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Entry to a Fair Tradition!—p.4



Ladders & Augers & Trees, O My!—p.12

TOWNSEND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ATV POKER RUN

Matt Nelson



On Saturday, June 10th the Townsend Chamber of Commerce sponsored another All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Poker Ride in the Elkhorns. This was to benefit the Broadwater County Search and Rescue (BCSAR) team, the city/county Fire Department, and the county Ambulance Services. This is the 10th year that this event has occurred here; it was started by Chamber board member Bob Saxby. Tim Pool is the President of the Chamber and is given the title “Cheerman!” He was at the fairgrounds both at the beginning and the end of the ride.

When the event was first started, there were only about 40 ATVs but now it has grown to about 240. Many came from out of state. All the participants met at the fairgrounds in the morning prior to the official start which began at 9 AM. The first checkpoint was at Winston, and then the riders went up Weasel Creek. They followed Eagle Creek Road to Hall Creek Road, and from there they drove to S. Fork Crow Creek, down along Crow Creek itself until they got to Mud Springs, up to Iron Mask, and then back to the fairgrounds via Indian Creek Road and Highway 287.

Bob Saxby was stationed at the last checkpoint, which was number 5, near the junction of Mud Springs and the turnoff to Iron Mask. One of the sponsors was KETTLEHOUSE Brewing Company out of Helena; there was a sign on Bob’s truck with this name, plus the words CHECKPOINT 5. This reporter was with Bob for a couple of hours. During that time about 25 of the



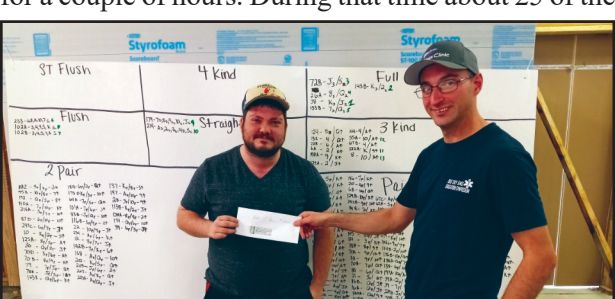
There were lots of laughs from these two groups of people in the ATV Poker Ride. Photo Credit: Matt Nelson and Tim Pool

mud-spattered ATVs stopped at this checkpoint. Most had endured a heavy thunderstorm and lots of water across the trail. One of the drivers said, “It was wet, it was muddy, but it was FUN!” Most of the ATVs had two people riding, but there were some people flying solo, and other machines had up to four riders. One man

was with a boy about 5 years old, and that young man had a grin that stretched from Canyon Ferry Lake to the top of the Elkhorns! He was probably the youngest, but there were several couples who had to spend some of their social security money to enter the ride (\$20 online registration and \$30 for registration at the fairgrounds).

From the view of a ground pounder not riding the trails, the different types and colors of the ATVs were most interesting. Several people had the dogs along with them. Unfortunately, there is not enough space in this newspaper to print out all the photos of the riders and their ATVs that came through Checkpoint 5 during those two hours.

Back at the fairgrounds veterans from the American Legion Post 42 served dinner, and there was a grand prize for the ATV Poker Ride of \$1000 given away to Dylan Bigelow of Bozeman by local EMT Chris Southworth. Congratulations, Dylan!



Chris Southworth presents Dylan Bigelow of Bozeman the \$1000 grand prize Photo Credit: Matt Nelson and Tim Pool



This young boy's grin stretched between Canyon Ferry Lake and the top of the Elkhorn Mountains. Photo Credit: Matt Nelson and Tim Pool

COUNTY ATTORNEY ASKS FOR HIGHER WAGES FOR DEPUTY ATTORNEYS

Nancy Marks
Reporter



At the regular June 7 County Commissioner meeting Broadwater County Attorney Cory Swanson suggested to the commissioners that the county needs to offer higher pay to compete in the market for deputy county attorneys.

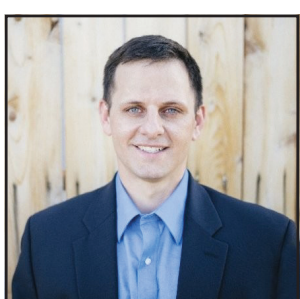
In a memorandum to the commissioners, Swanson

said the purpose of his recommendation is “to recruit and retain qualified attorneys to provide competent legal representation for the county.”

He said the current wage offering for the position is not competitive to hire a new deputy county attorney or to retain the current one.

Swanson’s memo pointed out that the county has advertised for a deputy county attorney since last October with a salary range of \$70,000-\$72,000 and has received zero applications. Additionally, he said the current deputy attorney, Jania Hatfield, with over seven years of experience, makes \$72,800, but could easily make \$20,000 more a year in the Helena market.

The May 9 memo asks the commissioners to approve a “market wage adjustment” for the deputy county attorney positions.



Cory Swanson Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

He asked for a salary range of \$74,000 to \$80,500 for a deputy with zero to four years experience. The total annual cost to the county with benefits would be \$87,000 to \$95,000. He recommended a salary range of \$85,000 to \$93,500 for a deputy with over 5 years of experience. Total cost to the county would be \$100,000 to \$110,500. He, along with County Financial Officer Debbie Kelly detailed avenues for the county to pay the additional monies.

No action was taken by the commissioners in the process of developing their county budget for next year.

In an email to Mt 43 News, Swanson pointed out that his office’s caseload had continued to grow due to the larger numbers of arrests made by the Broadwater County Sheriff’s office as a result of the growth pressure in the county. “In 2022 this office filed 32 felony cases. In 2023 we have already filed 30 felony cases

so far,” he said.

He said, “I will be doing both criminal and civil caseload and supervision. I need (also) to be more involved with the County Commission and our civil workload.”

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES FILES SUIT TO CLARIFY GOVERNOR’S ABILITY TO BYPASS LEGISLATURE’S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO OVERRIDE VETO

Shantil Siaperas
MACo Communications Director



The Montana Association of Counties (“MACo”) filed suit today to compel Governor Greg Gianforte

MACO Suit, 5

FFA DAY OF SERVICE

Lisa Larson
Townsend Schools



Broadwater County recently had about 40 Montana FFA members touring some of our local businesses. Along with the tours, these kids also were involved in some service for the county.

FFA is known for its service. As stated on the state website, "Today, our members live the motto Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live and Living to serve. FFA members rise to the challenge of service embracing members of all walks of life united through FFA."

The FFA kids, under the direction of Tyler Noyes, were quick to grab a pair of gloves, a rake, a saw, a garbage bag, or a shovel and pitch in to help clean up one of the most heavily used properties in the county... Broadwater Fairgrounds.

The FFA group, Pat Plantenburg, Mary Mistake and Lisa Larson made a huge impact on the clean-up process at our grounds. The Townsend Rodeo Board is very appreciative of the efforts of so many individuals.



FFA Day of Service
Photo Credits: Lisa Larson

FFA is a fantastic organization where students are given the opportunity to learn unique talents and explore their interests in a broad range of agricultural career pathways.

FFA is so much more than cows and plows. We encourage you to explore the many opportunities at FFA.

TOWNSEND'S PLAYERS SHINE AT NORTH-SOUTH ALL-STAR GAME

Nancy Marks
Reporter



Townsend's quarterback Ryan Racht threw a touchdown pass and ran for another to lead the South Team to a 14-8 victory last Saturday in the 34th annual Big Sky Class B All-Star football game at Lockwood High School stadium in Billings. The win crowned the class B coaching career of Travis Rau who coached 23 years at Broadwater High School. He will become head coach at Class A Laurel High School.



Left to right- Walker Spurlock, Jesus Garcia, Coach Joe Horne, Dawson Sweat, Ridger Jones, Ryan Racht, Coach Rau.
Photo Credit: Sheri Heavrin

The Class B squad was trailing 8-0 with about two and half minutes remaining in the first half. A kick return plus a 15-yard interference penalty allowed the South to take over on the North team's 27-yard line. Four plays later, on 4th down Racht threw a 21-yard scoring pass to Sage Buus of Whitehall with 45 seconds left in the half. Coach Rau gambled for a two-point conversion with a running play that failed, leaving North ahead 8-6 at the half.

The North team suffered a disaster on its first possession of the second half when the South's Zach Zody of Jefferson High intercepted a pass by North's quarterback

Caleb Utter of Eureka. Six plays later Racht scored on a three-yard run to make the score 12-8 in South's favor. Again Coach Rau gambled for a two-point conversion. Townsend's Dawson Sweat successfully ran for the conversion to make the final score 14-8. The scoring drive was sparked by a 38-yard pass play from Racht to Townsend's Jesus Garcia.

Sweat added two big runs of 11 and 27 yards on the South's last drive before they punted the ball with two minutes left in the game.

Racht was named offensive most valuable player (MVP) for the South team. The South's defensive MVP was Guy Lesh of Baker. Utter was named offensive MVP for the North team. North defensive team MVP honors went to Manny Baldi, Bigfork.

The game ended the North's four-game winning streak. Overall the North leads the series 18-16.

Rau said he was proud of the way the South responded after trailing 8-0 with two:38 left in the first half. "It feels great to have the opportunity to coach these kids and the mental toughness they showed," Rau said.

He said they planned to throw the ball a lot, but the "elements did not allow it".

The game was played almost entirely under a heavy downpour.

HELENA HANDBASKET PLAYS AT CANTON CHURCH OPENING

Nancy Marks
Reporter

With hand instruments and four voices that harmonize perfectly, the Helena Handbasket Quartet played lively but soulful bluegrass music at the seasonal opening of the Canton Church Friday, June 9.

A practically full church audience enjoyed the band members' array of Montana artists' songs such as "Can't Stand Those Rattlesnakes," and sad songs about soldiers along with "living in a small town there's no place to hide." Another sad rendition of "Sonny don't go away" is about a momma trying to keep her grown son home so she won't be so lonesome.



Helena Handbasket (left to right): Jim Gunderson, Terry Gunderson, Candy Payne, Dave Payne
Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Goose Bay Glass Blowers, Jim and Terry Gunderson and their long-time friends and fellow blue grass players, Candy and Dave Payne of Helena, stuck closely to their hand instruments. They played with an upright bass, concertina, violin and guitar. The acoustics of the Canton Church are perfectly fitted for voice and instruments. Each word or song can be heard easily from the front or the back of the church.

Vic Sample, Canton Church Restoration, Inc. board member introduced the quartet with a short history of the church, built in 1875/76 in the village of Canton, whose location was covered when the Canyon Ferry Reservoir filled the valley in 1952. House mover H.J. Sigitly hauled the church to its present location. The church served first as a Catholic Church from 1876 until the mid-1980s. It was originally built as a community center in Canton. Now it has come full circle as a community hall serving musical performances and speakers who delve into local history. The nonprofit began in 1997 when several local historians gathered to restore the building. The restoration was completed on Christmas Eve, 2002.

Next on the church's performance schedule is a Broadwater County favorite performer, Judy Williams. She will play on June 23 beginning at 5:00 pm. The performance is free, but donations are appreciated. For more information go to www.canton-church.org.

Townsend School Calendar

Jun 21

- 6:00PM Old Baldy Adult Ed - Writing Professionally for Money at Library Classroom
- 7:00PM Adult Ed - Introduction to Computer Programming Concepts at Library Community Room

QUEEN CITY SWING BAND PERFORMS AT THE LODGE

Nancy Marks
Reporter

It was a special night at The Lodge for those couples who love to dance. Fifty folks listened to the great dance music from the '40s and the '50s played by the Helena group Queen City Swing Band. The eleven-member band did not disappoint: they played tango, cha cha, waltzes and jitterbug.



Carla Amundson engaged the band and organized the evening.
Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

The first live dance band music to perform in Townsend for some time was welcomed by those who enjoyed elegant decorations by Carla Amundson and appetizers prepared by Amanda Domino and Tina Homann. The audience clapped and stomped until the band played at least two encores after the 9 o'clock bell.

Even though the crowd consisted mostly OF people over fifty, six teenagers came to show them how it is done with an amazing rendition of Jitterbug, much to the hollers and claps of an enthusiastic audience. Saxophone player Rylan Edlin remarked at the enthusiastic audience, "Sometimes our audiences are not nearly as excited to dance and sing as this group," he said.

Heather Bell, the organizer of the band, pointed out how exceptional the Lodge venue is with good seating, natural air conditioning (open windows) and the convenience of an elevator. "It really makes moving our band instruments and stands very easy when we have use of an elevator," she commented.

Queen City Swing Band has a great following. Members of the Helena Tango Group drove out to enjoy the evening. One Townsend dancer, retired school principal Chuck Smith, commented it was the first time he had danced in the Lodge since he attended a sweetheart dance when he was 17," That was 59 years ago," he said, "This is great!"

The dance band was hosted by Broadwater Community Theater as part of its season entertainment schedule. Their next performance will be a children's play, Treasure Island, to be held in August. Sponsors for the Queen City Swing Band performance are The Lodge of Townsend, Bill Kearns, Townsend Hardware, S.T.O.K.E., Ron and Mary Ann Saladay, Dawn Langlinais, Albertina Homann, Pat Plantenberg and Mary Mistek, Townsend Rotary, St. Peter's Health and EXIT Realty LaRinda Spencer.

Father's Day

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TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDARS

- June 16**
 12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
 1:00PM Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center
 6:00PM Community Luau at United Methodist, 200 N Cedar
- June 17**
 6:00PM Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
 6:30PM Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore
- June 19**
 5:00PM Flynn's Bible Camp - Men's Bible Camp at Flynn's Cabin, Dry Creek
 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery at 107 E St, Townsend, 406-980-1805
- June 20**
 5:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
 6:00PM Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club
- June 21**
 1:00PM Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center
- June 22**
 3:00PM Elkhorn Veterinary Clinic - Customer Appreciation BBQ at Elkhorn Veterinary Clinic
 3:00PM Farmer's Market at WIFI Park, Townsend
 7:00PM Al-Anon at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
- June 23**
 12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
 1:00PM Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center
 5:00PM Historic Canton Church Presents Judy Williams at Canton Church
- June 23-25**
 TACC Walleye Festival
- June 24**
 4:30PM Youth for Community at United Methodist, 200 N Cedar- all welcome
 6:00PM Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
 6:30PM Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore
- June 28th**
 Shakespear in the Park at Heritage Park
- June 29th**
 1:00PM Paper Making at Broadwater County Library
- County and Government Calendar**
- June 19**
 6:00PM City/County Parks & Recreation at Flynn Building
- June 21**
 10:00AM Commission Meeting at Flynn Building

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MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

Cause No: DV-2023-10
SUMMONS

MYSHEDRENTAL, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 RYAN HUGHES, and individual, Defendant.

TO: Defendant, RYAN HUGHES

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action which is filed in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to file your answer and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Witness my hand and the Seal of said Court this 20 day of March, 2023

By: Desiree Taves, Deputy Clerk

MNAXLP

BROADWATER COUNTY MONTANA

BROADWATER COUNTY RODEO

Tanya Dundas

Broadwater County Rodeo is Sunday, August 6th, 2023.
 Kids rodeo 8/3/23

Sign-up for Rodeo participation will be June 26th from 5:00-8:00 pm at the ticket office at the fairgrounds.

Sign-up Forms can be downloaded from the townsend-fairgrounds.com website.

Forms can be filled out and e-mailed to Tanya prior to the 6/26/23 date at: dundast@mt.net

Any questions please call Tanya at 406-670-9235.

BROADWATER GOLFER ENTERS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Eliza McLaughlin
 MT43 News Correspondent

Scott DeMars, a golfer from Old Baldy Golf Course, entered the first-ever Montana State Match Play Championship tournament on Saturday, June 10.

The tournament was played at the Bill Roberts Golf Course in Helena, and was hosted by the Montana State Golf Association.

In the qualifying round, DeMars shot a perfect par for the course of 72 strokes. This performance ranked him 11th going into match play.

First up for DeMars was Gabe Witham, a golfer from the Butte Country Club who was seeded 22nd in the tournament. Witham received an early lead over DeMars and held onto it throughout the match, finishing 4 up on hole 15.

Despite not progressing in the tournament, DeMars was on track to improve his course score in the match.

Bill Petrovish also participated from Old Baldy, but withdrew before the seeding round finished.



BROADWATER RUNNERS PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNOR'S CUP

Eliza McLaughlin
 MT43 News Correspondent

Several Broadwater County residents made the trek to Helena to compete in the 2023 Montana Governor's Cup last weekend on June 10.

Placing the highest amongst Broadwater County's runners was 16-year old Kaelyn Sangray. Sangray finished the 10K in 49:08.77 and placed 10th among the women.

Becky Lang and Julia Masolo also ran the 10K and placed 46th and 99th among the women, respectively.

On the men's side, 59-year old Shaun Scott finished the race in 1:08:00.16, placing 86th among the men.

Scott's sons, Iain and Aidan, also participated in the Governor's Cup, choosing to run the 5K instead. Iain Scott, 22, finished the 5K in 22:53.04, placing 18th among the men. Aidan Scott, 21, was next from Broadwater to cross the finish line in 37:26.92.

Fellow Townsend resident 17-year old Riley Rauser joined the Scott son's in the 5K, finishing the race in 39:21.99.

In the women's 5K, Chantelle Lapsley, a 32-year old from Townsend, was first across the line. Lapsley finished in 30:49.95 and placed 42nd among the women.

Anzhela Stoliar, Tricia White and Chelsea Rauser of Townsend also ran the 5K, finishing in 30:49.95, 37:28.58, 38:29.98 and 39:22.19, respectively.

Running the furthest from Broadwater County was Michael Aguirre, a 38-year old from Townsend. Aguirre, competing in the 26-mile long marathon, finished 26th among the men in 4:17:01.41.

The Montana Governor's Cup will return next year, and Broadwater County residents are likely to put up another great showing.

PASTOR NEY KHUT IS THE NEW SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST MINISTER IN TOWNSEND

Matt Nelson

As of about a month ago, Ney Khut is now the new Pastor at the Townsend Seventh-day Adventist Church. They meet on most Saturday mornings at the United Methodist Church building.

Pastor Khut was born in a refugee camp in Thailand. At the time, the Cambodian people had been overrun by the Khmer Rouge, who were members of the Communist Party and who brutally murdered millions of people. When he was about 8 years old, his family moved back to their home village in the province of Neak Luong, Cambodia. He later attended college in Thailand, where he learned English and graduated with a Religious Education degree. He then returned to the capital city of Phnom Penh in Cambodia and became the youth director for the country-wide church organization.

Pastor Ney came to the US from Cambodia in 2016. In 2019, he married his wife Emily, whom he had met several years before while she was a missionary in Cambodia. In May 2020, he graduated with a Master of Divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Andrews University is a training base for the Seventh-day Adventist faith. Most pastors who go there to study go out to other churches.

Two years ago Pastor Ney came to Butte because he was invited to be a Bible worker. A friend in Butte told him that they were looking for a Bible worker at her church. A Bible worker is someone who teaches the Bible, contacts people and makes connections at schools, colleges, etc. Ney wanted to be a pastor, but after he and Emily prayed about it, they decided to move to Montana. "We sensed that God was calling us to come to Montana." They moved to Butte in July 2021. He worked as a Bible worker for about six months, and then he was invited to be the pastor for the Butte/Whitehall/Dillon district, as the previous pastor had recently moved to another district.

Pastor Khut, 8



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 3:27,28

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The Garden Bug National Pollinator Week

JUNE 19-25

Pollinating animals travel from plant to plant, carrying pollen on their bodies. This allows the transfer of genetic material critical to the reproductive system of most flowering plants. These plants bring us countless fruits, vegetables, and nuts, half of the world's oils, fibers and raw materials. They prevent soil erosion, and increase carbon sequestration. This nearly invisible ecosystem service is a precious resource. Go to pollinator.org to learn how your actions can help support healthy and sustainable pollination. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week

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THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 16	5:00PM Veteran's Park RESERVED (Kaplan Wedding Rehearsal) at City Hall
June 17	5:00PM Stevenson Park Gazebo RESERVED (Thompson family) at Stevenson Park
June 18	Fathers Day
June 20	6:30PM Three Forks School Board Meeting
June 21	1:00PM Mahjongg @ Three Forks Community Library 4:00PM Dungeons & Dragons Club @ [Three Forks Community Library
June 22	2:00PM Farmer's Market at John Q. Adams Milwaukee Railroad Park

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF TRADITION

Jessica Erickson
Fair Manager



Jessica Erickson
Photo Credit: Jessica Erickson

We are so excited to be "Celebrating 60 Years of Tradition" with the 2023 Broadwater County Fair and Rodeo, on August 2-6th 2023!

Now is the time to start thinking about and working on your Open Class entries for this year. Do you happen

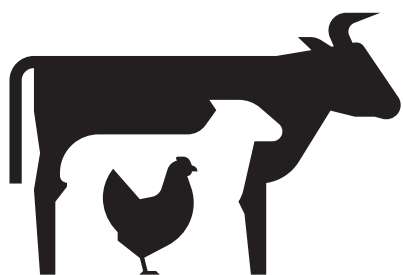
to grow gorgeous flowers? Do you like to write short stories? Have a beautiful house plant? Do you have a secret family recipe for bread, cookies or jelly? Do you dabble with oil paints? Take stunning photographs? Raise your own livestock? Did you end up taking up a hobby of embroidery, knitting or quilting?

Then guess what! You are well on your way to making an entry into the Broadwater County Fair! The Open Class Departments are Home Arts, Photography & Literature, Fine Arts Painting & Artwork, Home Crafts, Culinary Arts, Horticulture, Agronomy and Livestock. And each of these departments has many different classes to enter your projects! The opportunities are endless! The fair entry deadline is July 6th, so don't wait!

Copies of the Fair Book can be found at the Fair Office at 416 Broadway, Townsend. Check out the Fair Week schedule in the fair book for some super exciting entertainment news! We are gearing up for a great event and hope to see you all there. The Broadwater County Fair Board along with the Rodeo Association is bringing in Adam Doleac to kick off fair week this year. The concert is set for Wednesday, August 2nd at 7 pm. Tickets are available online at: <https://www.townsendfairgrounds.com/concert>.

Come out to the fairgrounds and enjoy some awesome music entertainment!

For questions or concerns please contact Jessica Erickson, Fair Manager at 406.266.9242 or email fair@co.broadwater.mt.us.



GLAD TO BE BACK HOME IN MONTANA

Diane Freuh



Diane Freuh
Photo Credit: Nancy Marks

The people in Montana make it great. Writers Group was meeting a few days after I arrived. During the meeting, one person was having trouble hearing. . . so another member offered him the use of one of her hearing aids. He declined, but hey! What an offer! It would have not happened in any of the other places I lived.

About three days later I took my dog, Cody, on a hike by the Big Spring back of Toston. Since the road can be pretty nasty, I parked my car a long way from where I could hike with Cody off-leash. After our hike, we were heading back to the car when a pickup with a -6- plate stopped and the young man inside asked me if this road led to the Toston Dam. His large golden puppy was hanging out the back window whining to be petted.

I petted the dog and said, "No, you should have gone one more road to the south and there is the Toston Dam Road. It will take you right up to the dam. But if you go clear up this hill you can have a really good view of the dam."

"Thanks," he said. "You're an awfully long way from your car, do you need a ride?"

"No, we wanted to walk. I parked a long way from the spring because I was afraid the road would be muddy and I would get stuck. It would be a long walk home if that happened."

"No ma'am it wouldn't because I would have come along to give you a ride."

With that, he waved and he and his dog started up the hill. I felt the warm happy glow of someone who has been offered help by a stranger.

I'm so glad to be back.

ST. PETER'S HEALTH IMPLEMENTS NEW ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD SYSTEM

Jacquelyn Tescher
Saint Peter's Health Supervisor of Public Relations

Today St. Peter's Health announced its transition to a new, best-in-class Electronic Health Record (EHR) system, Epic. The system-wide launch began on June 10 at the St. Peter's Health Regional Medical Center and will be completed today as the St. Peter's Health Medical Group transitions remaining patient records. Through a partnership with the Sisters of Charity Leavenworth (SCL) Health, part of Intermountain Healthcare, this \$25 million dollar investment allows St. Peter's to have access to the number one ranked EHR in the country.

"Since 2017, we have worked to bring this technology to our staff and community," says St. Peter's Health Chief Executive Officer Wade Johnson. "When we set our sights on becoming the Gold Standard for healthcare in Montana, we knew investing in and implementing a new EHR would be a defining moment on our journey. I couldn't be prouder of our teams and to say that Epic is finally here."

According to St. Peter's Chief Information Officer Ryan Winn, this move aligns St. Peter's with top-tier medical centers, including Providence, Mayo Clinic,

Cleveland Clinic and Johns Hopkins. "Epic gives patients, and their care teams, secure and immediate access to medical records and other important health information creating a more seamless experience for everyone across the continuum of care," says Winn.

Electronic health records contain a patient's medical history, diagnoses, medications, treatment plans, immunization dates, allergies, radiology images, laboratory test results and more. "This enhanced ability to exchange health care information electronically makes way for greater quality and patient experience improvements at St. Peter's," says Winn. "From our clinician's perspectives, Epic gives a simple and easy access point to all past and current health information to complete a patient's medical evaluation providing the best care possible."

In addition to greater access for St. Peter's staff, patients will now be able to use a new digital tool called MyChart to manage their health care information and medical records. This one-stop-shop will allow patients to manage appointments, pay their medical bills, order prescriptions, communicate with their care teams, and more, all from the palm of their hands.

"Patients take a more proactive approach in managing their health when they can easily access and manage the resources they need to be successful," Winn says. "MyChart can be accessed from a computer desktop or app on your phone or tablet."

MyChart is replacing the St. Peter's Patient Portal and offers a robust host of tools for self-managing appointments and more. "After June 10, our Patient Portal will no longer be used to share patient medical records and other health information," says Winn. "Instead, it will be shared in the patient's secure MyChart account. When you schedule an appointment or check in for a service, you can ask to have an instant activation information sent to you making it really easy to set up and access your account."

For more information about MyChart and how to activate your account, please visit sphealth.org/MyChart.



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- The views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are those of each letter's author and do not reflect the opinions or beliefs of MT 43 News, Inc.
- Letters must be signed and include the author's legal name, phone number, and address for verification purposes. Anonymous submissions will not be published.
- All accepted letters will appear on the MT43News.com website. Letters will be published in the print edition in the order received as space allows and may not be published the week the letter was submitted.
- MT 43 News embraces our freedom to speak freely and freedom of the

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Political Letters and Editorials

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

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

MACO Suit, 1

and Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen to fulfill their constitutional obligations and allow the Montana Legislature their lawful opportunity to override the Governor’s veto of Senate Bill 442 (“SB 442”).

On May 1, 2023, 130 out of 150 legislators passed SB 442, a bipartisan, politically popular measure that touches the state from border to border by redistributing recreational marijuana tax revenues for construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of rural roads, as well as funding directed to veterans’ services, conservation and recreation programs, and dollars to boost behavioral health and addiction services provided by the HEART fund.

On May 2, 2023, the Senate adjourned, and that same day, the Governor vetoed SB 442 without it being communicated to the full Senate. In Montana, the process for a gubernatorial veto and subsequent opportunity for the Legislature to overturn the veto is outlined in the Constitution. If the Legislature has adjourned, and the Governor vetoes a bill passed by a supermajority—two-thirds—the Governor must return the bill and his reasons for the veto to the Secretary of State, who must then poll the members of the Legislature.

“The Legislature’s constitutional check on the executive branch is critical to Montana’s legislative process,” said Roman Zylawy, MACo President and Mineral County Commissioner. “The intent of our Constitution is clear. The Legislature must be given fair opportunity to override a veto.”

Governor Gianforte failed to return SB 442 and veto reasoning to Secretary Jacobsen; therefore MACo, a nonprofit statewide organization of Montana’s 56 counties that helps provide effective county governance to the people of Montana, called on the Governor to uphold the Montana Constitution and his duty. He did not.

“This case is about following established processes,” said Eric Bryson, Executive Director for MACo. “An attempt to circumvent the Legislature’s review authority by playing games and changing protocols is bad politics and bad precedent. We are asking the Courts to remind the parties involved that they have an obligation to allow legislative review of a governor’s veto.”

use disorder which is to include Moral Recognition Therapy which deals with understanding the root cause of her actions and identifying issues, in order to heal. She is Sentenced to six-18 months at Veteran’s Treatment Center in Great Falls, for the two counts of stalking. For violating a Protection Order, the Sentence is deferred; but she must pay a \$1,000 fine. In conclusion, Judge McMahon quoted John Wayne, per his tombstone: “Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. Comes to us at midnight, very clean It’s perfect when it arrives and puts itself in our hands. It hopes we’ve learned something from yesterday.” And what the judge has told others, “Tomorrow is a mystery, yesterday is a mystery, so live for yourself, today.”



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - JUNE 21, 2023

Melinda Reidy
Administrative Assistant

In accordance with 7-6-4021 and 7-6-4024 MCA, The Broadwater County Commissioners, upon completion of the Preliminary Budget, will be holding a public hearing to hear comments and/or concerning the Broadwater County FY 2023/2024 Preliminary Annual Budget.

The hearing is set for Wednesday, June 21st, 2023 at 10:05 AM, located at the Flynn Building; 416 Broadway St. Any taxpayer or resident may appear and be heard for or against any part of the proposed budget. The proposed budget may be viewed in the Clerk and Recorder’s Office during regular business hours or on the website at www.broadwatercountymt.com

sentenced to six months in jail with all suspended on conditions, \$175.00 fines and fees; expired registration, pleaded guilty, \$75.00 fines and fees.

BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

- Chance Victoriano, Laurel: day speed \$20.00
- Valerie Tayler, Bozeman: night speed \$20.00
- Tashi Sherpa, Bozeman: night speed \$20.00
- Graham Phillips, Wynnewood, PA: day speed \$20.00
- Trevor Olson, Bozeman: stop sign violation \$85.00
- Haylie Jimenez, Chicago, IL: day speed \$70.00
- Matthew Hall, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Lorena Eagle, Bozeman: night speed \$200.00
- Gabriel Bardsley, Missoula: day speed \$20.00
- Josey Alyward, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Samuel Vancleave, Laurel: night speed \$20.00
- Dawn Burgess, Belgrade: expired registration \$85.00

COUNTY CRIMINAL

Esther Suhr – Townsend – Criminal Contempt, pleaded guilty, sentenced to three days in jail, \$135.00 fines and fees.

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Dominic Paul Driscoll – MT 14th Judicial District Court, Meagher Co., \$250,000.00 bond
Bert Plaggemeyer – Probation and Parole, No Bond

BROADWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS UNOFFICIAL AGENDA FOR JUNE 14, 2023

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).

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Public Comment on any subject not on the agenda, and that the Commission has jurisdiction over

10:05 AM Public Hearing, 2023-2024 Preliminary Budget

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, FY2023-2024 Preliminary Budget

Items for Discussion, Action, Review, Signature, Consent Agenda

- Certificate of Survey review
- Management – on-going advisory board appointments
- Claims/Payroll/minutes
- County Audit / Budget
- Mail – ongoing grants
- Correspondence – support letters

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

Darrel Folkvord, Vice Chairperson
406-266-9272 and 406-980-1213

Lindsey Richtmyer
406-266-9271 and 406-521-0834

E-mail: commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us
Future Meetings being held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)

(Please note: These meeting times/dates may change, please check the county website)

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE WILL BE IN THE FLYNN BUILDING ON JULY 19, 2023 FROM 12-3PM AND 430 PM-7PM. (more info to follow)

Future Meetings being held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)



JUNE 9, 2023

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Michael McMahon’s courtroom on Friday, June 9 is as follows:

Rodney Wilson had a Status Hearing on Extradition to California. Because of charges in Missoula and Broadwater Counties of criminal possession of dangerous drugs with intent to deliver; he will not go back to California AFTER he addresses charges here. He must submit an application for Behavioral Health Court and must complete both a chemical dependency and mental health evaluation.

Cassandra Washington appeared from Valley County, MT on an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of criminal possession of dangerous drugs (meth & fentanyl) and criminal possession of drug paraphernalia. The Omnibus is due on August 18; Pre-Trial is set for October 13; with the Jury Trial scheduled for November 13. She is ordered to have a mental health and chemical dependency evaluation. Bond has been reduced to \$5,000.

Jay Plaggmier had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of DUI (6+), day speed and seat belt violation. Omnibus is due on August 18; Pre-Trial is set for October 13; with the Jury Trial scheduled for November 13.

Wayne Johnson appeared for a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to a charge of criminal possession of dangerous drugs (meth). In his elocution, he stated that he knowingly possessed meth while in Broadwater County. He receives a three-year suspended sentence. He must be screened for substance use disorder. He gets 3 days credit time served.

Esther Suhr appeared on two amended charges of Stalking and violation of a protection order. Bill Waldron, her husband (and victim), gave testimony; including admonishing the Sheriff’s Office for not making a priority of the situation. He said that he had filed for divorce about a year ago, and since then, on numerous occasions, Suhr had entered the property, disregarding both the No Trespassing signs, as well as the Protection Order. He provided many videos and photo evidence of the offenses; without any charges. He’s been very frustrated that he has gotten no real help from BCSO; after being harassed for months.

After hearing the testimony; Judge McMahon sentenced Suhr to mental health evaluation and substance

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE REPORT

Kelsi Anderson
Justice Court Clerk

June 16, 2023

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

- Peter Wipf, WSS: careless driving \$85.00
- Janet West, Helena: day speed \$70.00
- Tawnya Storm, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Mark Reinschmidt, Whitehall: day speed \$40.00
- Thi Nguyen, Washington DC: night speed \$120.00
- Dalton Neubeck, Great Falls: day speed \$120.00
- Mateo Campos, Everett, WA: day speed \$120.00
- Jacob Howard, Great Falls: Driving without a valid driver’s license \$235.00
- Samuel Glosser, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Nichola England, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Kody Diekhans, Great Falls: day speed \$20.00
- Priyanka Bhetalam, Springfield, VA: night speed \$120.00
- Jerry Hoover, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Adolfo Buenrosro, Bozeman: day speed \$70.00

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

- Nathan Petrlich – Three Forks – careless driving, found guilty in Judge Trial, \$85.00 fines and fees.
- Randall Dugan jr- McCallister – seatbelt violation, pleaded guilty, \$20.00 fine; fail to carry proof or exhibit/ insurance in vehicle- 1st offense, pleaded guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees.
- Andrew Roberts – Three Forks – seatbelt violation, pleaded guilty, \$20.00 fine; operating without liability insurance in effect- 1st offense, pleaded guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Matthew Redeagle, Townsend: violation of commission or dept order or rules \$135.00

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

- Aurora Dougherty – Radthrum, Id – operating without liability insurance in effect-1st offense, pleaded guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees.
- Verkonika Welzel – Kalispell – day speed, pleaded guilty, \$70.00 fine; careless driving, pleaded guilty, \$85.00 fines and fees; driving while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked- 1st offense, pleaded guilty,

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROADWATER COUNTY, STATE OF MONTANA

LOCATION: 416 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644

May 17, 2023

Commissioner Debi Randolph called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Darrel Folkvord and Lindsey Richtmyer were also present. Public Comment: Tim Ravndal Broadwater County News commented. Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder Angie Paulsen commented.

10:06 AM Public Health Director Ruby Taylor presented Master Contract Between the State of Montana, Department of Public Health and Human Services and Broadwater County. Commissioner Richtmyer moved to approve Task Order 24-07-4-31-103-0 in the amount of \$6,078.00. Commissioner Folkvord seconded and carried.

10:10 AM Broadwater County Community Development and Planning Director presented Vistas at Headwaters Subsequent Minor Subdivision preliminary plat approval. Commissioner Richtmyer commented. Bill Dryer with Alpine Surveying and Engineering commented. Broadwater County Deputy County Attorney Jania Hatfield commented. Developer of the Vistas at Headwaters Subsequent Minor Subdivision project, Rick Remitz, commented.

11:03 AM Broadwater County Fair Manager Jessica Erickson presented Fair Board Bylaws. County Attorney Jania Hatfield explained the changes to the Bylaws. Bylaws will be finalized at a future meeting. Commissioner Richtmyer moved to approve May 3, 2023, Minutes. Commissioner Folkvord seconded and carried. Commissioner Folkvord moved to approve payroll claims in the amount of \$36,575.16. Commissioner Richtmyer seconded and carried. Commissioner Richtmyer moved to approve claims in the amount of \$32,960.64. Commissioner Folkvord seconded and carried. Commissioner Folkvord moved to approve claims in the amount of \$1,699.87. Commissioner Richtmyer seconded and carried. ad Broadwater County will host a public meeting with MDT at 2:00 PM May 23, 2023, at the Flynn Building and it will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend. Communications Received: Master Contract Between the State of Montana, Department of Public Health and Human Services and Broadwater County. Commissioner Richtmyer moved to approve Task Order 24-07-4-31-103-0, Vistas at Headwaters Subsequent Minor Subdivision preliminary plat, Vistas at Headwaters Subsequent Minor Subdivision Findings of Fact and Order Report, Letter to Commissioners from Many Rivers Whole Health to Commissioners, Notice from DEQ re Montana Water Quality Act for comments regarding potential revisions to water quality standards Public Hearing June 28, 2023, Notice from DEQ re Stillwater Mining Company Notice of wastewater discharge permit and Letter to Commissioners re Federal Regulatory Energy Commission Hydroelectric Project. Present at the meeting were Nancy Marks with MT43News, Bill Dryer with Alpine Surveying and Engineering, and developer of Vistas at Headwaters Subsequent Minor Subdivision project, Rick Remitz. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Next regular commission meeting will be held May 24, 2023, at 10:00 AM

Attest: ANGIE PAULSEN Clerk and Recorder
DEBRA RANDOLPH Commissioner Chairwoman

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FACE MAJOR SPENDING REQUESTS

Nancy Marks
Reporter

Broadwater County Commissioners discussed major spending requests from their departments at their regular meeting Wednesday, June 6 at the Flynn Building.

Public Works Director TJ Graveley began the request for approval for a \$62,750 weight scale to be installed at the Transfer Station on Indian Creek Road. Currently, his department does not have a scale to track the amount of solid waste coming to the transfer station so it can be accurately weighed and charged to the customer. Additional installation costs of approximately \$1,700 would include setting the scale with a crane and preparing the area including concrete pouring. He assured the commissioners he could mitigate some of the installation costs by using local equipment and personnel. "The people of Broadwater County have not

been assessed properly. The new scale will fix that," Graveley explained.

Former Solid Waste Board member John Hahn spoke to the huge increase in the cost of a scale (it sold for \$30,000 when he was on the board) as well as the Solid Waste Department's budget being "in the red". He suggested cutting costs by installing a credit card payment system at the transfer station to eliminate personnel who issue invoices at the courthouse.

Graveley countered by saying his budget was not "in the red". Graveley explained his department hauled 4,712T of waste to the landfill in Helena in 2022. Already his department has hauled upwards of 2,000T in 2023. The need for a closer watch when people haul in large loads of garbage, roofing material, and construction materials is very important. A sign at the dump sites defining large loads would help the public to follow the rules on taking large loads to the transfer station, Hahn suggested.

Graveley presented the commissioners with four bids. After research, his suggestion was the Rockwell Scale of Great Falls. The commissioners voted to approve the spending request. The scale should be installed by the end of July, he said. In other public works reports, Graveley pointed out he had hired two new site employees for driving trucks and on-call work. He urged people using the walk-in entrance on days the site is not open to put their garbage in the dumpsters, not loose on the ground.

COUNTY ROAD FLOODING CONTINUES

His road report shows continued flooding from Beaver Creek on Filson Road near Winston. He installed a culvert to divert the water off the road. Ross Gulch Road needs a cattle guard installed. The road department will apply Perma-Zyme, a road stabilizer, to 6 miles on Flynn Land and 4 miles on Highway 437 this summer.

Graveley ended by asking for a job description and wage change for his clerk, Misty Masolo. The commissioners approved a job change to assistant public works supervisor with a \$3.50 raise effective July 1.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE ONLINE POLICY MANUAL APPROVED

Broadwater County Sheriff requested a \$7,247 annual contract with Lexapol, an online policy manual for the county detention center officers. "Is important to protect the county's liability. The county attorney's office can access it as well. Our officers constantly update themselves with this online policy manual. The contract includes training and mandatory signoffs by the detention officers," he explained. The commissioners approved the contract. Broadwater Public Health Director Ruby Taylor explained the use of her department's contract with the State of Montana Dept. of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS). Through a new DPHHS grant, she may hire employees to improve the health department's current infrastructure. She will offer positions for two nurses and a medical assistant. As of now, she has a clerk and an investigation specialist. In total, she will have four people plus herself. No county monies are used to fund the department. The commissioners accepted her report.

Deputy County Attorney Jania Hatfield presented changes in the county's procurement policy. The commissioners approved the changes up to \$10,000 for supplies, larger purchases from \$10,000 to \$100,000 and over \$100,000. Larger purchases must be approved by the commissioners.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT MONIES COMING TO THE COUNTY

Commissioner Debi Randolph has volunteered, with the board's approval, to become a member of the Region 4 Multi-County Abatement Board. The State of Montana organized the board to disperse the Opioid Settlement monies awarded by a multimillion-dollar settlement with the makers of opioids in the United States.

Commissioner Folkvord, airport board liaison, presented an agreement to move around airport fund monies with approval from Townsend City Council. The Federal Aeronautic Administration's non-primary entitlement fund of \$1 million had been earmarked for Townsend Municipal Airport upgrades in 2022. Since the city and county did not use the funds that year, the monies were transferred to West Yellowstone Airport for their project. Their project was completed. The FAA recommended then the monies be transferred to Butte Airport, which under agreement, will be paid back in 2024 for use at the Townsend Airport. Commissioners approved the request for this transaction.

CITY OF TOWNSEND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 6, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Vickie Rauser, sitting in for the mayor, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Other council members present were Angie Wintrow, Christina Hartmann, Nate Brown, and Matt West. Also present were

Tim Rauser, Kari Williams, JB Howick, Tim Ravndal, Adam Six, Amanda Hazlett, Vivian Boaz, and Cliff Wrobetz. Mayor Evans and Ken Ulrich were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. MINUTES: Vickie made the motion to approve the minutes of May 16, 2023, with the following corrections: The \$5000 grant that the Volunteer Firefighters received from the American Legion was for digital pagers. Angie made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, Nate Brown seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

- City-County Airport Lease Agreement: Peter Simon, city attorney, was phoned and he advised on this. There are a few minor differences from the old agreement. One of them being the residential use of hangars is no longer permitted. There's also some moving around of some paragraphs around and cleaning up some of the archaic language. The Lessee used to be allowed to make improvements, now there has to be an application to the Airport Board. Peter will be sending back some suggestions to Jania Hatfield at the County to clean up the document since some of the language is at least fifteen years old at this point. Angie made a motion to table the city-county airport lease agreement until the next meeting. Christina seconded the motion.
- Employee Policy Manual: Peter spoke on the "Authority for Personnel Action" and the mayor's role and powers for this authority. Peter said that the language on this can be cleaned up with a Resolution. Matt asked for issues within the Employee Policy Handbook to be put in writing and addressed in the next meeting. Vickie said that the discussion has been tabled until the next meeting. Tim Rauser stated that he would get ahold of Peter in the next day or two to discuss other items in the Employee Policy Manual that need to be addressed.
- Angie reported on the pool interview committee. They've hired Brian Barkhurst as pool manager, Madison Bauman as Lead Lifeguard, and Amanda Hazlett as Water Safety Instructor. They will interview lifeguards next week, and hopeful that the pool will open on June 19th.
- FAA Entitlements: Angie reported on this. Angie made a motion, Matt seconded it. Motion carried. In May of last year, the airport board passed a motion to transfer \$1 M of non-entitlement funds to West Yellowstone Airport for their project. It was due to be paid back in 2023. Due to the Airport's project coming up, the FFA, Montana Aeronautics and RPA have recommended that they void the reciprocal agreement and allow West Yellowstone to lend the money to Butte and then Butte will pay it back in 2024. We will need to void the reciprocal agreement for 2023 Angie made a motion to void the 2022 reciprocal agreement for payment in 2023 from Montana Aeronautics from West Yellowstone. Matt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Angie made a motion to accept the 2024 reciprocal agreement from West Yellowstone with a repayment of \$1M in 2024. Matt West seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

GUESTS and CORRESPONDANCE:

Adam Six: Holloway Park now has most of a pavilion. Adam is asking permission to build a sidewalk to connect the pavilion to the bathroom. Matt asked if there were any plans for this project. Adam said that he has pictures. Vickie said that the council would like to see pictures before voting on it. Adam will be back on June 20th for the next meeting.

Trailhead Christian Fellowship: Amanda Hazlett representing the church spoke on this and asked for permission to hang signs at Heritage Park advertising their Vacation Bible School scheduled for July 24-28th. Angie made a motion to allow Trailhead Christian Fellowship to hang signs for their Vacation Bible School. Christina seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Letter from Governor, Greg Gianforte announcing that the City of Townsend has received a Montana Coal Endowment Program Grant award for \$750,000 to construct a new water storage tank, install a new well, and construct a transmission main and associated valving and hydrants.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- White's Annexation: Tim received an email from Neil Lavang of RPA, and they will be in touch soon with White's updates.
- No other updates on Unfinished Business

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

Matt asked about the Tree Board watering schedule. Pat Plantenberg will be at the next budget meeting on June 20th to discuss the Tree Board's needs and watering schedule.

Christina made a motion to pay May's claims. Nate seconded the motion. Motion carried. ADJOURN: Nate made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angie seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Next Meeting: June 20th (5:00 budget meeting, 6:30 regular meeting)

BROADWATER COUNTY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATES SECOND CLASS

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



On May 5, 2023, Big Sky, Big Leadership in Broadwater County celebrated the completion of another program year and the success of fourteen new graduates.

Graduates included Katherine Anderson, Keith Baker, Jessica Crusch, Amy Currence, Charles Eastty, Samantha Ferrat, Theresa Flynn, Todd Kitto, Brody Maughan, Anne Pichette, Virginia Poole, Melinda Reidy, Buddy Rivera and Tacy Swanton.

Program participants engaged in nine-monthly sessions across the county from September to May to develop and enhance their leadership skills, increase their understanding of local community dynamics and improve community awareness of local issues.

Each session included leadership skill development and community experiences. Leadership topics focused on personal development as well as working with others. Topics included communication, conflict management, personality styles, generational differences, leadership styles and effective meetings.

The purpose of the community experiences was to increase awareness and understanding of local community resources and issues. Each session provided either a tour or a guest speaker or panel to present critical information on the topic. Some of the highlights from this year were a tour of the Toston Dam, discussions about county growth, a Bridger Brewery tour, a Graymont Western tour, a presentation on the Silos Area Master Plan, and a tour of GT Vintage Trailer Service.

On the final evaluation, participants shared examples of how the program has impacted them: 100% of survey respondents felt their participation helped them become a leader at home, work or in the community. 87.5% supported or mentored someone to become a better leader as a result of the class. 75% felt the class helped to improve the effectiveness of meetings and actions of boards or groups they are a member of.

Additionally, participants shared how the class benefited them most: "Gaining solid leadership skills, which I've put to use in a variety of areas!" "Learning to respect others' leadership styles and the way they

see the world." "More knowledge of our community, purpose and understanding of how I can better serve and make a difference." "This class has helped me be a bit more confident. I have more understanding on how to talk to people who are not like me." "Learning a lot about our county and the industry that exists."

In the fall of 2021, MSU Extension in Broadwater County launched Big Sky, Big Leadership, a statewide community leadership initiative developed by MSU Extension and offered at the county level. Rural communities face significant challenges that range from struggling economic conditions to changing demographics to quality of life. These are complex issues that cannot be easily solved and require innovative leaders to look and think in new ways. Communities with strong citizen involvement have access to more resources and can capitalize on more opportunities.

This program works to address the need for leaders in the community and help adults learn leadership skills and improve awareness of local issues. To date, 24 people have successfully completed the program in Broadwater County.

Contact MSU Extension in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu for more information about the program. Applications for 2023-2024 will be available in July. Become part of the solution and make a difference in your community!



KNIGHT MOVES

S	E	R
I		E
D	C	B

Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

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STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

HIT TO A TARGET

As a general rule, it is best to hit the overhead into the backhand corner of the court. This pulls the opponent out wide, making him run farther.

If you are in trouble, or feel out of position, aim the overhead at the "T" (where the service line and center line meet), since you have a greater margin for error.

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

IVE ALWAYS FAVORED A ONE-PIECE TAKEAWAY CONTROLLED CHIEFLY BY THE LEFT SIDE OF MY BODY.

WHEN I GET IT RIGHT, THE REST OF THE SWING USUALLY HAPPENS CORRECTLY AUTOMATICALLY.

SLOW

I BEST ACHIEVE A ONE-PIECE START BACK WHEN I PUT EVERYTHING IN MOTION AS SLOWLY AS POSSIBLY. CAN CONSISTENTLY WITH SWINGING THE CLUB AWAY FROM THE BALL.

THIS COULD BE A FINE KEY FOR YOU, TOO.

World's Coldest Places

1. Vostok, Antarctica
2. Plateau Station, Antarctica
3. Oymyakon, Russia
4. Verkhoyansk, Russia
5. North Ice, Greenland
6. Eismitte, Greenland
7. Snag, Yukon, Canada
8. Prospect Creek, Alaska
9. Fort Selkirk, Yukon, Canada
10. Rogers Pass, Montana

Source: The Travel Almanac

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Peace

LICENSE

Waver

ARTFEL

Rebuke

ICHED

Banner

PRESTO

TODAY'S WORD

"You asked her how old she is... Of course, she's a _____ witness, you idiot!"

Super Crossword 'TWOULD BE NICE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19			20				21			22								
23			24							25								
26						27				28						29		
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113										115								116
117						118	119											
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Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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A MESSAGE OF HOPE AMONGST THE THORNS

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



A thorn in the flesh is sometimes described as a persistent problem we can't seem to resolve. It can be anything - a relationship, persecution, an experience, a trauma, or a job we are stuck in.

Where did the phrase, "a thorn in the flesh" originate that is often used in our modern-day lives? It originated in the New Testament writings of Paul. His weaknesses, insults, hardships, and all the earthly discomforts he experienced made him look to God for strength.

When I think about a "thorn", I think about prickly and razor-sharp points. We have a few Barberry bushes in our garden, and I genuinely dislike them - as do the deer, which is why we planted some. When we trim the bushes for the spring and fall seasons, the thorns will sometimes cut as it penetrates the skin, even when wearing gloves. Our internal pain can be as sharp as our external pain.

Although Paul's writings do not specify the thorn, one can only assume that whatever he described was very painful. There are many different theories on what the thorn may have been in Paul's life. I remember my Dad telling me that he considered the "thorn" was a bad relationship, and it could have been, but regardless of what it was, it caused Paul great pain as he endured extreme suffering.

In 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Paul pleads with God three times to remove the "thorn". God chooses not to remove the thorn but instead answers him, saying, "My grace is always more than enough for you, and my power finds its full expression through your weakness." Paul then celebrates his weaknesses and is no longer defeated by his weakness but delighted. Paul realizes that the thorn was there to keep him humble and not arrogant.

When Paul felt weakness, mistreatment, and persecution, he could endure because of his love for God... it made him stronger. He was filled with hope despite the pain.

We all have thorns, and they are neither comfortable nor pleasant. But, they can push us towards hope. In doing so, they offer us a benefit, a lesson to be learned. They help us grow, and in finding hope, we find one of life's greatest treasures.

Hope is more than a virtue or an outlook. It is a belief that things will get better, that you can overcome obstacles, and that God is in control. Paul's thorn in the flesh may have been difficult to bear at times, but it ultimately brought him closer to God and gave him the strength to endure. In the same way, the thorns in your life can strengthen you if you choose to look to God for help and hope.

Remember that hope is not just a feeling but an action. Take steps towards your goals, no matter how small they may be. Each step is a victory, bringing you closer to your dreams. Have faith in yourself and your abilities, and trust that things will work out in your favor.

In times of uncertainty, hope is what keeps you going. It gives you the courage to face your fears and overcome your obstacles. So, never lose hope, and always believe that better things are yet to come.

The gloomy days will soon pass, and a new chapter is yet to be written. Take three deep breaths, and as you do, release any tension or negative thought that comes to mind.

Replace those thoughts with hope, optimism, and positivity. Visualize yourself achieving your dreams, and focus on the possibilities instead of the limitations. Surround yourself with people who uplift you and inspire you to be the best version of yourself.

Focus instead on what you are hoping for. Picture it in your mind; see it as if it has already happened. Believe it with every fiber of your being, and have faith that it will come to fruition.

Remember, hope is a choice. It is choosing to believe that there is good ahead, even in the midst of difficulty and despair. It is choosing to hold on to something greater than yourself and trust in life's process.

So, embrace your life's thorns, knowing they are there to help you grow and strengthen you. And in doing so, choose hope, and allow it to guide you toward a brighter future.

"Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us. ~Samual Smiles

To connect with Ellie FB/IG @coachellliwest



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. Sunday Mass at 4:30pm Weekdays. Monday Mass at 9am and Adoration at 9:30am, Tuesday Mass at 9am. Reconciliation Sunday 3:30-4:15 p.m. or by appt. Rel. Ed. classes (during school year): All grades on Sunday after Mass with dinner at 5:30 and programming beginning at 6 pm. For Adult Education programs, see the website: holycrossmt.org. Parish contact info: phone: 266-4811 or email: office@holycrossmt.org.

Mountain Valley Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (CMA), 110 E Street Townsend. Services: Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Kids and Youth 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](https://www.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 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. Pastor 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. Pastor Ney Khut - 269-362-5768

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 Moa, 266-3390 TownsendUMC.org.

Trailhead Christian Fellowship, 20 Trailhead View Dr. Townsend (5 mi. north of Townsend). Sunday School and Christian Education, Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Services Sunday, 10:00 a.m. 7th-12th grade youth group, Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 p.m. meeting at 407 S. Cherry St., Townsend. Pastor Mark Roelofs

Townsend Summer Feeding Program

JUNE 6- AUGUST 19, 11AM- 1PM

Heritage Park, Townsend, MT
 All Children 18 and Younger Eat for Free

On the Menu:

Monday
 Hamburger with Fruits and Veggies

Tuesday
 BBQ Chicken with Fruits and Veggies

Wednesday
 Corndog with Fruits and Veggies

Thursday
 BBQ Pork with Fruits and Veggies

Friday
 Sloppy Joe with Fruits and Veggies

Holiday or weather may interfere with the schedule. <https://www.facebook.com/people/Townsend-Summer-Feeding-Program/100063791852252/>



JUNE 19 - JUNE 24
 Green Peas
 Coleslaw
 Mandarin Oranges

Monday, June 19
 Closed

Tuesday, June 20
 Birthday Dinner
 BBQ Chicken Breast
 Wild Rice
 Key Largo Vegetables
 Garden Salad with Beans
 Applesauce
 Birthday Cake

Wednesday, June 21
 Chef Salad
 Carrot and Celery Sticks
 Whole Grain Bread
 Fruit Cocktail

Thursday, June 22
 Fish Patty on a Bun

Friday, June 23
 Cabbage Rolls
 Mashed Potatoes
 Green Beans
 Whole Grain Bread
 Apricot Halves

The Townsend Pinochle Club meets every Wednesday and Friday at the Broadwater County Senior Center for an afternoon of pinochle and camaraderie. 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.

Pastor Khut, 3

Then God called Pastor Khut to be in the Helena, Townsend, and Boulder districts. Every Saturday the Helena church has about 60 members in attendance. Pastor Ney is usually at one church each Saturday but occasionally preaches at two of the district churches on the same day. The following is the schedule for each church's Saturday services:

Helena: 9:30 - 10:30 (Bible Study), 10:45 - 12:30 (Divine Worship)

Townsend: 9:30 - 10:25 (Divine Worship), 10:30 - 12:00 (Bible Study)

Boulder: 9:00 - 10:25 (Divine Worship), 10:30 - 12:00 (Bible Study)

Pastor Khut and Emily have two children, a son who is 3 years old named William Veramun, and a daughter about seven months old, Sophia Montana (she was born in Butte). He and Emily have been married for 4 years.

Pastor Khut says, "We do love Montana. Montana is a great place! I am an outdoor person and enjoy outdoor activities. This is a place in our hearts where we want to share the gospel."



*Ney Khut
 Photo Credit: Matt Nelson*

"Sabbath is a day of worship. We are Bible-based. We want to affirm the Bible; we want to uphold the word of God. "Genesis 2:1-3 says 'Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day, God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. So the Sabbath is a day of rest. It is mentioned in both the Old and the New Testament. Mark 2:27-28 says, 'And He (Jesus) said unto them, The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath.' "

"God created all of us in His own image. I am here to serve the community. There is going to be a program for young people called Youth for Community, held at the United Methodist Church on June 24th at 4:30 PM, and we invite all."

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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



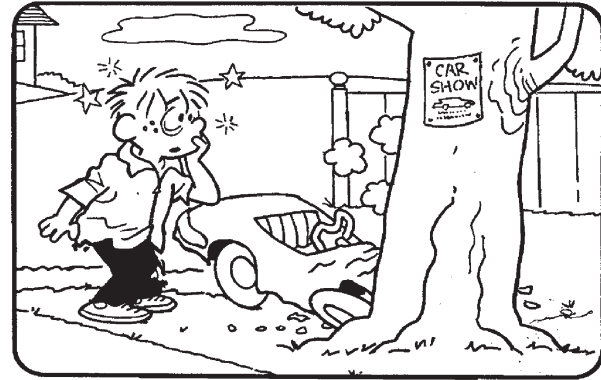
GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner



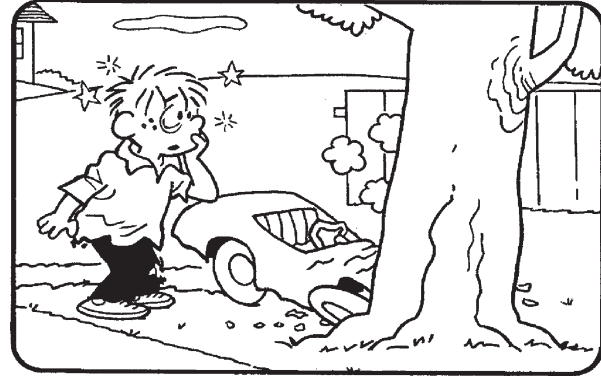
"They're not real. ... They're computer-generated."

HOCUS-FOCUS

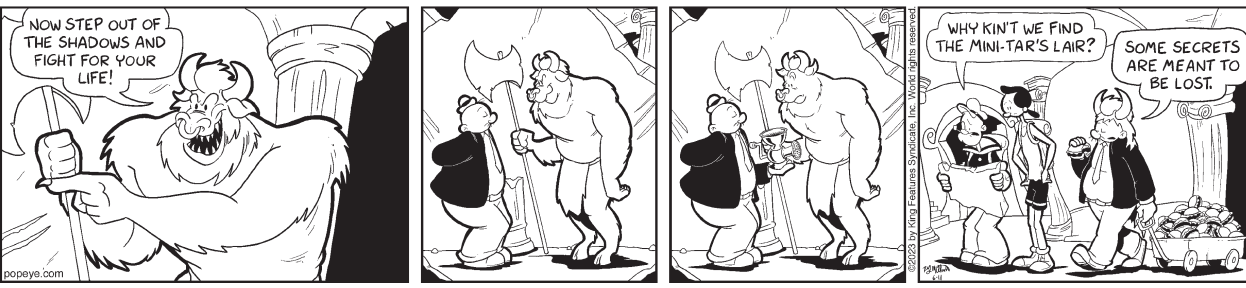
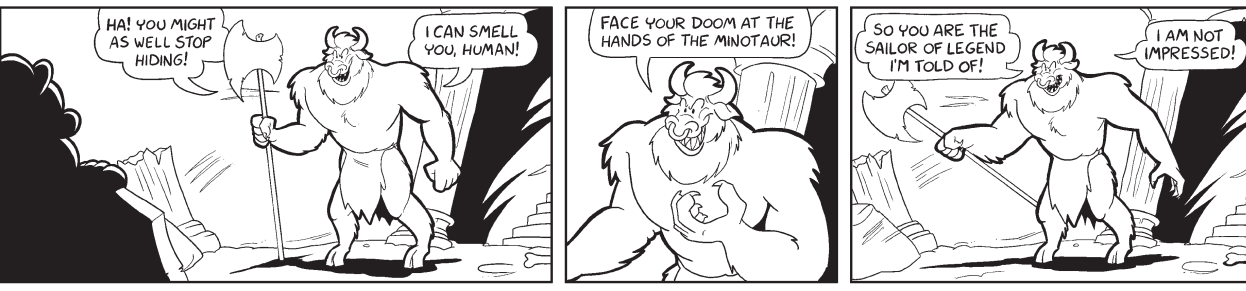
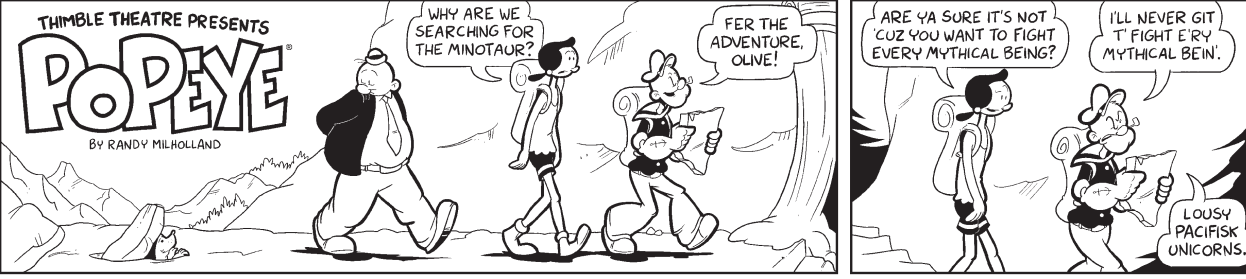
BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



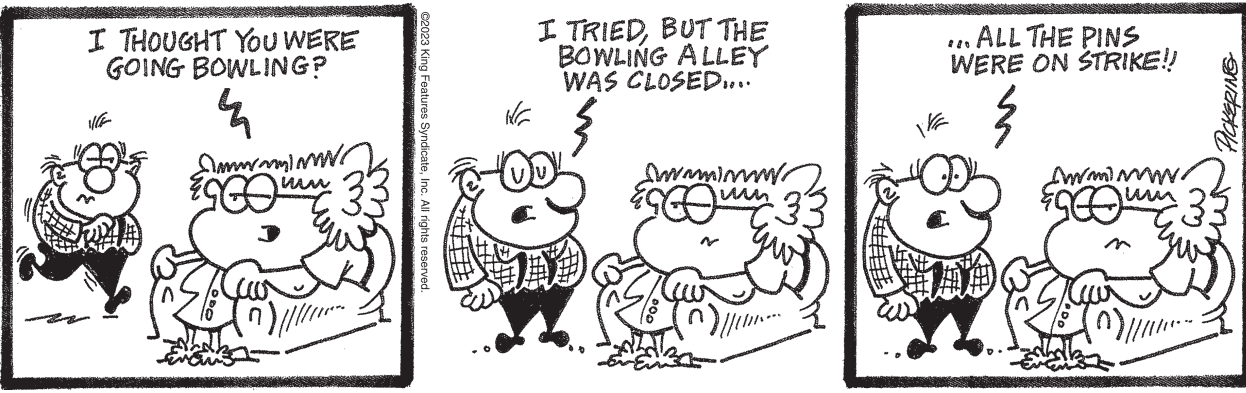
Differences: 1. Cloud is smaller, 2. Zipper is missing, 3. Bumper is missing, 4. Steering wheel is different, 5. Post is missing, 6. Poster is missing.



Amber Waves



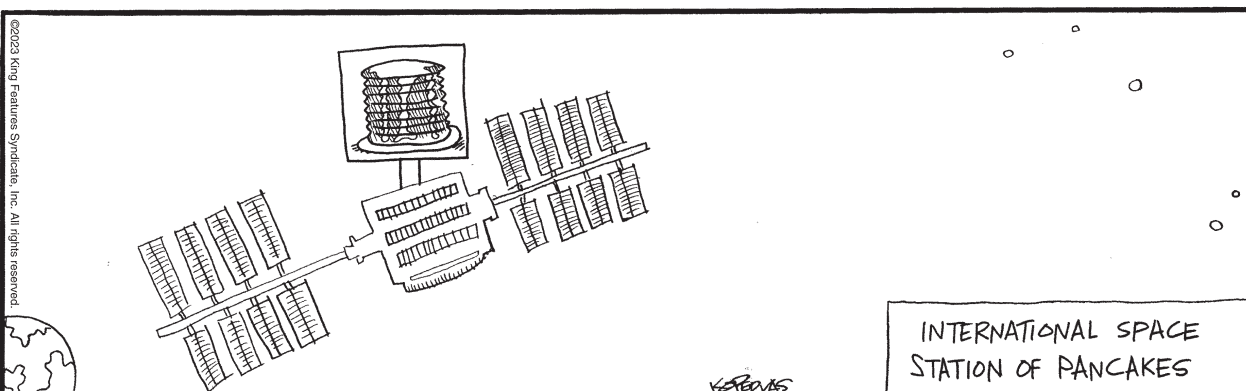
The Spats



TIGER



Out on a Limb



Americanisms



"My father didn't do anything unusual. He only did what dads are supposed to do: be there."
— Max Lucado

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CryptoQuip
answer

The young child's loose incisor made his gums pretty sore. I told him "This tooth shall pass."

KNIGHT MOVES
Answer

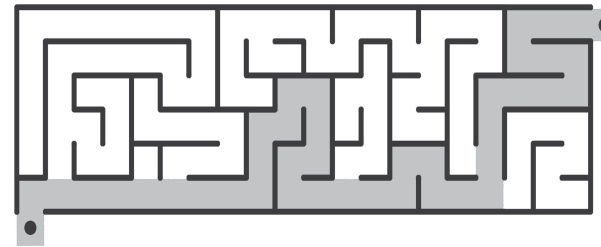
S	E	R
I	E	
D	C	B

DESCRIBE

- SCRAMBLERS**
solution
1. Silence 2. Falter;
3. Chide; 4. Poster
Today's Word
HOSTILE

Word Spiral
Answer
TACTICIAN

Kids' Maze Solution



Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

Super Crossword
Answers

NBC	JAW	COOS	STIPPLER	
AOL	UNICORNS	AUTORACE		
TWEEN	IEROAST	CREMORNAS		
ALAMO	AWL	ARI	BARE	
SORT	TWINBYALANDSLIDE			
CVI	LAOS	URAL	RAE	
HENRY	TWINKLER	PALMOIL		
ARGON	NEE	AONE	RNA	
	EXPO	TWEAK	STOMACHS	
RIA	EAVE	CLEF	WHAT	
AMBASSADOR	ROFGOOD	TWILL		
BLUR	ITAL	ROAR	DEY	
BATTLE	OFTWITS	ODON		
ITO	ORLY	NOS	GADOT	
TENCODE	TWITCHING	HOURL		
	ESO	SOON	OOPS	PTA
TWINE	CONNOISSEUR	MILD		
AIN	SOY	APB	GENIE	
MEDIATOR	NOXIOUS	TWEED		
PLUMROLE	BRONX	ZOO	SRI	
ADSERVER	ACNE	IDS	SSN	

VISIT HISTORIC CANTON CHURCH

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH

2023 SUMMER SCHEDULE AND EVENTS

DATE	VISITING HOURS	GROUP/SPEAKER	EVENT TIME
JUNE 9	3-6 PM	Helena Handbasket	5 PM
JUNE 23	3-6 PM	Judy Williams	5 PM
JULY 14	3-6 PM	Mary Bradford	5 PM
JULY 28	3-6 PM	Eliel Family Band	5 PM
AUGUST 11	3-6 PM	Christensen Family	5 PM
AUGUST 25	3-6 PM	Linda Huth	5 PM

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73° 52°	75° 53°	70° 50°	63° 46°	60° 43°
0%	25%	71%	77%	64%
⇒ 5 16 mph	⇒ 7 19 mph	⇒ 8 22 mph	⇒ 8 22 mph	⇒ 10 21 mph

Precipitation:

January: 0.677"	February: 0.736"
March: 0.622"	April: 0.630"
May: 1.181"	June: 2.52"
2022: 15.272"	2023: 4.331"

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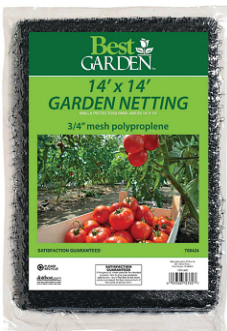
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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

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& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

June 15, 1939

Young Men Arrive Safe After Trans-Continental Flight

Just a dark speck in the sky noticed last evening coming over the east range south of Old Baldy, was the first evidence early observers had that the two local aviators, Don L. Hollaway and Thos. E. Conners, were approaching home after a long and somewhat hazardous air trip from Cincinnati to Townsend.

The plane circled Townsend at a high altitude and the pilots brought her down on the Townsend port at 7:25 with as many Townsend people taking to the port as were aware of its arrival. Quite a number were present to see the new red Aeronca, claimed at the factory in Cincinnati last Friday, come gliding onto the home port and the two home boys get out and stretch their long legs after a long flight in the last lap of their journey. Please note: there is not enough space to print this entire article here. If you would like to see the entire article, please visit the Broadwater County Museum at 133 North Walnut Street.

1950

Townsend News

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Williams have moved into their newly acquired home recently purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Rolfe Thorson.

Mr. and Mrs. W.G. Ragen have begun to clear away the debris of their home which burned in a fire three weeks ago. All of the salvaging has been completed and now workmen are breaking the stucco from the walls and hauling it away. As soon as the rubble is removed, they plan to rebuild. At present they have the apartment in the Mint hotel at their disposal.

Pat Hooks arrived in Townsend last Thursday after having completed his second year in the Georgetown

University Law school. Enroute home he visited friends in Colorado. Mr. Hooks rounded out another very eventful year in the nation's capital city and has fine experiences to relate. He will again be employed as manager of the Townsend Employment Bureau this summer.

Jeff and Bill Doggett are now at home after having completed their second year in Business Administration at the State University at Missoula.

1961

Crow Creek News

Mrs. Jack Poole, John, Jeff and James of Townsend, visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kimpton and boys Saturday.

Mrs. Ray Horne and Valerie returned home Monday after spending ten days visiting relatives in Washburn, North Dakota.

Miss Kay Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thompson of Townsend, is spending the summer helping at the Rowland Kimpton home. Miss Thompson attends Brigham Young University.

1967

Toston Briefs

Mrs. Don Miller, Garth and Jema were business callers in Helena Saturday.

Mrs. Gladys Johnson was a Wednesday dinner guest at the Byron Johnson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Smith, accompanied by Jack Smith and daughter, Karen, and Ted Roberts were in Bozeman one day last week attending to business and calling on relatives.

Franklin Slifka and his construction crew are working in Drummond this week, building a post office.

Miss Jane Berberet came home from Montana

State University Friday and left by train Saturday for Denver where she will spend the summer working at the Flying G Ranch.

Busy Fingers 4-H Club

The May meeting of the Busy Fingers 4-H Club was called to order on the 18th at Leanhart's. For roll call we each told of a safety rule. Mrs. Christie gave her leader's report. For business we discussed the date of our next meeting, 4-H Camp and the float for the rodeo parade. Teena Leanhart, Lyla Mann, Peggy Ryan and Mary Ellen McNulty gave demonstrations.

The meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served by Mrs. Leanhart and Lyla Mann. . . . Judy Ann McNulty, reporter

1978

Senior Citizen Center Honors Volunteers

An appreciation party was held on Thursday, June 8 honoring RSVP Volunteers.

The cake was made and donated by Mrs. Joyce Lane and Mrs. Franklin Slifka of Toston. It was a work of art, done in the RSVP colors, gold and white. Many pictures were taken to this.

Awards were presented by Alice Noyd, Center Director and Donna of Helena to: Jaque Rene; Mildred Kimpton; Rose Ward; Dick Gill; Agnes Hunter; Julia Johnson; Lola Ricketts; Pearl Barraugh; Alice, also Ellis and Jeanette Lewis who were on vacation and not present to receive their certificate.

A special award went to Jean Rene for having nearly 4000 hours in the program. She was also presented with a beautiful corsage and a card which, not only let Jean know the love and appreciation which we all have for her, it contained a money donation as well. It was our way of saying "Thank you, Jean".



On the One Hand
We're having a **Bucket Sale** right now! **15% off anything you can fit in a bucket!**

On the Other Hand
Prepay before July 3rd for the best price for fuel pellets!



TOWNSEND'S COMMUNITY FOREST PART 8

Patrick Plantenberg
Tree Board Chair

Note: This is the eighth in a series of articles from the Townsend Tree Board reporting on the status of the community forest in Townsend.

Two weeks ago, we discussed how we have enhanced the condition of the trees in our urban forest in Townsend over the last 33 years. The Tree Board is actively trying to maintain Townsend's public trees in good condition to minimize the city's liability in case of a tree failure. This week, we will discuss the value of Townsend's urban forest.

Value of Townsend Public Trees

In 1990, to assess the value and relative worth of city trees, individual trees were recorded by species, diameter at breast height (4½ feet above ground), and condition. To assess the value of trees in Townsend in 1990, a formula prepared by the International Society of Arboriculture was used: Tree Value = cross-sectional area x \$27 x species class x condition class. In 1990, the value of the 336 public trees was estimated to be \$250,000. In 2011 dollars, these trees' values, because of tree growth and inflation of the dollar over 21 years, would probably total over \$1,000,000.

In 2005, the value of Townsend's tree resource was not calculated. In 2011, the i-tree program was used to calculate the replacement value of Townsends' public tree resource. The 1,001 trees inventoried in 2011 were valued at \$2,500,000, even though over 125 large trees were removed as part of the 2005-2010 five-year tree care and maintenance plan.

In 2020, the TreeKeeper program was used to calculate the replacement value of Townsends' public tree resource. The 1,093 trees inventoried in 2020 were valued at \$2,164,000 even though over 52% of Townsend's trees are less than 15 years old. This is an average price of \$1,980 each.

Would you make an investment if you could make a 500% return in 5 years? If you buy a 1-inch diameter at breast height (4.5 feet above the ground) \$75 tree today, in 5 years it will be a 2.5-3 inch diameter at breast height tree worth \$375!

This past May working with the Broadwater High School (BHS) Horticulture Class, we discovered an 8-inch diameter Canada Red Chokecherry on the BHS campus with a co-dominant trunk that had split about 7 feet above the ground. The tree was planted by the BHS

class of 1998 during their 10-year high school reunion in 2008. It was a 1-inch diameter at breast height tree when planted worth about \$55 at the time. I estimated the 15-year-old tree to be worth about \$2,000 today! Most people do not realize how much trees increase your property value.



The thread is cut flush to finish the job.
Photo Credit: Pat Plantenberg



BHS students drill into the trunks to save the trees.
Photo Credit: Pat Plantenberg

The class discussed what could be done to save the tree. Removing half of the tree would have severely affected its appearance. It could not stand without some major intervention as the two trunks were obviously splitting and the half that would fail would have fallen on the school roof.

We decided to do surgery and bolt the two trunks together. This is a common practice used by arborists to save trees that have split if the tree is small enough to hold the weight.

The students drilled a one-half-inch hole through the two trunks with an auger bit and we inserted a length of one-half inch all thread. Then we added a large washer and a one-half-inch nut to each end and tightened until the tree pulled together as much as possible. Then the excess length of all thread was cut off flush.

We saved the tree for less than \$25 in materials! The Tree Board will still need to go back to the tree and try to reduce one of the co-dominant trunks to force the other to become dominant. Ideally, this could have all been avoided if this structural pruning had been done in the first 5 years of the tree's life. Next week, we will discuss how Townsend's public tree size and age classes have changed over 33 years.