R-Y management also cited the loss of timber supply from the U. S. Forest Service logging projects due to ongoing litigation as another reason for the permanent closure. The Townsend RY workers, who lost their jobs, were given the choice of moving to Livingston to work at the RY mill there or finding another job.

The Townsend office continued selling firewood after the mill closure. On Friday, as Bill Fredericks prepared to shut the office down for the last time, several pickup trucks full of firewood were moving through the gate. “People cut their own

firewood from our pulp wood and log end piles. I don’t know what will become of all the firewood left on the premises,” he said.

The Livingston mill suffered two fires, one on Sept. 12, 2022, when the planer burned and then one in the early morning of Feb. 07, taking out the plant roof, according to Richards.

At the end of his Friday shift, Bill said he would head home to White Sulphur Springs.

Will he look for another job? “I’m 63 years old. I’m going to retire. And besides, my wife will be happy about me not putting all these miles on our truck,” he laughed.



RY Timber Offices

Bill said he was a stacker operator when the mill was working. He also put in military service totaling 30 years in the Army and Army National Guard.

EARLY SPRING
CLEARANCE

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TREE PLANTING AND UTILITY LINES

Patrick Plantenberg, Tree Board Chair

Note: This is the first in a series of articles to help prepare residents for any planned tree planting in their yards this coming year.

The Townsend Tree Board is proud to provide a series of articles on tree planting considerations for you before you plant this spring. A demonstration site on the northwest corner of D Street and South Walnut Street here in Townsend will be used. A former homeowner at the address went to a local nursery several years ago and purchased trees on sale at the end of the season to plant on private property in their yard under a powerline that runs along the alley on the west side of the property. The trees purchased included:



Notice the powerline in the upper left corner of the photo running through the trees along the alley

- Quaking aspen mature height 40-50 feet and width 20-30 feet
- Red maple cultivar mature height 40-50 feet and width 25-35 feet
- Lombardy poplars mature heights of up to 60 feet and widths up to 12 feet

The homeowner made at least four mistakes when purchasing and planting the trees:

- The homeowner didn’t realize how big the trees grew at maturity. Trees are so cute in the nursery and even professionals underestimate how big they will get. They were also planted too close to each other!
- The homeowner didn’t realize that aspens spread by underground stems. There are aspen shoots coming up in the yard and toward the alley.
- The homeowner didn’t look up! Every one of the trees would eventually have to be pruned to prevent a utility line conflict. Homeowners cannot stop utility line companies from pruning trees in conflict with a power line!
- The homeowner didn’t consider the setback needed to keep the trees from growing into the alley right-of-way. The typical alley right of way in Townsend is 15 feet. So, trees need to be planted far enough away that they will not encroach on garbage trucks and other vehicles using the alley.

Tree Board members have been watching those trees grow and finally contacted NorthWestern Energy (NWE) about using the location for a demonstration project. The main cause of powerline damage is trees. NWE was excited about the site being used to highlight tree and utility conflicts and promised the

Tree Board a grant of \$1,000 to do any work needed to rectify the problem and prepare a series of articles for the local paper.

All of the trees planted under the powerline were too large for the site and were beginning to encroach on the powerline (Photo 1). There are many trees in Townsend and other communities that need regular pruning about every five years by NWE contractors hired to do powerline clearance rotations in the community. Below is a graphic from Trees, Power Lines & Right-of-Way Safety | Victory Electric Cooperative which highlights tree sizes and distances needed to avoid utility line conflicts and ground-mounted transformers and home meters (Picture 1). Don’t forget underground utility lines as well.

RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE!

Before planting new trees to improve the look of your yard, you will need to keep a few things in mind.

Clearance Zone

Trees and shrubs should be planted at least 10 ft away from ground-mounted transformers.

Large Tree Zone

Plant large trees (over 30 ft when mature) at least 50 ft away from overhead power lines.

Medium Tree Zone

Plant medium trees (over 25 ft when mature) at least 25 ft away from overhead power lines.

Low Tree Zone

It is best not to plant in this area. If you do, plant only low-growing trees and shrubs with a height of less than 15 ft when mature.

Pruning Zone
Trees and shrubs will be pruned if they are within 10 ft of overhead power lines to help prevent outages.

Graphic showing where to properly plant trees to avoid utility line conflicts

The Townsend Tree Board has worked with NWE and its utility line contractors over the years to help remove other tree-utility line conflicts. NWE has a program that will give homeowners a voucher for \$250 at a nursery so they can purchase a new tree to replace one removed under a powerline.

Lessons Learned:

- Understand the potential conflicts in your yard as trees grow including alley encroachment, utility line encroachment, growth over the neighbor’s property line, and growth over your home and sheds.
- Do an inventory of potential planting sites.
- Know the trees and their mature size before you purchase.

Next week: How to get rid of the problem trees and move forward.



HONORING OUR VETERANS: CORY SWANSON

Matt Nelson

This is Part 1 of a 2-part story on County Attorney and Lt. Colonel Cory Swanson.



Cory Swanson

Cory Swanson is the Broadwater County District Attorney and is also a Lt. Colonel in the Montana Army National Guard. He is about ready to be promoted to Colonel in the next month or two. He was deployed in the Middle East from January 2022 until November 2022, as a Battalion Commander of the 1-163rd Cavalry. That was his third major deployment. He was in Iraq from 2004 to 2005, and again from 2010 to 2011, each time with the 163rd. The 163rd Cavalry was created when the very first Montana Militia was formed in 1863. The 163rd was stood up in 1917, formed as a unit to go to World War I. A few years ago they had their 100th anniversary as a unit.

Cory's father was a career Montana National Guard soldier, who also retired as a Lt. Colonel.

Because of all the time Cory spent around the National Guard, he decided to join the Army in June 1997 when he was in college. He wanted to go to Fort Benning, Georgia because he heard basic training was tough and figured that he was tough himself. He thought he would be in for a couple of years and then quit.

However, he decided to go to Officer Candidate School (OCS) to be commissioned as an infantry officer. During his growing up years Cory did a lot of shooting just for fun, but never wore any hearing protection, so as result he has damaged hearing in his right ear. (He said, "Kids, wear hearing protectors!") Because of that he could not get commissioned as an infantry officer. Instead, he became a chemical officer, taking tons of technical classes in chemical, nuclear, and biological warfare. He led chemical reconnaissance for a few years, and then he joined the 163rd Infantry when it was deploying to Iraq in 2004. He joined as a specialty chemical officer, and then later became an armor officer working with tanks. They changed from infantry to combined arms. They had armor units, tank units, and mechanized infantry units, like Bradley fighting vehicles. He went to all the schools to become an armor officer.

He was a staff officer in the operations section during his second deployment to Iraq - both were combat deployments.

Cory commanded the 1-163rd Battalion in 2016-2018. In 2016, the unit had a one month training event in Romania. In 2017 Cory led his battalion fighting forest fires in Montana, around Lolo, in Missoula, and Seeley Swan. It was a big, big fire year in 2017. He finished his battalion command-

er job, and then took online classes at a two-year Army War College.

In December of 2021, he received a call to become the 163rd Battalion Commander again. The unit was deploying to the Middle East and needed somebody to take over the job. He was happy to do it, but it was very hard on his family and his job, for sure. Cory was primarily stationed in the desert in Kuwait, where he evaluated Mechanized Infantry training and did a lot of travel to other units.

The unit they took was actually a task force from a lot of states. There were three companies from Montana. They were a logistics company, an infantry company, and a headquarters company. Depending upon the size of the unit, a company could be from 80 to 200 people. A tank company will be smaller, while a logistics company is big. Cory was in charge of all of these units, unless they were detached to work under a different command in another country. There were 9 companies total, including a tank company from Oregon National Guard, a tank company from Nevada National Guard, a medical company from Idaho National Guard, two more infantry companies from Florida National Guard, a chemical company from the Minnesota National Guard, and an Army Reserve Unit. There were over 1100 soldiers, operating in 6 different countries.

One unit went to Syria, and initially there was a small group operating in Jordan, but then another larger group of about 200 people went to Jordan for a month for a big international training event, involving perhaps a dozen countries who participated. The British were there, as well as Italians, Americans, Saudis, and Jordanians. The Task Force had units in Qatar and Saudi Arabia, and a little bit in Iraq, but not much.



Daughter Claire, Cory, his wife Julie, and Son Caleb

Cory is glad to be home with his wife Julie, son Caleb, and daughter Claire. He is very happy with his job as the Broadwater County Attorney. He won reelection in November, just before he came home. He and his family are quite active in sports and their Church in Helena.

BHS MINI DRESS-UP WEEK

Mikayla Kraft, School Correspondent

As Bulldogs of Broadwater High School, we are always eager and strong when we show off our school spirit. There is no doubt about it, our school will go "all in" when there is a dress-up day or competition. These include dress-up days like pajama day, career dress-up day, and even competitions such as hallway decorating, large games of musical chairs, and of course the float competition between grade levels each homecoming week.



Karsyn Sangray and Memphis Meier (Photo Credits- Mikayla Kraft)

This week, the student body was exuberant when a mini dress-up week was organized, and it was all for a celebration of our winter sports. Our winter sports consist of speech and drama, wrestling, and, of course, basketball. Broadwater High School takes pride in these sports and our state-wide achievements. For this reason, a dress-up week was the perfect way for the student body to gather together and connect through differences and similarities while showing off our school spirit.

Kicking off the celebration dress-up day, BHS started off with a pajama day on Tuesday. Many students had the opportunity to be dressed to pay "little attention?" in their best pajamas and blankets during the school day. Frankly, there were no cases of students falling asleep in class, and learning and participation in the classroom were still highly observed.

Throughout the second day, the theme was "dress like your type day". Students came to school wearing clothes their significant other may wear, and those who were single, dressed up exactly how their future significant other may dress in their imagination. Many people came to school wearing sports attire, and farming/ranching attire, and one student even took it to the next level by wearing a keyboard to show his "type".

For the last dress-up day on Thursday, BHS held a strong finish with a Blue and White dress-up day. The student body decked out in strong Bulldog colors, accentuating their pride. Students came with blue and white clothing, face paint, and even paint on their legs and jeans. We held a pep assembly to send off the basketball team to the district tournament and to boost Bulldog Pride to its full potential. During the pep assembly, the pep band played loud and proud, the student body cheered as Musical Chairs was played and BHS celebrated with the hope that the basketball teams will take districts so the team can come home to prepare for the divisional tournament.

School events go deeper than the sports that are played and the club events that take place in our community. It seems to go unrecognized, but the morale of the Broadwater High School student body extends to small activities in the school that only the student body takes part in. I think we can all agree that our small-town school holds an inborn love and pride for all of the work that is done to grow our talents and knowledge through everything that we do.



and now the weather...

Fri 2/24	Sat 2/25	Sun 2/26	Mon 2/27	Tue 2/28
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Light Snow Showers	Partly Cloudy	Light Snow
21° 11°	36° 22°	40° 18°	35° 22°	38° 19°
● 0%	● 0%	❄ 0 in	● 0%	❄ 1 in
⇒ 9 16 mph	⇒ 13 19 mph	⇒ 12 19 mph	⇒ 10 17 mph	⇒ 10 18 mph

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- 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.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE - FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Karoline Nelson, Operations Manager

The Mountain Valley Church will be staffing the food pantry during the month of March.

Food pantry supplies were distributed to 18 families consisting of 28 family members on February 18th.

There will be a board meeting on March 2nd at 7 pm at the food pantry.

A big Thank You! to the Townsend K-12 school staff for their recent food drive.

We are currently signing up those that would like an Easter meat (chicken or ham). You will be able to sign up on March 4th and 18th. The meats will be distributed on April 1st. If you are unable to pick up your meat, you can send a note and have someone pick it up for you.

The food pantry will only be open for the distribution of food and receiving foods on the first and third full weekends. If there is a 5th Saturday, we will be open then also. If these days are inconvenient for any donating food, please notify Karoline or Daryl at the numbers below. If our needs pick up, we will return to our previous distribution dates.

If you are dropping off food donations during off hours, please do not leave them at the back door. They may go unnoticed and especially with the freezing temperatures, the food may freeze.

Distribution hours: Saturday distribution hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 10:45. Distribution outside of the normal hours is for emergencies and on an individual basis. Emergency food needs can be distributed by calling Karoline Nelson at 406-438-3981 or Daryl Blumhagen at 406-980-0800.

How to Donate: Bob's Supermarket has donation boxes at the checkout counters. For donations of food or other perishable items or for emergency food distribution, please call Karoline at 406-438-3981 or Daryl at 406-980-0800. The food pantry is open to accept donations from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the first and third Friday of the month. You may mail cash donations to Broadwater Food Pantry, P. O. Box 1164, Townsend, MT 59644. The food pantry is located at 315 Broadway.

SEARCH AND RESCUE: SNOWBULANCE

Eliza McLaughlin - Staff Reporter

SAR receives a donation, purchases new 'wheels'

Thanks to an anonymous donation and the Broadwater County Commissioners, Broadwater County Search and Rescue will be adding a new piece of equipment to its arsenal.

"Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, members of the Broadwater County Sheriff's Search and Rescue are on call to assist the county's residents and visitors who find themselves in need," reads the organization's website. Not only do these volunteers remain on call all day, but they're ready to assist year-round.

Montana winters can be unpredictable and cold. While the team is trained to handle such situations, Broadwater County Undersheriff, Brandon Harris, told the county commissioners that carrying a victim out in a litter - a metal basket-like stretcher — or on the back of a side-by-side can be difficult at times. When an anonymous donor gave \$10,000 to the organization and instructed it be used for equipment upgrades, Harris said a tool to make winter carries easier quickly moved to the top of the list.

A snowbulance rescue unit is a fully-enclosed sled, large enough to fit one patient and one or two attendants. The unit features a heater, and lights and attaches to the back of a snowmobile or ATV.

But Broadwater County won't be receiving any old snowbulance, as Harris explained the team had selected the snowbulance deluxe. Harris even referred to the unit as the "Cadillac of rescue vehicles".

Broadwater County's unit will also include an ATV conversion kit which will allow the rescuers to swap the snowbulance's skis out for wheels in the summer months, making it useful year-round.

Although search and rescue only received \$10,000 from the anonymous donor, after decking out the snowbulance and accounting for shipping, the bill came to a total of \$11,320. Harris approached the Broadwater County Commissioners on Feb. 15 to request that they cover the remaining \$1,320.

During the Feb. 15 commission meeting, Commissioner Chair Debi Randolph questioned whether there was anyone local who could service this new piece of equipment. Harris explained that it would require basic servicing that most search and rescue members could handle.

Commissioner Darrel Folkvord suggested that the snowbulance be added to the county's insurance policy immediately.

Harris and the commissioners thanked the anonymous donor for their contribution and the commissioners approved the purchase.



THREE FORKS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Eliza McLaughlin - Staff Reporter

Three Forks City Council members approved an application for a work-live development at the Three Forks Market RV Campground Expansion during its Feb. 14 meeting, weeks after approving previous amendments to the site's permit.

The application proposed a single-bedroom year-round rental apartment on the second level of the campground's service building, which was previously designated for campground and storage use only. The proposal also included improvements to the existing service building.

Although recent zoning changes allow for this type of conditional-use permit, several members of the public spoke up and requested the council deny the application because the owners, Rick and Valerie Lamb, had already built it.



Carpenter building awning on new building Three Forks Market RV Park and Campground.

"Much of the apartment has already been built," reads the application. The application went on to explain that the "proposed development" would allow the Lambs to finish the apartment as well as to add a stairway entry and a water meter to the mechanical room for the apartment.

Members of the public cautioned city council members that approval of the application would set a precedent for other zoning applications.

"If approved, we would be ignoring the conditions set forth for the use of this service building." Wrote Diane Fuhrman in a letter of public comment. Fuhrman's letter also voiced concern that the applicants had repeatedly said the service building would not be rented out. "This has been stated several times over the past two years yet now the applicant wants a rental apartment."

Another letter written to the council, this time by Tom Vander Vos, pointed out that the case made Three Forks' zoning "just a suggestion." David and LaVonne Brooks also wrote a letter asking the council to deny the application.

A representative for the Lambs said that the applicants had not violated the conditions originally set by the Planning and Zoning Board and pointed out that the applicants have the right to request amendments.

Randy Carpenter, the City of Three Forks' planning consultant, recommended the approval of the application with several conditions. These conditions include installing of a water shut-off valve, requiring the apartment to follow the campground's quiet hours and filing a deed restriction to prevent the property from being divided or subdivided.

Carpenter also suggested that the applicant pay impact fees for the apartment and that the applicant pave and designate the two parking spaces for the apartment.

The Lamb's representative requested that the apartment be exempt from needing paved parking spaces.

The approved apartment was previously listed on an amendment submitted by the Lambs in January; however, the applicants requested that they omit it until now.

Councilman Gene Townsend requested that in the future, the Lambs handle things "up front" and all at once to save both parties money and time before motioning to approve the application with all of Carpenter's suggested conditions.

The application was approved unanimously.



snowbulance deluxe

COUNTY TAKES ANOTHER STAB AT UPGRADING ROAD TO GOOSE BAY

Nancy Marks



Commission Meeting

Public Works Supervisor TJ Graveley presented a request for monies to have Great West Engineering apply to the Federal Lands Access Program for a grant to upgrade the county road from Highway 284 to Goose Bay. At the commissioner meeting on Wednesday, Feb 15, the commissioners voted to approve the \$7,500 to apply for the grant.

The Western Federal Lands project began when the Bureau of Reclamation rebuilt the Goose Bay Recreation Area in 2016, according to Graveley. Monies to upgrade the county road were not included in the cost of the project at around \$8 million. The road upgrade would have been around \$ 2.2 million, some of which would have had an in-kind cost to the county.

Because of the heavy summer tourist traffic, which makes the road wash boarded, the road conditions have been a bone of contention among the residents at Goose Bay since then.

Under another new administration of the Federal Lands Access Program the present grant, if received by Broadwater County, would be 100% paid for by Western Federal Lands. The grant will not be awarded until 2025. In the interim Graveley said his crews would continue putting Magnesium Chloride on the county road from the highway to the first set of houses. Crews will continue grading the remainder of the road.

Commissioners discussed the approval of Gayle Watson's Cook's Landing Building for Lease or Rent (BLR) application. The second application for approval would include three duplexes on the 21.06-acre parcel, which also includes two duplexes already in place just north of Cook's Mansion off Highway 287. Questions included whether the subdivision road, Buckeye Road, is a public road or private and could Watson subdivide each of the units which are on separate two-acre lots. The BLR will be on the commissioner's March 1 agenda.

Community Development and Planning Director Nichole Brown, by phone, discussed an application to quiet Lot 8 Subsequent Minor Subdivision located on Huestis Road near Interstate Highway 90 off Old Town Road. Owners Gary Flora Bay wish to split the 60-acre parcel into two parcels with a shared driveway. Commissioners gave approval with conditions about the shared driveway.

It was suggested that the county install a stop sign at Huestis and Old Town Roads. The application comes up for approval on the March 1 commissioner agenda.

Undersheriff Brandon Harris requested the okay to purchase a Snowbulance Deluxe for Search and Rescue board. With a \$10,000 anonymous donation, the department can purchase the much needed specialized piece of equipment for rescuing victims in both winter and summer accidents. The Snowbulance comes with both skis and wheels.

The commission approved Harris's request to use \$11,320 to purchase the equipment. Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer recused herself from the discussion since she is a member of the Search and Rescue board.

The commissioners voted to approve a waiver of the conflict of interest between Broadwater County and the Silverman Law Office, Helena. Joseph Silverman is a transactional attorney who specializes in construction. Silverman has been suggested to oversee the design and building of the proposed county public safety facility in the south end of the county. The commission voted on Feb. 8 to hire Silverman Law Office to oversee the design.

According to Deputy County Attorney Jania Hatfield, Silverman also represents Bridger Brewing.

Commissioners approved signing a contract with Westaff, Helena to handle the county's Human Resources (HR) work. All HR work was previously handled by the county's accounting department, but the regulations and expansion of employee numbers turned the job into a full-time position. The open-ended contract with Westaff is for \$1,950 per month.

In other news, Commissioner Darrel Folkvord reported on the final plans for remodeling and updating the 4-H building and solid waste system. Gruber Excavating and AV Construction of Bozeman will begin the project on March 1. Construction of the 4-H Livestock Pavilion will be proceeding during the same period. Contractors of both projects aim to be finished by June 1.

HONORED, HUMBLLED AND EXCITED — TOWNSEND'S NEWEST RANGER

Eliza McLaughlin - Staff Reporter

Chatter can once again be heard from inside the currently quiet U.S. Forest Service Townsend Ranger District office as Aaron Weber — the new district ranger — settles into his latest role before the office buzzes to life this summer.

“We are excited to have Aaron joining our leadership team,” said Forest Supervisor Emily Platt. “His extensive work developing partnerships through the US Fish and Wildlife Service will make him an asset to the district, Forest and local communities.”

Prior to moving to Townsend, Webber spent 7.5 years in Bethel, Alaska working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge as the biologist in charge of managing the muskox population. He’s also worked in various capacities for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in New Mexico and Utah, gathering 15 years of federal work experience along the way.

Webber originates from Grand Junction, Colorado, but claims to hail from Idaho Falls — where his relatives currently live.

Accepting the position in Townsend fulfilled two of Webber’s goals: living closer to family and serving in a wildlife management position.

“Ultimately, I always wanted to get to the management level of some kind of natural resources organization, so right now, I’m actually there,” he said.

As Townsend’s District Ranger, a role that he assumed in January, Webber oversees the administration of 300,000 acres, spread across Broadwater, Jefferson and Meagher counties. Before developing any goals for the expansive district, Webber plans to focus on learning the ropes.

“I’m still trying to figure out my email,” Webber laughed.

To do so, he has set personal goals of meeting different people and forming new partnerships as part of his “extensive learning curve” in the first year.

Throughout the process, Webber hopes to share his love for the outdoors with others, saying that everyone is welcome in the forest.

“The forest has a lot of opportunities to do a lot of different things, and my goal is to make it so that as many people can recreate and do as many different types of activities — within policy — as possible,” he said. “At the same time, do so in a fashion that does not jeopardize the health of the forest.”

Webber’s personal and professional lives share many similarities: trapping, hunting, fishing and using his finds to educate others.

“In my previous jobs, I’ve always had an office or something where I’d have furs or antlers or different wildlife things,” he said. “I always like to have something where [both kids and adults] can grab and pet the furs and ask about them.”

His office at the Townsend Ranger District is no different.

He’s even tried his hand at trying some of said furs himself and contracted his father to do the work for several others. Beyond hunting for furs, Webber and his family learned to “live off the land” while in Alaska.

Webber estimated harvesting approximately 200 salmon and at least one moose every year to help feed his and others’ families.

“If I have to eat another ounce of salmon, it will be too early,” he said, adding that someday he might enjoy it again.

Moving to Townsend also opens several opportunities for his three children, such as extracurricular activities and the county 4-H program.

“I’ve always wanted to raise a chicken,” Webber said.

And while Alaska had many recreational opportunities — such as rafting, snow machining and so much more — Webber said he’s excited to show the everyday conveniences that he grew up with to his children — including cheaper groceries and eating out at restaurants.

As he settles into his new role and new experiences, Webber said the community has been welcoming and leaves him feeling honored, humbled and excited to be in Townsend: “I look forward to serving the community.”



THE BIRD'S NEST SERVING LUNCH

Dee Gannon, MT43 News Correspondent

Birdi’s a Foodie!

How exciting, there is a new place in town to get a fantastic, quick lunch. The Bird’s Nest, 200 Broadway now has quarter pound all beef hot dogs (with all the trimmings), Bob’s ‘famous’ brats, chili, chips and assorted desserts every day from 11 am to 2 pm.

As tables fill for lunch, Birdi Kribs, owner of the Bird’s Nest, makes sure everyone has what they need. Of course, all ingredients are locally sourced, as she believes “that community support is so very important. We wouldn’t even be here without that community support. We must give back”.

The Bird’s Nest has so much to look at, all from mostly local vendors. There is furniture; a vintage/antique room and a crystal room. There is so much more, new, used and handmade(in Montana) . . .you can get lost for hours looking at everything.



Laura Stevenson, Mike Stevenson and Juanita Bray enjoy lunch at The Bird's Nest

This is Birdi’s fourth business here in town; the first being across the street was called “Hot Spot”, about 12 years ago. She then moved to where the Big Sky Autism Project is now located. She kept expanding, and moved across the street from there, opening the “Bird’s Nest”. She sold that a couple of years ago, and got bored...so she moved to her current destination, at the corner of Broadway and Pine.

“This is such a better location; one block from the four-way; and, we have so many more vendors here, just because of the size,” Birdi continues, “we are just so grateful for the local support; and all the vacationers and travelers that come in. Just let me know, what else you would like to see. We have true craftsmen who are gracious enough to share their talents, I’m so appreciative. It makes our store a showplace”.

And, showplace it is. And great food it is. Prices are right in there, too. Hot Dog meal includes Hot dog with trimmings, choice of chips and canned drink for \$8; Brat meal, same sides as above for \$9; chili lunch is chili (and fixins) and crackers with a canned drink for \$6. Ala carte is \$4. Dessert is extra; all homemade, too. It’s a deal for sure... Plus, you get to browse.

Come on in; to eat or to browse the treasures. You’ll be happy you did!



1. Which artist released the album titled “All Things Must Pass”?
2. Who was the first to release “Blue Bayou”?
3. Which group released “Tears of a Clown”?
4. Who released “Venus in Blue Jeans”?
5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: “There goes my baby with someone new, She sure looks happy, I sure am blue.”

Answers

1. George Harrison, in 1970, right after the Beatles broke up. It was a triple album: two records of songs and one of jams with other musicians. It went to No. 1 in most places around the globe. The 50th Anniversary box set (2021) did not do nearly as well.
2. The song’s writer Roy Orbison, in 1961. Linda Ronstadt released her cover of the song in 1977, and it became her signature song.
3. Smokey Robinson and the Miracles, in 1970. Robinson had been about to leave the group until he saw how well the song charted. He stayed two additional years.
4. Jimmy Clanton, in 1962.
5. “Bye Bye Love,” by The Everly Brothers in 1957. While The Everly Brothers’ release is the best-known version, others gave it a try over the years, including George Harrison (who changed the lyrics after his wife left him).

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MISSOULA CHILDREN’S THEATER - RED RIDING HOOD AUDITIONS

Amanda Hazlett



An audition will be held for the Missoula Children’s Theatre (MCT) production of RED RIDING HOOD in the stage gym at Broadwater High School on Monday, February 27 from 3:45 pm to 5:45 pm Those auditioning should arrive at 3:40 pm and plan to stay for the full two hours. Some of the cast members will be asked to stay for a rehearsal immediately following the audition.

Among the roles to be cast are Red Riding Hood; her three Girlfriends; Little Loveable Wolf; the Hood Family; the Three Little Pigs; a Woodsman; a Locksmith; Ranger Rooney; The Boy Who Cried Wolf; the Wolfgang; Forest Shadows; and some rascally Raccoons. Students in Kindergarten through 12 grade, are encouraged to audition. No advance preparation is necessary. Assistant Directors will also be cast to aid in rehearsals throughout the week and to take on essential backstage responsibilities.

The Missoula Children’s Theatre touring productions are complete with costumes, scenery, props and makeup. The MCT Tour Actor/Directors will conduct rehearsals throughout the week from (start time) to (end time) each day.

RED RIDING HOOD will be presented on March 4 at Broadwater High School. The Missoula Children’s Theatre residency in Townsend is presented locally with support from Townsend Schools, The Lodge of Townsend, and the Broadwater Community Foundation. For more information, call Amanda at 406-558-4404.

TOWNSEND PINOCHLE CLUB MEETS ON WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS AT THE SENIOR CENTER

Victor Sample

The Townsend Pinochle Club meets every Wednesday and Friday at the Broadwater County Senior Center for an afternoon of pinochle and comradery. The Club plays from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. All ages and experience level are welcome!

If you have never played pinochle and would like to learn, come and join us.

The Senior Center is located at 516 2nd Street, Townsend MT.



Set out catnip seedlings in a sunny, well-drained spot after the last frost of spring, spacing them 18”-24” apart (some can grow to 5 feet tall). Water regularly, and pinch back any spindly growth to get fuller, more robust foliage. Outdoor cats can be rough on these plants, as they like to roll and lay on them; try placing bamboo stakes every few inches to prevent their destroying them. For “indoor” kitties, pick off a sprig and bring it inside for your cat to enjoy on the floor or in its favorite bedding. - Brenda Weaver

Source: bonnieplants.com

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BULLDOGS FINISH 4TH AT DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

Eliza McLaughlin - Staff Reporter

Broadwater basketball season came to an end at the Southern 5B District tournament last week, and although the losses were heartbreaking, both showed immense growth throughout the season.

The Bulldogs kicked off their district run in a face-off against the Whitehall Trojans.

Scoring was sparse in the first period and Whitehall took the lead, 10-3. The Trojans continued to outscore the Bulldogs in the second 9-7, ending the second half with the Bulldogs down 10-19.

Shots started falling in the third for the Bulldogs, and a run of 17-9 left the Bulldogs down by one, 27-28.

Entering the fourth period, both teams stayed neck-and-neck. In the end, Whitehall maintained their one-point lead and claimed the win, 41-40.

Next up for the Bulldogs was the Big Timber Shepherders in a loser-out match, and it was another close one.

The Bulldogs didn't wait to bust out the gates this time and led the Shepherders 15-9 by the end of the first period. Eager to stay in the tournament, the Shepherders outscored the Bulldogs and earned a one-point lead, 20-21.

In the third, the Shepherders continued to land more than the Bulldogs, but the deficit only grew to three-points.

Both teams entered what could be the final quarter of their season with the Bulldogs down, 32-35. The fourth quarter was a low-scoring one, and the Bulldogs inched forward just enough to move on in the tournament 40-39.

Playing for the chance to move onto the Divisional Tournament in Billings, the Bulldogs faced Jefferson's Panthers in a competitive match-up.



Deegan Mattson

The Bulldogs started off slow again, scoring only eight points to the Panthers' 14. The second period picked up in pace, but the Panthers kept their lead. Although the Bulldogs entered the second half of the game down 22-39, they were eager to make up the lost ground.

Their efforts kept the points deficit the same, but it wasn't until the

fourth period that the Bulldogs would finally outscore the Panthers 18-17. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to put the Bulldogs ahead and their tournament run ended in a fourth place finish, 59-75.

Ryan Racht led the Bulldogs in points with 42 points scored throughout the tournament, followed by Jesus Garcia with 36 and Ryedan Reed 19. Sawyer Horne scored 18 points at districts, Deegan Mattson 12, Camden Ferguson four and Eric Eichinger 2. Both Peyton Toney and Grady

Erickson scored three points each.

Lady Bulldogs

The Lady Bulldogs district run opened with a match against the Three Forks Wolves for one last dog fight.

Both teams started off slow in the first quarter with the Wolves scoring eight points and the Bulldogs five. After shaking their tournament nerves, both teams gained intensity and the Lady Bulldogs took the lead, 22-21.

The third quarter started much like the first, and the Lady Bulldogs only added two points to their lead, 28-25. The Lady Bulldogs continued to land more shots than the Wolves and claimed their first district tournament win 44-39.

Next up were the Big Timber Shepherders. The Shepherders wasted no time building a lead over the Lady Bulldogs, scoring 20 points to Broadwater's six in the first quarter.

Points were more even in the second, but the Lady Bulldogs still finished the first half of the game down 17-39.

In the third quarter, the Lady Bulldogs weren't able to get the ball in the hoop and the Shepherders extended their lead to 58-17. In the final quarter, the Shepherders added another six points to the Lady Bulldogs' one. Final: 64-18, Big Timber.

The Lady Bulldogs quickly shook off their loss and prepared to face the Whitehall Trojans in a loser out match the next morning.

In the first quarter, the Lady Bulldogs outscored the Trojans 10-7 and continued to do so in the second 11-9. By the end of the first half, the Lady Bulldogs had established five point lead, 21-16 — which would prove handy later in the game.

The Trojans came back in the third quarter with vengeance and scored 21 points to the Lady Bulldogs' 15. This put the Trojans up by one point, 37-36.

With only one quarter left in either the Lady Bulldogs' or the Trojans season, and the game still open for anyone to claim, both teams set to work. In the end, the Lady Bulldogs were able to sink three more points than the Trojans, giving them the win, 55-52.

The Lady Bulldogs' next match, against the Jefferson Panthers, would determine whether their season came to an end or extended for one more week. Unfortunately, the number two seed Panthers were able to out score the Lady Bulldogs in all four quarters. The Panthers claimed the win, and the extended season, 58-24.

Ella Begger led the Lady Bulldogs in scoring with 37 points throughout the district tournament, followed by Emily Bird with 31. Next came Holly Newman with 28, Kaitlyn Noyes with 13, Briannah Williams with 12, Emmalin Fischer 11, Cassidy Flynn six and Madelyn Schritz three. Best of luck to the Bulldog athletes and coaches moving into their spring season. Check back next week for the season stats wrap up!



Brianna Williams

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING - FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Eliza McLaughlin - Staff Reporter

Townsend schools to install vape detectors

The Townsend School Board approved the installation of vape detectors in various school bathrooms and approved the second reading of Policy 3235 video surveillance during its Feb. 14 meeting.

Joe Gill, the school district technology assistant, told the board that if the vape detectors alert to the use of a prohibited substance, it will alert administrators and connect to a video camera placed strategically to record whoever exits the bathroom.

The system, Gill explained, offers the school a two-month trial period before committing to a subscription.

The goal of the vape detectors, Superintendent Susie Hedalen said, is to prevent students from vaping at school.

"This behavior is escalating," High School Principal Sheri Heavrin told the board during the meeting.

Before the school could install these devices, a policy allowing them to connect with video surveillance needed to be approved. And the board ensured that took place before the meeting concluded.

Policy 3235 authorizes the use of "video cameras on District property to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of all staff, students, and visitors". The policy dictates that the superintendent must approve each video camera's location, and now "authorizes video cameras to be equipped with sensors that alert school officials of the use or presence of prohibited substances".

All staff and students will be notified through their handbooks — or by other means, according to the policy — that video, audio and substance surveillance is taking place. Hedalen also pointed out that notices will be posted at the building and bathroom entrances.

Policy 3235 also allows the district to include video recordings in a student's educational or a staff's personnel record.

Both the policy and the installation of vape detectors were passed by the board unanimously.

The School Board will meet next on March 14 at 6 p.m. in the Library Community Room.

Elections

During the Feb. 14 school board meeting, the board called for a trustee election. This year, two trustee seats will become available -- those of Todd Olson and Kevin McDonnell.

Anyone interested in entering their name in the race can do so now.

Strategic Planning Meeting

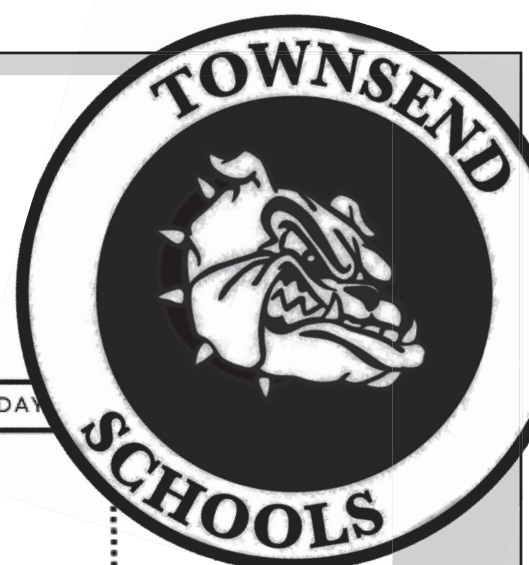
Prior to the school board meeting, school staff and members of the public gathered on Feb. 13 to once again discuss the district's strategic plan.

School Board Chair Jason Noyes said participants focused on matching educational models with the district's goal areas. Additionally, Noyes said, they identified the schools' strengths and weaknesses.

Members of the community are invited to attend the next strategic planning meeting on March 20. A location for the meeting has yet to be determined.

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

Upcoming School Events



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
					24	
26	27 ◆ OLD BALDY PROGRAMS - 6/6:30 P.M.	28 ◆ OLD BALDY PROGRAMS - 7 P.M.	1 ◆ OLD BALDY PROGRAMS - 5:30 / 7 P.M. ◆ OLD BALDY PICKLEBALL - 7 P.M.	2 ◆ BASKETBALL DIVISIONALS @ BILLINGS	3 ◆ BASKETBALL DIVISIONALS @ BILLINGS	4 ◆ BASKETBALL DIVISIONALS @ BILLINGS
5	6 ◆ SPRING SPORTS PARENT MEETING - 6 P.M. ◆ OLD BALDY PROGRAMS - 5:30/6 P.M.	7 ◆ OLD BALDY PROGRAMS - 7 P.M. ◆ BOOSTER CLUB MEETING - 7 P.M.	8 ◆ OLD BALDY PROGRAMS - 5:30 / 7 P.M. ◆ OLD BALDY PICKLEBALL - 7 P.M.	9 ◆ BASKETBALL STATE @ GREAT FALLS	10 ◆ BASKETBALL STATE @ GREAT FALLS	11 ◆ BASKETBALL STATE @ GREAT FALLS

INSIDE INSPIRATION

You have the power to build up or tear down

Ellie West, Certified NLP Coach/Practitioner Of Hypnosis and Timeline Therapy

Gossip...according to the Oxford dictionary, is informal talk or stories about other people's private lives that may be unkind or not true. Webster's dictionary defines gossip as "casual or unconstrained conversation or reports about other people".

We have all experienced a shared story, a side comment, or a roll of the eyes in gossip. There is gossip in homes, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and churches, to name a few.

Words used for gossip are incredibly toxic. All of the words we use have the power to build someone up or tear someone down. We may be fascinated with fiction, which is why tabloids are so famous and are located at the checkout stands in grocery stores. While waiting, you glance or pick up the magazine because you are drawn to the headlines.

Many years ago, I was on a trip, and the whole crew went to dinner on our layover. One particular person on the trip had an insatiable desire to gossip about others. During the conversation, I asked, "how do you know that that is true?" The person replied, "I only gossip the truth!" I had to step back and think about what this person had just said about gossip. Not only was the gossip embarrassing to the person being talked about, but some details had the potential to damage their reputation.

Gossip is never uplifting or encouraging, and we must realize that the presumed story is always wrong, no matter the current situation. Gossip is one of those things that is so easy to justify, especially if we have been hurt.

As I was sharing with someone a few days ago about this particular subject, she told me that it is in our nature to talk about others. Yes, I would have to agree...but why is that the case? Why do we, as humans, desire to talk about another person? Perhaps, we are more interested in another person's life other than our own.

We have all been guilty of participating in gossip and may have even gossiped about someone. Over the years, I have learned some hard lessons from gossip.

I work in an environment where there is much gossip and even live in a neighborhood where there is toxic talk, and some of that has affected both my husband and me personally. Is it sometimes easier or less painful to participate and keep the gossip train going in gossiping about the person that may be talking about you? But that keeps the gossip train on the tracks and won't solve anything. The toxic train must be derailed. You may be asking yourself, "how do I do that?"

To fend off gossip, we must first start with ourselves. If you desire to guard yourself against hearsay, and harmful words, set your intention daily and tell yourself today that you will build others up, not tear them down. Speak only what's necessary for the moment.

Could you seek out those people whom others have talked about, invite them to coffee, and have a conversation with them? It may surprise you just how much they need a real human connection.

Connect with like-minded people, ask questions, and be less focused on yourself and more about them. Sometimes, people gossiping about others have never really taken the time or have the desire to know the person they are talking about.

Season your words with grace, and that will help guard against spreading gossip. Ensure your words bring life and not harm or destruction to another person.

Remember, those that gossip to you will also talk about you.

Politely remove yourself from the conversation... even if you are listening to the gossip, you are participating. Gossipers need an audience, don't be their audience. Words can be deceptive... they can fool us into thinking we are justified.

In my industry, before opening or closing an aircraft door, we must always stop, think and locate to prevent danger. Stop, think, and ask yourself if what you are saying or hearing is serving someone in their best interest.

"Those who are busy discussing your life are probably not happy about theirs." ~ Unknown

To connect with Ellie @FB/IG @coachelliest

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, Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morning Service, 11:00 a.m. Evening Service, 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study & 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.

Set Free Christian Fellowship, meets at the Bridge at 318 Broadway St (PO Box 1163), Townsend. Services: Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. Set free recovery Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Bible study, Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Pastors Carol Bergstad, (406) 461-2181.

Seventh Day Adventist Church, 200 N. Cedar St. Townsend. Services: Saturday, 9:30 a.m., Bible study, 10:30 a.m. 431-2810 or (406) 241-0042

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 Ross Johnson, Council President, for more information, at (406) 465-3791.

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 Mele Moe, 266-3390 Townsend-UMC.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. 7th-12th grade youth group, Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 p.m. meeting at 407 S. Cherry St., Townsend. Pastor Mark Roelofs.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mondays 6-8pm

Celebrate Recovery

Meetings held in Mountain Valley Church building
110 E Street

Tuesdays – 5:30 pm Fridays – Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church :
301 N Cherry Street

Thursdays 7pm,

Al-Anon

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 310 N Cherry St

SENIOR CENTER

SR. CENTER MENU Sweet Peaches
FOR THE WEEK OF FEB
27 - MARCH 3

SENIOR CENTER:
516 2ND STREET,
TOWNSEND MT

Monday, Feb 27

Montana Pasties
Green Beans
Crisp Coleslaw
Juicy Pears
Dessert

Thursday, March 2
Ham & Beans
Corn Bread
Mixed Vegetables
Tossed Salad
Apricots

Friday, March 3
Tater Tot Casserole
Garden Peas
Tossed Salad
Pineapple

Tuesday, Feb 28

Sweet-N-Sour Pork
Fried Brown Rice
Oriental Vegetables
Four Bean Salad
Baked Apples

The Townsend Pinochle Club meets every Wednesday and Friday at the Broadwater County Senior Center for an afternoon of pinochle and comradery. The Club plays from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. All ages and experience levels are welcome! If you have never played pinochle and would like to learn come and join us.

Wednesday, March 1

Chicken-ala-King
Steamed Potatoes
Purple Beets
Carrot Raisin Salad

COURT BEAT

FEBRUARY 17, 2023

Dee Gannon, MT43 News Correspondent

The criminal docket in Judge Kathy Seeley's courtroom on Friday, February 17 is as follows:

Joseph Matt had both an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of criminal possession of dangerous drugs with intent to distribute by accountability criminal possession of dangerous drugs. Omnibus is due by April 4; Pre-Trial is set for May 12; with the Jury Trial scheduled for June 5.

Nancy Wilson had her Pre-Trial continued until June 6; with the Jury Trial moved until July 17.

Seth Anderson had a change of Plea; pleading Guilty to possession of dangerous drugs (meth). In his elocution, Anderson stated that he possessed meth in Broadwater County. His deferred imposition in Lewis and Clark County is revoked. A PSI is ordered. Sentencing will be on March 17.

Dylan Kimbrough had his March trial vacated. His Change of Plea will be on February 24.

Jason Walrick appeared by Zoom; he must appear in person on March 13.





MICHAEL CHESTER SCOFFIELD

*Scoffield Family & Anderson, Stevenson, Wilke
Funeral Home*

Michael Chester Scoffield passed away on February 10 due to complications from ongoing health issues. He was 77 years old.



Mike was born March 25, 1945, in Tremonton, Utah, to Ethel and Chester Scoffield. At age 4, Mike's family moved to Townsend, Montana. Mike attended Broadwater County High School and was active in sports, playing in the 1963 Class C State Championship games in both basketball and football. He was also a Civil Air Patrol member who was awarded a trip to Germany for his service.

After high school, Mike attended Brigham Young University and the University of Montana before enlisting in the Army in 1964, stationed at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Mike received a Purple Heart for his bravery and service in Vietnam. On January 1, 1966, SP4 Scoffield was Crew Chief on an OH13 helicopter. The crew was flying on a security mission around Plei Mei Special Forces Camp. He was returning fire on the Viet Cong, with his legs hanging out of the helicopter, he was shot in the leg.

After his time in the service, Mike moved back to Townsend and started farming with his dad and brother Ward. In July 1970 Mike married Gaylene Rader and from this union, his daughter, Niki Rae, was born in May 1972. In 1986, Mike sold his farm to his brother and shortly thereafter began working for Broadwater County. Mike retired from Broadwater County in April 2005.

Mike was active in the Townsend community, serving as a volunteer firefighter, EMT, and member of the school board for Broadwater County High School. He enjoyed both snow and water skiing. One of his favorite summer activities was pulling friends behind his boat, always with the goal of dumping them off the innertube. He played softball for Zippo's Tires for many years and played city league volleyball and co-ed softball with his daughter, Niki.

In his later years of life, Mike enjoyed riding around town in his pickup. If he saw you, he would likely pull over to visit. He enjoyed his morning pop shop coffee group where he would get his daily Townsend gossip. He enjoyed playing cards at the VFW in East Helena and in Townsend. In the summers, he raided brother Ward's garden.

Simple joys and routines that had great meaning for him. Mike was an avid Montana Grizzlies fan. Mike's greatest legacy will be his love for his daughter and her twin daughters, Jade Leigh and Jordyn Rae, who were born in 1992. "His girls" were the loves of his life and he would share stories about them with everyone he knew. His role as father and grandfather defined him.

In 2017, his great grandson, Jaxan Cruz, was born to Jade, and Mike's heart expanded yet again. Mike's girls love him deeply and counted him among their greatest cheerleaders. They're even considering saving some of his beloved UM Grizzly items in spite of their personal devotion to the Montana State Bobcats. Niki will particularly miss their friendly rivalry and will cherish the memory of their last bet and his hefty payout of a large bag of peanut M&Ms after the 2022 Brawl of the Wild. The matchup will never be the same again.

Mike is preceded in death by his parents, Chester and Ethel Scoffield, his brother Dennis Scoffield, and his great nephew, Michael Lindsey Scoffield. Mike is survived by his daughter Niki (Eric) Thomson, his granddaughters Jade Leigh Scoffield and Jordyn Rae Scoffield, his great grandson Jaxan Cruz Peterson, his brother Ward (Sherry) Scoffield, his sister-in-law Trenna Scoffield, nephews Scott (Dawn) Scoffield, Bradley Scoffield, Lindsey Scoffield, James (Maija) Scoffield, Russell (Lisa) Scoffield; nieces Marta (Tim) Kindt, Julie Scoffield Bruce, and Laurie (Brian) Baker, and many great nephew and nieces. Memorial services will be held on September 8, 2023, at Deep Creek Cemetery, at 1:00 p.m., followed by a celebration of life at the American Legion in Townsend. Donations in his memory may be sent to the American Legion Post 42, PO Box 913, Townsend, Montana 59644.

Niki would like to thank Rich Berg, Dave Corner, Tanya Klinkenberg, and other Townsend community members for looking in on and providing assistance to him. Please visit www.stevensonwilke.com to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Mike.

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA (FFA) AG APPRECIATION DINNER

Mikayla Kraft, School Correspondent

As members of the Broadwater community, we know that seasons come and seasons go, but we also recognize that agriculture does not have an end. In the cattle industry, there is always a calving season, a growing period, and a finishing period. When growing crops there is generally planting, growing, and harvest periods. When the cows are sent to slaughter and the crops are harvested, the product goes to facilities to be processed for human or animal consumption and is then transported to stores across the nation. These seasons are celebrated locally by our annual Ag Appreciation Dinner, and nationally recognized during National FFA week.



Broadwater FFA president Jacob Pesicka and Aiden Kitto

It has been a few years since the Broadwater FFA chapter has hosted what our Ag Appreciation Dinner and Silent Auction can be at its biggest potential. The Ag Appreciation Dinner themed 'Mirrors Through Time' is going to be on February 25th and there is still time to get tickets! Guests will be served a prime rib dinner and will get to hear from an MSU economist, our lieutenant governor, and even Steve Daines. Use this opportunity to learn more about Montana's agriculture and meet the people who are proud supporters of agriculture and continuously work in our government system to ensure that Montana's agriculture holds strong just as it has in previous years. Our alumni and many business supporters that are mentioned in our Business of the Week Facebook posts have generously donated many items for our silent auction. Join to get a chance to gain a great product from the auction. For more information, please contact our advisor Jemma Loughery via phone, whose number is at the end of this article.

FFA takes a week in February to celebrate our past and present achievements as an organization and recognize our goal as FFA members and agriculturalists, specifically stated in the FFA Creed by E.M Tiffany. In celebration of FFA week, our FFA chapter is engaging with the BHS student body through Drive your Tractor to School Day, school wheelbarrow racing, and a pie-eating contest. For National FFA week, Tractor Supply Co. hosts a fundraiser that helps raise money to grow an ag classroom, an FFA chapter, or ag awareness. All that is needed is to buy a paper emblem at the checkout. All of these proceeds will go to whoever gains this grant. Broadwater FFA can't stand alone. We work with so many other chapters and states that help us thrive. We should support those in other communities as well.

Agriculture doesn't end and FFA won't either. We started in a small Baltimore Hotel in Kansas City in 1928 with only a few people and have now grown to 850,823 members with 8,995 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. I urge you to support our foundational and amazing organization and buy a ticket to the dinner and participate in the National FFA activities. For more information about the Ag Appreciation Dinner contact Jemma Loughery at (406)441-3430.



BSE EXCAVATING

7200 HWY 287, TOWNSEND, MT

BRANDON BAKKEN
SHANE TEW

P - 266-3772
C - 980-1100



MT SENATE TAXATION COMMITTEE HEARS PROPERTY TAX BILLS

Kyle Schmauch, Senate Republicans Communications Manager

HELENA, Mont.— Three bills giving voters more opportunity to weigh in on property taxes will be heard in the Senate Taxation Committee tomorrow morning.

Senate Bills 251, 291, and 292 work together to ensure voters clearly approve of local bonds and mill levies that raise their property taxes. All three bills are sponsored by Sen. Greg Hertz, R-Polson, who chairs the Senate Tax Committee.

Senate Bill 251 would sunset some existing local tax levies without re-approval from voters. Senate Bills 291 and 292 would require voter turnout to meet certain thresholds in order to approve new taxes. The bills do not apply to local taxes that fund essential services like public safety.

"High property taxes are one of the top concerns we consistently hear from constituents, but property taxes are primarily a local government issue and many have been put into place by voters themselves," Hertz said. "These bills are meant to do two things: give voters another opportunity to decide if they want those property taxes to remain in place, and ensure that going forward, new optional bonds and levies aren't put into place without clear approval from local voters."

"Property taxes are a local government issue, but giving voters more of a say on those property taxes is one thing we can do at the Legislature and that's what these bills are intended to do," Hertz added.

NEW BOAT VALIDATION DECALS REQUIRED

Fish, Wildlife and Parks

CURRENT DECALS EXPIRE FEBRUARY 28, 2023

HELENA – Owners of motorboats, sailboats or personal watercraft need to get new, free 2023-2026 validation decals for their watercraft soon. The current red decals expire Feb. 28.

Boaters who have permanently registered their boats, sailboats, or PWC must still obtain two free boat validation decals every three years at FWP regional and area offices, or by going to the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov/activities/boating.

Owners who order validation decals on the FWP website will receive the decals in the mail. Information included on a current boat registration receipt issued by the county treasurer is needed to obtain the decals in person or on FWP's website.

For new boat or personal watercraft owners, the county treasurer's office will provide the first set of validation decals when the watercraft is registered. Boat owners will obtain subsequent sets of validation decals at a FWP regional or area office, or online.

For more information, visit FWP's website or call 406-444-2535.

STOKE: SEWING SISTERS REPORT

Laura Frazier

It has really been my joy to get to know these girls and to teach them a bit about lots of things. Some of the girls have been with the group since the beginning! In the last couple of years, we have done some gardening, made stepping stones, planted flowers, made jewelry, and learned to embroider.

We never got to canning, maybe next year. We eat a lot, watch YouTube videos, and talk a whole lot. The girls range from 5th grade to 9th. I try to temper the conversation, so our little 5th grader does not go home and say, "Guess what I learned in sewing today!", I hope it is a safe place for the girls to talk about life and I love how they support each other. They let me interject my little old lady's sage advice from time to time. Destiny says, "What is said in sewing, stays in sewing!" They are also learning to sew!! Besides basic sewing skills, they are also learning to alter clothing and repurpose thrift store finds!

We have had enough working sewing machines donated that any girl that needs one will have a machine to take home. Because of donations and grants, the girls were able to shop for fabric and patterns. Each of the girls has been given a beginning sewing kit. Our current project is a flannel rag quilt. Thank you to Stoke for your trust and for letting me make it up as I go along.

Thank you, community, for your generosity and support for these kids! Feel very blessed to live in Townsend!

Laura Frazier

Stevenson Wilke

Funeral Home & Crematory



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STOKE FUN'RAISER A HUGE SUCCESS

Amanda Domino, STOKE Secretary

On February 14, 2023, Valentine's Day, the STOKE youth empowerment organization had their second annual Valentine's Day Fun'Raiser and Dinner. With a generous and raucous crowd of about 50 people, STOKE raised over \$14,000. An additional \$3,000 in donations since December brings STOKE's total donations to \$17,000! That does not include all the generous in-kind donations in the silent auction, etc. Remember, all STOKE programs are free for the children!

St. Valentine (a.k.a. Patrick Plantenberg) with help from Broadway singer Valentino Flamingo (Jeff Langlinais), and Van Valentine (Keith Hartman) ran events. The live auction included selling a lovely quilt donated by Carousel Quilting, and a Chinese dinner for 12 donated by Ron Salladay, Jeff Langlinais, and Jeff Ross.

The highlight of the live auction was auctioning off local rancher Dolly McMaster for three Valentine's Dinner dates. She gave an inspirational humorous speech about her life and raised \$1,950 and received a standing ovation for her contributions to Broadwater County over the years.

A special thank you to all who participated and helped STOKE provide a hilarious audience participation evening of Heart Toss, Spinning the Valentine Wheel of Misfortune and singing love songs to cherished family members. Some even won prizes valued at up to \$685 dollars!

Eleven STOKE youth members supported the event throughout the night including, Sidney Buchanan, Logan Barkhurst, Jenna Smucker, Jericha Smucker, Destiny Grandy, Anthony Grandy, Adyson Mosher, Zoey Osborne, Jermaine Williams, Kayden Greene, and Andrew McDonald. If you see these youth, give them a high-five for their efforts!

Our amazing community's support will continue to help us provide programs in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM), sewing, cooking, pottery, outdoor knowledge and more.

STOKE is still looking for a sponsor for a planned Outdoor Knowledge event for 2023. They need a donor for a Hidden Hollow Horseback Riding trip for six STOKE children. The event includes introductory training about horseback riding, and a two-hour horseback ride at Hidden Hollow Ranch. The total cost is \$475.

If you would like to earmark a donation toward the Hidden Hollow STOKE trip please contact Amanda Domino at 406-459-7379.

Thank you so much to this amazing community for "Getting Positively STOKED"!

MT SENATE COMMITTEE HEARS GUN PROTECTION BILLS

Kyle Schmauch, Senate Republicans Communications Manager

HELENA, Mont.— The Senate Business and Labor Committee will hear two bills designed to protect Montana firearms businesses and gun owners on Wednesday.

Senate Bill 359, sponsored by Sen. Terry Vermeire, R-Anaconda, would prohibit financial institutions from tracking firearms-related sales using unique identification codes or other means. The bill comes in response to moves from credit card companies, banks, and anti-gun activists seeking to weaponize the financial system against gun owners.

SB 359 is written broadly to cover a wide range of financial institutions and payment providers and prohibits the tracking of sales of firearms, firearm components, accessories, and ammunition. A violation of SB 359 would fall under Montana's unfair trade practices statutes.

"Modern payment and database technology makes it possible for the financial sector to conduct surveillance of law-abiding gun owners, and that's exactly what activists and politicians opposed to the Second Amendment are seeking to do," Vermeire said. "Senate Bill 359 is designed to allow Montanans to exercise their Second Amendment rights without being tracked for making legal purchases of firearms, accessories, and ammunition."

The second bill is SB 361, sponsored by Sen. John Fuller, a Kalispell Republican. SB 361 is meant to prevent financial entities from discriminating against individuals, associations, and businesses on the basis of firearms. It requires the filing of a certificate of nondiscrimination and includes penalties for violations.

"Simply put, Montanans and Montana businesses should not be discriminated against for exercising their constitutional Second Amendment rights," Fuller said.

will be diagnosed with breast cancer in the U.S., including 920 new cases in Montana. About 14,100 women will be diagnosed with cervical cancer in 2023, including 40 new cases in Montana.

Merchant states that most health insurance plans cover the cost of screening mammograms. For women who lack adequate insurance, the M CCP provides free breast and cervical cancer screenings (mammograms and Pap tests) and diagnostic services. Breast and cervical cancer screening services are available statewide, and local health department staff can help schedule screening appointments.

Other tabs on the map feature treatment for medical, radiation, and pediatric oncology, genetic counseling, palliative care and hospice.

The new Quality of Life Services map provides resources available in Montana counties under the categories of counseling, support groups, patient advocates, financial counseling and retreats that provide overnight experiences for cancer patients, caregivers, and family members affected by cancer.

"Cancer is hard, yet over 80 percent of people survive cancer diagnosis," said Becky Franks, CEO Cancer Support Community Montana. "It's important to bring attention to ways to improve quality of life during and after cancer treatment."

Franks also emphasized "there are many treatment modalities and support services available, but it can be challenging to find them, and these maps improve the ability to locate the needed services," she said. "In addition, we will use this map to track resource deserts and think about how to fill the needs of Montana residents who are dealing with a cancer diagnosis."

Franks said feedback about the maps has been positive. For example, she said a physician from the Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City used the maps to find resources to help a local Montana patient.

Also, map improvements are already in the works for later this year when a new category will be added called Occupational Therapists in the Treatment of Cancer Patients. This is for services for people who have lost, or lost the use of limbs, organs, or who suffer from cancer-related lymphedema.

For more information about the Montana Cancer Coalition, go to About - Montana Cancer Coalition (mtcancercoalition.org)



WINDOWS 11 UPGRADE

Victor Sample

It's been almost 8 years since Microsoft released Windows 10. Instead of new releases every year or two years, Microsoft did "Feature Releases" where they introduced new features twice a year.

Microsoft released Windows 11 in 2021. New PCs all come with Windows 11 now. If you want a new PC, but want to run Windows 10 you would have to download Windows 10 and do a "clean" install over your Windows 11. Probably not worth doing.

People have not been upgrading their existing PCs to Windows 11 – at least not as fast as Microsoft wants the upgrades. So, Microsoft has started putting up full-screen offers to upgrade your Windows 10 to Windows 11. There are 2 buttons in the middle of the screen for you to select: "Upgrade now" or "Schedule Upgrade". Most people will end up clicking on the first button without even looking at it just hoping to get rid of the screen so they can do whatever they wanted to do on their PC; but, either button is going to do an upgrade.

There is a very small link on the bottom left-hand side that says "Keep Windows 10". If you can find it, you can get out of the screen without doing something to cause an upgrade. If you want to keep Windows 10, make sure you click on the small text link.

WINDOWS S MODE

If you buy a new PC, it will probably come with Windows 11. If I look at new PCs being sold they all come with Windows 11.

Windows 11 introduced the "S Mode" – security mode. The new PCs I have seen all come With Windows 11 configured to be in S mode. We all want our PCs to be secure, so that sounds like a good thing! However, what the S mode really does is restrict you from running programs that have not been certified by Microsoft.

All programs installed on Windows 11 in S Mode require you to get them from the Microsoft App Store. Some are free, some you will pay for, but they must come from the Microsoft App Store.

I recently gave the local American Legion (Legion Post 42) a Bingo program that I had written. They are going to use it during their Bingo events. I created a standard Windows install for the program. When they tried to install the bingo program they received an error telling them it was not a Microsoft-certified program and that they could not install it.

They were using a new PC running Windows 11 in S-Mode. Fortunately, it is easy to get out of S-Mode to install programs that are not from the Microsoft Store. The error screen that is displayed when you try to install a non-certified program gives you the option of getting out of S-Mode. In addition, you can go to the Windows Settings and switch out of S-Mode.

However, be aware that switching out of S-Mode is a one-way change. If you switch out of S-Mode you cannot switch back to S-Mode. In other words, if you know you can trust a program that is not from the Microsoft App store and you want to install just that one program then switches back to Secure Mode (S-Mode), you cannot do that. Once you have switched you no longer can be in S-Mode.

So far, I have not upgraded any PCs running Windows 10 to Windows 11 to see if the upgrade is in S-Mode. Due to requirements about the TPM 2.0 chip (Trusted Platform Module), none of my older 3 pcs running Windows 10 can upgrade to Windows 11. I suspect that upgraded PCs (vs. the new ones) will NOT be in S-Mode because Microsoft can't guarantee everything came from their App Store; but, they might put everyone initially in S-Mode anyway.

If you upgrade and find yourself in S-Mode you can switch to the normal mode using the Windows Settings.



DPHHS - MONTANA CANCER TREATMENT CENTERS

DPHHS

Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and Montana Cancer Coalition officials are promoting resources to help Montanans find cancer care services available in the state.

The DPHHS Montana Cancer Coalition Program (MCCP) offers two interactive maps to support Montanans affected by cancer find available resources. The maps feature information for 214 distinct services from 57 separate providers.

"Providing quality customer service comes in many forms, and in this case making it easy to find these life-saving services is so important," said DPHHS Director Charlie Brerton. "These interactive maps consolidate hundreds of services into one easy-to-find website to help Montanans find information for themselves or a loved one."

The Cancer Screening and Treatment Facilities map includes information about where to access cancer screening services in the state.

"Early detection is the key to treating any type of cancer as soon as possible," said Leah Merchant, DPHHS Cancer Control Program Section Supervisor. "It's vital that Montanans have access to cancer screening services, know how to gain access to treatment, help with recovery and psychological support and how to access services to improve quality of life."

For example, the map includes information on available cancer screening sites for no-cost breast and cervical screenings for women who are un- or under-insured.

To highlight the importance of early screening, Merchant said 92 percent of women diagnosed with early stage cervical cancer and 99 percent of women diagnosed with early stage breast cancer will survive for at least five years after diagnosis.

This compares to only 17 percent of women diagnosed with metastatic cervical cancer and 30 percent of women diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer.

It's estimated that in 2023 over 281,000 women

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

“WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK IN HISTORY”

Submitted by Linda Huth; Sponsored by: The Broadwater County Historical Society and The “Cotter Foundation”

February 23

1939

“Canton Valley News”

Fred Lemon, Jr., who travels for Knittinf Mills Company, has been spending a short vacation this past week with Lonnie Merritt at his ranch home.

Homer Henry of Confederate was a business visitor in Townsend on Saturday of last week.

Geraldine Hardgrove of Helena spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Hardgrove and brother, Gene, and attended the Charity Ball Saturday evening in Townsend.

Miss Evelyn Barker, who is employed in Helena, spent this past week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Barker. Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Weed drove out from Helena Saturday and attended the Charity Ball in Townsend and spent Sunday at the Barker home on Confederate Creek. Fritz and Evelyn returned for work on Monday and Mrs. Weed remained for a week’s visit with her parents and friends.

1950

“Lotta Cats”

Helena, Feb. 17 – C.O. Murray of Boulder brought 15 bobcats and four mountain lions to the state game and fish department. He applied for bounties for the animals, which he and his dogs killed in the Crow Creek area.

“Last Games Before Tournament Here Friday and Saturday Nights”

The last games scheduled for the Bulldogs before the state tournament will be played on the house floor this Friday and Saturday nights. Friday night the Broadwater quintet will meet Willow Creek and Saturday night the Three Forks Wolves will invade the Bulldog territory., both seeking second wins.

The Bulldogs, under the coaching of bunny Radakovich, have shown steady improvement and on this, the eve of the state meet, which convenes in Bozeman next week, fans could see anything happen.

Out of 15 conference games, played this season, the Broadwater Bulldogs have lost nine and won

six, a record surpassing that of last year when only two wins were chalked up in their favor and fans here will be watching the state meet’s score board, anxiously. Pairings for the state tournament will be drawn at a meeting of coaches Sunday, according to Coach Radakovich.

Placing in district 8 for the past 17 years shows Broadwater district champions twice and placing for second or third places six other times. It has been five years since the Bulldogs came into the three top places and, although they have met defeat by most of the teams in the district in pre-tournament play offs this year, they have progresses steadily and with good breaks, they have a chance this year.

They were champions in District 8 in 1935, at Townsend and in 1934 at Manhattan. They took second place in Three Forks in 1944; in 1942 at Townsend; in 1941 at Belgrade; 1940 at Bozeman; 1938 in Manhattan. They took third place in 1937 at Townsend. Last year Belgrade came out district champions.

Bulldog team members are: John Gilmore, Kenny Marcotte, Wm. Wooley, Larry Sullivan; Max Luma, Jack Kimpton, Del Morrison Don Clare and Al Shindoll.

1961

“Rotarians Observe Anniversary”

Rotarians of Townsend today join more than half a million of their fellow Rotarians on six continents as they commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Rotary.

The first Rotary Club was organized in Chicago on February 23, 1905, by Paul P. Harris, a young lawyer who suggested the idea to a group of friends. The name “Rotary” was selected because the first meetings of the club were held, in rotation, in the offices of its members.

The Townsend Rotary Club was organized August 24, 1939, and Charter Night was held November 14 of that year. Only two of the present members, Dr. F.P. Nash and James W. Kearns, are charter members.

In commenting on the program of Rotary, Jim Kolar, President of the Townsend club, said: “Rotary activities throughout the world are based on the same general objectives as those of our own club – the development of fellowship among business and professional men, the betterment of communities, leading boys and girls into good citizenship, the promotion of high standards in business and professions, and the advancement of international understanding, good will and peace.

“The one basic objective of Rotary”, he continued, “is its ideal of service which is to be thoughtful of and helpful to others. To attain this objective, Rotary seeks all that which brings people together and avoid all which separates them.”

For three years Townsend tried to find solutions to the problem.

In 1905 the Townsend Star carried the following announcement: “Motion made in the Council that Mayor Wilder employ an experienced electrician and get estimates on the Bowhay Plant.” And “Bowhay offered \$3,500 for his alternating plant complete”.

In December of 1905 the Star reported that Bowhay had accepted the offer and electrical engineer Fred Ramspeck had been hired to run the plant. Ramspeck carried on generating power for the town for 2 years. After Ramspeck, O.G. Ogden worked the generating plant until it was sold.

The Missouri River Power Company offered Townsend \$5,000 for the generating plant in March of 1911. The generating plant had been a financial burden for the City since they took it over from Bowhay. It was an easy decision to sell the power-generating plant to Missouri River Power Company. Missouri River Power brought in electricity from the power line running from Canyon Ferry to Butte.

The very next year Missouri River Power sold the power business to the Butte Electric Company which operated the line from Canyon Ferry to Butte. Soon after that the Great Falls Power Company was expanding and built out to Townsend.

In 1912, The Montana Power Company incorporated its headquarters in Butte and absorbed all of the smaller power companies in the area. Townsend was then powered by The Montana Power Company.

The Milwaukee Railroad running at the south end of the county needed more power and a

1967

“Winston – Clasoil”

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Diehl and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Masolo attended the “Top-Cut” Hereford Show and Sale in Missoula Sunday through Tuesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baum attended the Lewis and Clark Heart Association Concert in Helena on Tuesday evening. Mary Hagbom, who is attending Helena Senior High, was a member of the Senior High chorus. Edwin Baum, a former Winston resident, also participated as a member of the Mountain States Telephone chorus. Mr. and Mrs. Baum reported it a very enjoyable concert.

Among those attending the Class C basketball tournament in Bozeman from this area were Mrs. Marian Halm and Judy, Chris Cox, Bobbi Barthule and Ray, Darrel and Nancy Baum. All reported a very enjoyable weekend, but were sorry that Townsend wasn’t a winner and glad they won the Sportsman’s Trophy.

1978

“Toston-Crow Creek”

Hal Plummer of MSU in Bozeman spent the weekend visiting his parents Jim and Helen Plummer.

Mary and Frank Slifka made a business trip to Helena on Friday.

Don Kitto, who is going to school in Laramie, Wyo. at the Wyoming Technical Institute, was home for the weekend visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ken Kitto and Brad.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harris, Barbara Harris and Allen Gullickson of Helena; Francis Parker and Mr. and Mrs. Darby Parker, Donna and Becky, all of Willow Creek, went skiing at Big Sky Sunday.

Lillian Arden and Irene Herrington made a business trip to Helena on Thursday.

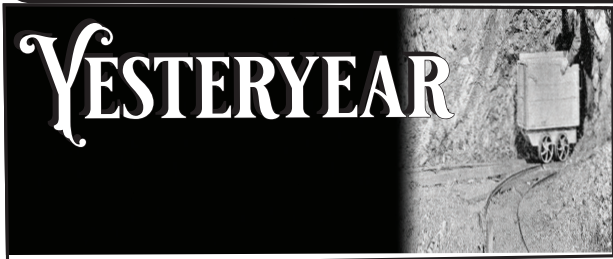
Viola Lohr and Debra attended the Irish Rover Concert at the Civic Center in Helena Saturday night. The Irish Rover group were from Ireland.

Roxie and Duane Anderson and family; Carl and Ruby Kolberg spent Sunday fishing at the Silos. They had pretty good luck.

Judy Slifka and Joyce Lane went to Ennis Friday and met Dean Whitman to get 2 maltese dogs. They stopped in Three Forks on their way home and visited Tom and Carol Kanta and girls.

Curt Diehl attended a farm meeting at the sleeping Giant Lodge Wednesday night.

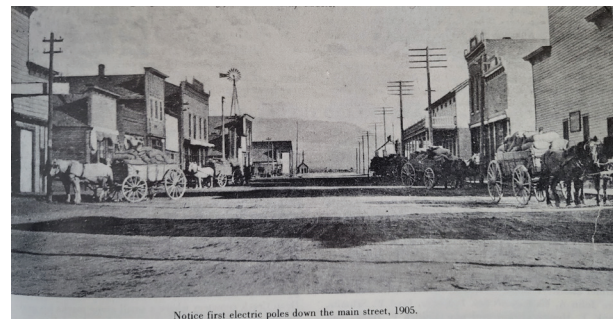
Casey and David Johnson and Dale Johnson visited with Byron Johnson Saturday at Ft. Harrison.



A LITTLE LIGHT, PLEASE

Victor Sample

Photo Credits: Broadwater County Museum and the Broadwater Bygones) Townsend did not have electricity until 1895 when the Bowhay brothers, Charles and Nick, built a generating plant at 203 S. Spruce. That first generating plant used coal and wood to create steam to power the generators. The Bowhay’s sold the electricity to the City of Townsend. The poles to carry the electric lines were set on both sides of Broadway and ran the length of Broadway.

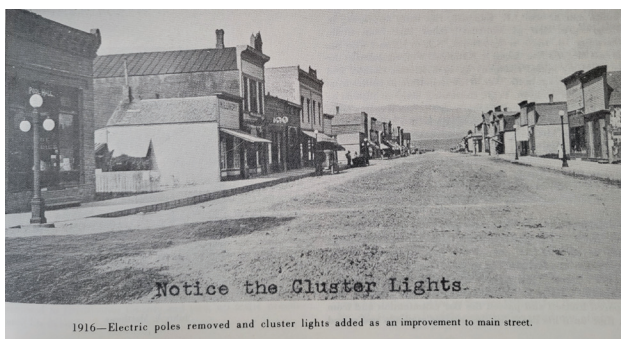


Townsend mainstreet circa 1905

By 1902 an article in the Townsend Star announced that the Bowhay plant could not generate enough power to run the town night and day.

\$100,000 power line was run close to Townsend. In 1916 Townsend was hooked up to the new line and their power problems were solved.

Townsend remained on The Montana Power Company power grid until Montana Power started divesting their power holdings in favor of becoming solely a telecommunications company. When the “dot com” bubble burst in 2000, Montana Power went bankrupt and began selling its assets. In 2002 Northwest Power Company bought out all remaining power utility assets from Montana Power. Townsend has been powered by Northwestern Energy since then.



Townsend mainstreet circa 1916

The information in this article and the Townsend Star article quotes came from information in the “Broadwater Bygones” available at the Broadwater County Museum. The timeline information about The Montana Power Company failing financially and selling assets to Northwestern Power is from a website titled “Northwestern Energy: A 104-year Timeline”. Visit the Broadwater County Museum to learn more about the history of electric power in Townsend and the men that managed the power in Townsend. The pictures are taken from the Broadwater Bygones and are available to be seen at the Broadwater County Museum.

Community Bulletin

Broadband Temp Advisory Committee

The Broadwater County Commissioners are considering the formation of a temporary advisory committee on broadband internet. If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer at lrictmyer@co.broadwater.mt.gov or 406-266-9271 by Wednesday, March 8



• “Revive the look of indoor plant leaves by rubbing the leaves with mineral oil on a soft cloth. Just wipe nicely, and it makes a big difference. Through the years, I have used this tip for both my real plants and plastic plants.” — *J.D. in Alabama*

• Lime juice and vinegar both make good meat tenderizers. You can purchase tougher cuts of meat, season with spices and lime/vinegar and marinate for 10-15 minutes before cooking. It is a great way to ease your meat budget. Steaks are getting expensive!

• “To make onion rings easier to cut (less stinging eyes) and to have the layers separate better when making onion rings, I put my onions in the freezer for about 10 minutes before peeling. They don’t freeze, but they do get nice and cold.” — *O.F. in Florida*

• Looking for a more natural way to clean? Here’s two for the bathroom: Clean chrome with baking soda on a soft, damp cloth. Follow up with vinegar for some shine. Spray lightly and wipe away with a clean cloth.

• “Men: Make your own after-shave. Thin a bottle of baby lotion with a little rubbing alcohol. Put in a hand lotion bottle, and use half a squirt. No sting, and soft, smooth skin.” — *T.G. in Illinois*

• Add a single teaspoon of rice to the saltshaker in order to keep too many grains of salt from coming out at a time.

Send your tips to *Now Here's a Tip*, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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top ten

Least Energy-Expensive States*

1. District of Columbia (\$277)
2. New Mexico (\$377)
3. Nebraska (\$390)
4. Kansas (\$396)
5. Arizona (\$403)
6. Texas (\$416)
7. Louisiana (\$419)
8. California (\$430)
9. Arkansas (\$430)
10. Oregon (\$431)

Source: WalletHub

*Average monthly energy bill

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Americanisms



“You never completely have your rights, one person, until you all have your rights.”
— *Marsha P. Johnson*

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Answers

1. “Mad Men.”
2. Transfiguration.
3. Memphis, Tennessee.
4. Harry Truman.
5. Antarctica.
6. Daniel Handler.
7. Black currants.
8. Civil rights unrest in Little Rock, Arkansas, according to Paul McCartney.
9. Frances Ethel Gumm.
10. Dreys.

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: Which cable TV series features a character named Don Draper?
2. MOVIES: What subject does Professor Minerva McGonagall teach at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry?
3. HISTORY: Where was civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president had a sign on his desk that read, “The Buck Stops Here”?
5. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the world’s largest desert?
6. LITERATURE: What is the real name of the author Lemony Snicket?
7. FOOD & DRINK: What is the fruit that gives the liqueur creme de cassis its flavor?
8. MUSIC: What inspired the Beatles’ song “Blackbird”?
9. CELEBRITIES: What is singer/actress Judy Garland’s birth name?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are squirrels’ nests called?

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Super Crossword

TOTALLY OUT OF IT

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| ACROSS | 1 Four-string guitar | 5 Bits of land in el agua | 10 Luca Brasi in “The Godfather,” e.g. | 16 Soft infant food | 19 Life — know it | 20 New Mexico or Colorado county | 21 Useless | 22 Division of history | 23 Start of a riddle | 26 Mantra syllables | 27 Old-time cleaning cake | 28 Tennis’ Safin | 29 Not skilled in at all | 31 Heavy weight | 32 All — sudden | 35 Spoken | 37 French movie theater | 38 Riddle, part 2 | 44 President Biden | 45 Speaks | 46 Singer Turner | 47 Tell el — (Nile excavation site) | 50 It fills la mer | 51 Riddle, part 3 | 57 Becomes familiar with anew | 59 Per-unit price | 60 Mortise insertion | 61 Ambulance VIPs | 62 Decorative dashboard finish | 66 Chain in biology | 67 Riddle, part 4 | 73 China’s Chou En- — | 74 Like many soda bottles, volume-wise | 75 Purposely ignore | 76 Book of charts | 79 IRS form IDs | 80 “— is a virtue” | 84 Riddle, part 5 | 87 In honor of | 89 Small river | 90 — -mutuel betting | 91 Oxygen-requiring bacterium | 93 Start for center or Pen | 94 End of the riddle | 102 Square yardage, e.g. | 103 Instant replay option | 104 Expressive rock genre | 105 — Leppard (rock band) | 106 Mythical man-goats | 109 “In the red,” e.g. | 111 Division of history | 115 Concordce, e.g., in brief | 116 Riddle’s answer | 120 Grassland | 121 Henner of “Taxi” | 122 — Island (Providence’s state) | 123 Old TV’s — May Clampett | 124 Work unit | 125 Workout wear | 126 Planted | 127 Some deli loaves | 6 Leave for a short time | 7 Spy novelist Deighton | 8 Exhibit works | 9 “... or — told” | 10 Drag racer | 11 New York home of Cornell | 12 Relative of a stickpin | 13 Raging crowd | 14 PDQ’s cousin | 15 Emperor after Claudius I | 16 City on the Illinois River | 17 Ralph Lauren competitor | 18 Pale hue | 24 Actress Skye | 25 Main parts of churches | 30 Fuel rating | 33 Galas | 34 On the Red, e.g. | 36 Former senator Trent | 38 Open slightly | 39 City in Alaska | 40 Four-piece band | 41 Writer Capote, to pals | 42 Org. in many spy novels | 43 Make a ski mask, maybe | 48 Lagoon surrounder | 49 Christen | 51 Core group | 52 Frisky swimmer | 53 Uncool sort | 54 About | 55 Lower-class, to Brits | 56 Growl threateningly | 58 Warning initials above an internet link | 59 Hair bases | 62 Actress Kate of “Grey’s Anatomy” | 63 Of sheep | 64 “Casablanca” woman | 65 Prized buy for a coin collector | 67 Nail on a paw | 68 Pledge | 69 Brand of sneakers | 70 Didn’t win | 71 Hang it up | 72 App that asks “Where to?” | 77 Frolicking | 78 Move back and forth | 80 Open tourney, often | 81 Necessarily | 82 Sleeveless cloak | 83 Arabian chief | 85 Pooch noise | 86 Misters | 87 Agent’s cut | 88 “... there — square” | 91 Something hilarious | 92 Fabric with raised designs | 94 Grapple with, slangly | 95 Slate clearer | 96 Attachment to a dog or cat collar | 97 “House” actress Wilde | 98 Old-time Ford | 99 NASA countdown term | 100 Ferber of fiction | 101 — regions (Hades) | 107 Crater edges | 108 Novelist Irwin | 110 Corp. VIPs | 112 Squeezed (out) | 113 Be in power | 114 Jubilant cries | 117 Exist | 118 “So that’s your trick!” | 119 Wrecker’s job |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------|

BROADWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

515 Broadway, Townsend

Meetings are held at the Flynn Building on 416 Broadway St.

Current and previously recorded meetings, official agenda, and minutes may be viewed on the website at <https://www.broadwatercountymt.com>.

Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, agenda must include an item allowing public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the agency conducting the meeting. Public comments and items not on the agenda will be taken either in writing in advance of the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. Mail and items for discussion and/or signature may occur as time allows during the meeting. Issues and times are subject to change. Working meetings will be posted on the agenda and will not be recorded.

OFFICIAL agendas are posted in the Courthouse (1st floor bulletin board), on our website at www.broadwatercountymt.com, in the window of the Flynn Building at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, and in the Helena Independent Record (IR).

Monday, February 27, 2023 Unofficial

- 10:00 AM Commission Working Meeting, Planning for the March 21, 2023 Board Training
- 1:30 PM Closed Door Meeting, Discussion on update for Broadwater County v Peters et al
- 1:35 PM Open Public Meeting (if needed), Discussion and Decision on update for Broadwater County v Peters et al

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 Unofficial

- 10:00 AM Commission Working Meeting, Cooperative Work Agreement for 2023 with the Department of Revenue

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 Unofficial

- 10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, Cook’s Landing Building for Lease or Rent (BLR), Nichole Brown, Community Development & Planning Director
- 10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, Quiet Lot 8 Subsequent Minor Subdivision, Nichole Brown, Community Development & Planning Director
- 10:40 AM Discussion, Lakeview Mini Storage Building for Lease or Rent (BLR), Nichole Brown, Community Development & Planning Director
- 10:50 AM Discussion, Silos #6 Lot 71 Storage Units BLR, Nichole Brown, Community Development & Planning Director
- 11:00 AM Discussion/Decision, May COS Nichole Brown, Community Development & Planning Director
- 11:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Jania Hatfield, Deputy County Attorney, Resolution to form a temporary advisory committee on Broadband Internet in Broadwater County
- 11:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Ruby Taylor Broadwater County Public Health Director, cancel the contract with RXNT
- 2:00 PM Working Meeting with LAC

All Fun & Games

Super Crossword

Answers

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

Answer

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

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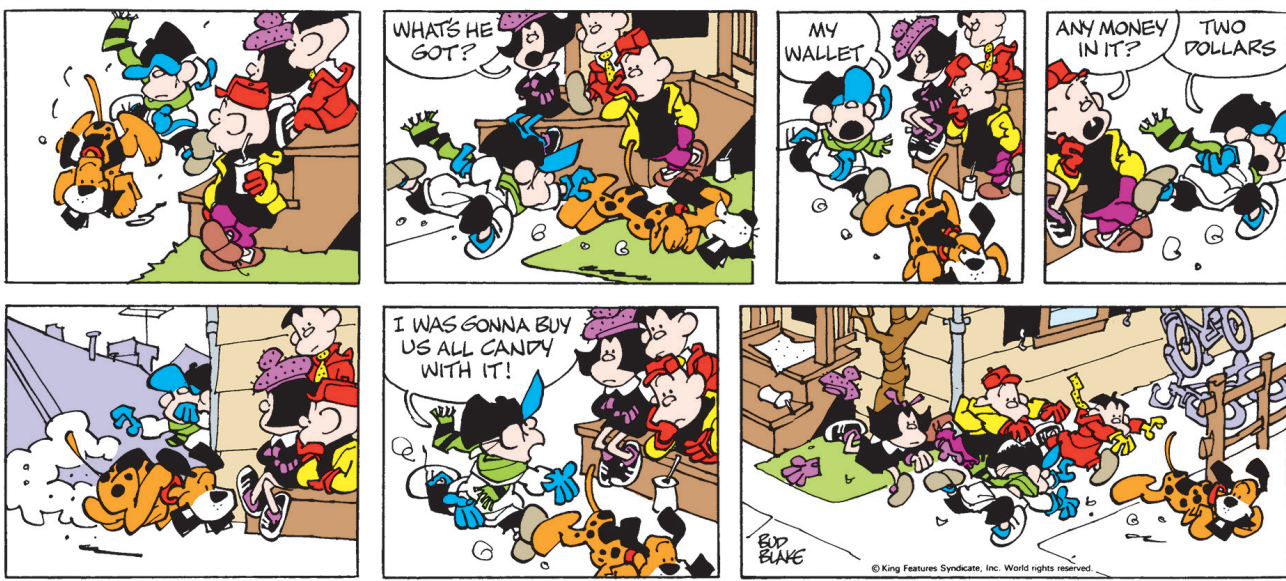
dannykurk@gmail.com

GRIN and BEAR IT

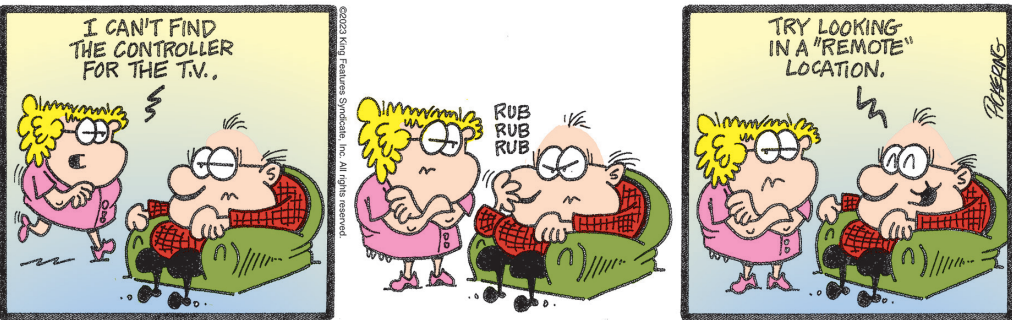


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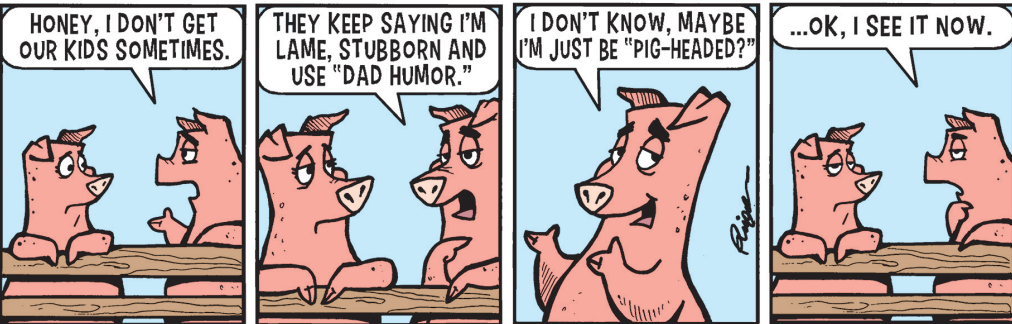
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- BCT needs members and sponsors for the 2023 season
- Join the BCT Board of Director's Committees
- BCT needs potential actors and back stage teams for 2023
- Hors d'Oeuvres served
- Donation Beer and Wine Bar
- Join us for a fun time and support a great community

Broadwater Community Theater Board:
 LaRinda Spencer, Tina Homann, Nancy Marks,
 Carla Amundson, Patrick Plantenberg, James Domino, Birdie Kribs

Broadwater Community Theater Purpose: To foster, promote, and increase the public knowledge and appreciation of the arts and cultural activities in Broadwater County through theater and the arts.

fun for life PROGRAM

THE LODGE

Broadwater Community Theater
 Inspire, Teach, Create

WEED OF THE MONTH: POISON IVY

Allison Kosto, MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



The Montana Field Guide shows that there is Poison Ivy in Broadwater County. However, growing up here and even as an adult, I have never seen it nor had anyone submit a sample to the office, until recently. Finally, last summer we found it. It is likely not the only patch but I can confirm a large patch in the Crow Creek Valley along Warm Springs Creek. It's definitely something to keep an eye out for, although not extremely common in our area.

Description & Habitat Western poison ivy is native to North America. It does not have some of the same environmental concerns as other "weedy" species. However, it does cause concern due to its toxicity to humans. A simple touch of the plant can cause skin blotches and burning blisters which can cause swelling and intense pain.

Poison ivy is a small shrub that can be 4 to 20 inches tall. It is commonly found in fencerows, along creeks, roadsides and woodlands. The leaves are shiny, and each leaf is made up of three leaflets. In the fall, poison ivy has a vivid reddish color that makes it attractive. The flowers are not often visual underneath the leaves. Fruits are greenish-yellow and occur in clusters. The plant is primarily spread from seeds dispersed by birds who eat the fruit.

All parts of poison ivy contain resinous compounds called urushiol which cause inflammation, itching and blistering when they come in contact with the skin. About 80% of people are sensitive to the toxin and have an allergic reaction to the plant. This liquid can also get on tools, pets or clothing and then transfer to skin indirectly. Dead plant material also contains urushiol. They can even become a gas when poison ivy is burnt. If you are exposed to poison ivy, wash immediately with soap and water. Contact a medical professional if you inhale smoke from burning plants, have large areas of skin exposed or need symptom management (itching, swelling, etc.).

Management Proceed with caution when controlling or eradicating this plant. Make sure no skin can be exposed to the plant by wearing gloves, long pants, socks, shoes and a long-sleeved shirt. Wash any clothes that come in contact with poison ivy after working around the plant. Never burn poison ivy.

Digging and pulling have been shown to be effective. You may have to do it more than once though if not enough of the root system is removed. Another management option is the use of goats as biological control. They can help suppress or stop the spread of the plant, but may not fully eradicate it.

Herbicides are also an option. The best active ingredients for poison ivy are glyphosate, 2,4-D or triclopyr. Examples of brand names are 2,4-D Amine, Basecamp, Crossbow, Garlon, and Remedy. 2,4-D is best applied in late spring or early summer when plants are actively growing. Triclopyr is best in early spring or in the fall before leaf color changes. Glyphosate (i.e. Roundup) is a nonselective herbicide that will also kill desired plants. Always read and follow the entire label when applying herbicide. Common chemical names are used for clarity but does not imply endorsement of a product or brand.

For assistance on weed identification and management, contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HEART HEALTH

Justin Tiffany, MBA - Billings Clinic Broadwater Director Of Clinic and Ancillary Services

The statistics on heart disease can be staggering. Every day in the U.S., cardiovascular disease (heart disease and stroke combined) kills about 2,300 people. With obesity in youth and adults alike at an all-time high, more and more patients are being diagnosed with heart disease at younger ages. That only underscores just how important it is that, if you are experiencing any heart attack symptoms or have any concerns about your heart health, you seek out appropriate care as soon as possible.

With the ongoing pandemic, the heart care team at Billings Clinic is there to safely care for you, answer questions and help your heart health. To put it into perspective, the American Heart Association also shares the following facts:

- Heart disease kills more people than all forms of cancer combined.
- Heart attacks affect more people every year than the population of Dallas, Texas.
- 83% believe that heart attacks can be prevented but aren't motivated to do anything.
- 72% of Americans don't consider themselves at risk for heart disease.
- And 58% put no effort into improving their heart health.

That might sound pretty scary and can paint a dire picture. But, despite heart disease being the number one killer of Americans – it causes an estimated one in four deaths every year – knowing what to look for and committing to a handful of simple lifestyle changes can make a world of difference in both prevention and management of heart disease year-round. With American Heart Month taking place throughout February, it's a great time to make sure you're up to speed on signs and symptoms, remind yourself and others to get care when you need it and get a refresher on how to live a heart-healthy lifestyle.

As part of the largest independent healthcare system in a region that includes Montana, Wyoming and the western Dakotas, Billings Clinic Broadwater can help manage your heart health. With a caring, skilled team of primary care providers and emergency services, they can see you close to home for your immediate needs. And if you need additional care, Billings Clinic Broadwater has cardiologist Dr. Carla Kingsley onsite every month to provide specialty cardiac care right here in Townsend.

The team here also has access to the experts at Billings Clinic's John R. Burg MD Cardiac Center who are dedicated to helping raise awareness and continuing to provide a year-round, complete heart care program for thousands of patients across Montana, Wyoming and the western Dako-

tas. Billings Clinic has a long history of heart care innovation in the region, from performing Montana's first open heart surgery in 1972 to recently celebrating 14,000 open heart surgeries.

That includes everything from the region's busiest transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) program to a full structural heart team, from the ability to provide advanced procedures such as the WATCHMAN atrial fibrillation procedure to reduce the chance of stroke to a caring team of highly skilled and experienced medical professionals.

Knowing what to look out for is key so that you can respond appropriately if you or someone nearby is having a heart attack. Common symptoms include pain or discomfort in the chest; lightheadedness, nausea or vomiting; jaw, neck or back pain; discomfort or pain in the arm or shoulder; and shortness of breath.

Keep in mind that, while chest pain is the most common symptom in both men and women, women are also more likely to see other common symptoms, including shortness of breath, nausea or vomiting and pain in the back or jaw. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, or feel you are having a heart attack, call 911 immediately.

Making sure you also live a heart-healthy lifestyle is the key to prevention. Pushing past or ignoring early symptoms of cardiovascular disease can be all too easy while we focus on work, family, and the rest of the hustle of day-to-day life. Due to growing obesity numbers across the U.S. heart disease is showing up in younger and younger ages.

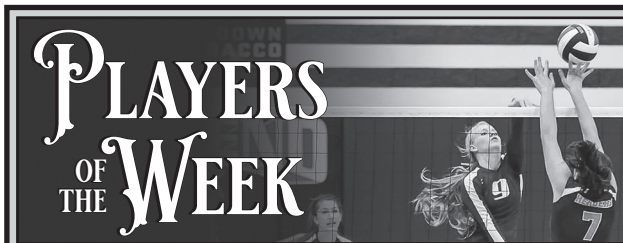
An important tool is your primary care physician or cardiologist. Talking about heart health with a physician can help create a personalized plan that addresses any specific needs and goals. Prevention can go a long way toward maintaining heart health. For starters, Billings Clinic Broadwater suggests the following:

- Maintain a healthy weight.
- Quit smoking or using other tobacco products and stay away from secondhand smoke.
- Control your cholesterol and blood pressure.
- If you drink alcohol, drink only in moderation.
- Get active and eat healthy.

Not only do these steps help prevent heart disease, but keeping a healthy weight and lowering cholesterol and blood pressure levels can also set a good example for others. Doing all of these things is incredibly important not only for your own health but for the health of the people around you.

Your family, your friends and others can pick up on what you're doing and that makes a real difference. Promoting and living a heart-healthy lifestyle is good for everybody, and having the right care team behind you can help to ensure your success.

Learn more at www.billingsclinic.com/broadwater. For more information on heart care at Billings Clinic, visit www.billingsclinic.com/heart.



Here are the athletes of the week!

Boys Basketball:

Sophomore, **Ryedan Reed** had a great weekend at the Class 5B District Tournament. As only a sophomore, Ryedan was pushed to be a strong player and a huge contributor to the basketball team. All season long Ryedan has been one of our team's best rebounders, and during our last game he scored 12 points. He gave everything he had out on the court and Coach Patrick is very excited to see his improvements on and off the court next year! Congrats Ryedan, and congrats on a great season Bulldogs!



We would like to thank Graymont Indian Creek Plant for being a 2022-2023 Banner Booster member and supporting our Bulldogs!

Girls Basketball:

Co-captain **Emily Bird** is the player of the week following her outstanding performance at the District tournament. Emily scored 11 points in each of the Bulldog wins against Three Forks and Whitehall. She had some key rebounds and assists in every game. "Emily consistently leads by example, understands hard work and gets the job done!" Congratulations, Emily!



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